

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

*Serving St Benedict's, St Mary's & St Oswald's,
Warrington*



Newsletter

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
17 September 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers,

Home Mission Sunday

Today is Home Mission Day or 'Evangelii Gaudium Day' as it is now known. 'Evangelii Gaudium' is Latin for 'Joy of the Gospel'. Just as October's World Mission Day focusses on missionaries abroad, Home Mission Day focusses on proclaiming the Good News of Jesus in our own country.

The work of evangelisation in England and Wales is promoted through the Bishops' Conference Directorate for Mission. This year and next, the Mission Directorate will be helping us to prepare for the Jubilee Year in 2025 which is themed 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We will be invited to reflect on the four constitutions of the Second Vatican Council and to deepen our prayer life through a special focus on the Lord's Prayer.

There is a **Second Collection** today to help fund the work of the Mission Directorate. Every contribution, big or small, goes directly to support this important work of bringing the joy of the Gospel to all.

Deanery News

This week, the priests of the Deanery met for their monthly meeting preceded by a Deanery Mass at St John Fisher in Widnes. There was a great turnout of people from all over Widnes. Hopefully, we can do the same in Warrington next month.

Earlier in the week, the Warrington priests met to begin working together as a team.

Yesterday (Saturday), the Deanery Synodal Council met to continue their exploration of Synodality and our Families of Parishes.

What is Synodality?

Since the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis has been highlighting the importance of cultivating synodality in the Church.

The word 'synodality' comes from a Greek word meaning 'walking together'. So, synodality is about all of us, God's people, journeying together, listening to each other, learning to make decisions together, and sharing our gifts along the way.

Many bishops and priests have been trying to implement this model of Church over the years. Now, Pope Francis is asking us all to embed synodality into the life of the Church.

Mid-Autumn Festival

Our Hong Kong friends invite us to celebrate with them in church after the 10.30 am Mass next Sunday. The occasion is the Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as 'Moon Festival' or 'Mooncake Festival' – a traditional festival celebrated in Chinese culture around this time. Its focus is on family gathering and thanksgiving. All are very welcome.

If you've got time, the Hongkongers invite us to see what we can find out about the festival and bring a drawing or picture with us next Sunday to add to a display. There's lots of information on the internet.

Do have a good week.

*With my prayers,
Fr Dave*

General Information

1) **Parish Priest:** Canon Dave Heywood. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: Address: St Benedict's Priory, Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE. **Deacons:** Revv Tony Kerrigan & David Boyle.

2) **Parish Office:** Mrs Celia Rigby. Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk

3) **Parish Website** www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk

4) **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (*Confession*)

Wednesdays: 10.15 – 10.45 am at St Benedict's

Saturdays: After the 4.30 pm Mass at St Oswald's
Confession is also available on request.

5) **St Benedict's Church** is open for private prayer: Monday to Friday, 9.30 am – 4.00 pm.

6) **Communion at Home** – If you are not able to come to Mass and would like to receive communion at home, please phone the Parish Office (630127).

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Sunday 17 September 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Home Mission Day</i>	10.30 am Mass <i>(including Children's Liturgy)</i> Amelia Baylen	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Margaret Jean Cripps 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 18 September		7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 19 September		11.00 am Mass Daniel Marino
Wednesday 20 September St Andrew Kim Taegon & Companions	10.15 – 11.30 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <i>(Fr Dave at Chapter Mass in Cathedral)</i>	
Thursday 21 September Feast of St Matthew, Apostle		11.00 am Mass Special Intention (Jim H) 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 22 September	11.00 am Mass In honour of Our Lady of Walsingham	
Saturday 23 September St Pius of Pietrelcina ('Padre Pio')		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Pat & Ged Beesley
Sunday 24 September 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>World Day for Migrants & Refugees</i>	10.30 am Mass John & Doris Ryan, Angela Ryan, Catherine Shireby	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Details for 10 September next week

can also be found on the website – click on 'Menu' and then 'Careers'.

VISIT OF THE RELICS OF SCOTTISH SAINTS

The Relics of the Scottish Saints (St Andrew, St Margaret and St Columba) will be visiting the Cathedral this week from Monday 18 to Thursday 21 September. There will be a Welcome Mass on Monday at 5.00 pm and a Closing Mass on Thursday at 12.15 pm. All are welcome to visit the Relics which will be in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

PAUSE FOR HOPE

The 25th Annual Ecumenical Service, 'Pause for Hope', supporting those with cancer and their loved ones, will be held in the Cathedral next Sunday, 24 September, at 3.00 pm. The main speaker will be Dean Sullivan. The service will feature music from Billy Hui and SingMe Merseyside. Tickets are not required – all are welcome.

NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK

Keith Ballard, a former Headteacher and Deacon of the Archdiocese, has recently ventured into the world of children's literature with his first book, 'The Bear With A Sore Throat'. The book, aimed at children aged 3-6, is now available at Waterstones, WHSmith, Amazon, and directly from Austin Macauley Publishers www.austinmacauley.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS / VACANCIES

Latest events across the Archdiocese can be found on the Archdiocesan website – click on 'Menu' and then 'Events' at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk Vacancies

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 4)

Today **24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**
Readings Ecclesiasticus 27: 33-28: 9
Romans 14: 7-9
Matthew 18: 21-35
Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 24

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo, Ian Buist, Malcolm Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Ged Hughes, Susan Keating, Sheila Mellor, Peter Milner, Trina Mouldsdales, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Paul Vernon, Dolores Woodall.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Catherine Carne, Dave Ferris, Betty Fiddler, Mary Harcourt, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Ron Jones, Peter McKeown, Jean Murphy, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts.

Other Parishes

Marie Barnes, Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, Pauline Heywood, James Hutchison, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Sr Maire Mums, Fr Tony Slingo, Pamela Watson (*nee* Park).

Those who have died recently, especially:

Kathleen Murray