

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
24 September 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers,

World Day for Migrants and Refugees

Today is the annual World Day for Migrants and Refugees. Established in 1914, the day is an opportunity to learn more about refugees and migrants, to pray for them as a community, and to work together for positive change.

In his message for today, Pope Francis reminds us that the decision to move is not always voluntary. He urges us to help build peace and stability in places where people are being forced to move: "Migrants flee because of poverty, fear or desperation. Eliminating these causes and thus putting an end to forced migration calls for shared commitment on the part of all, in accordance with the responsibilities of each."

Today, many people have no choice but to leave their homes and, frequently on these journeys, they are treated without respect. For example, for the vast majority of people who seek asylum in the UK, there are no safe and accessible routes. Consequently, people are forced to make dangerous journeys to come to the UK, and often face punishment and hostility for the way they travelled here. Many asylum seekers are detained or forced into years of destitution.

Instead, Pope Francis encourages us to offer welcome and hospitality to those that are forced to move, to treat them as sisters and brothers in Christ:

"We are called to show maximum respect for the dignity of each migrant; this entails accompanying and managing waves of migration as best we can, constructing bridges and not walls, expanding channels for a safe and regular migration."

Synod on Synodality

During the month of October, bishops from all over the world will meet with Pope Francis for the first of two Synod gatherings. This is the culmination of a two-year process of listening and discernment which has involved every diocese in the world, including our own. For the first time, lay men and women from around the world will also participate in these gatherings with the bishops. The theme of the gathering is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission". You will find lots of information on the Bishops' Conference website: www.cbcew.org.uk/synodal-church

Visit of the Relics of Scottish Saints

Last Wednesday, the Canons of the Cathedral Chapter met for their bi-monthly Mass and meeting. Our gathering coincided with the visit of the relics of three Scottish Saints: St Andrew, St Margaret and St Columba. St Andrew was one of the apostles, born in Bethsaida in Galilee. St Margaret of Scotland, known as the 'pearl of Scotland', lived in the 11th century and is remembered for her charitable works. Finally, St Columba was an Irish monk who travelled to Scotland in the 6th century and founded an abbey on Iona. He's credited for the spread of Christianity in Scotland.

And finally... Congratulations to the parishioners of St Joseph's, Penketh, who are celebrating the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone of their church this weekend.

*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 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	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Pat & Ged Beesley 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 25 September		10.00 am Funeral Service Katherine Murray 7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 26 September		11.00 am Mass Brian Harris
Wednesday 27 September St Vincent de Paul	10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass For a Successful Operation	
Thursday 28 September		11.00 am Mass Mary Lynch 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 29 September Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	11.00 am Mass For Powley	
Saturday 30 September St Jerome		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Fr Gerard Postlethwaite
Sunday 1 October 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Rosary Sunday</i>	10.30 am Mass Sheila Mellor	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

10.09.23	£632.04	(£243.50 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.69	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£190.50	(£83.50 Gift Aid)
Total	£952.23	
17.09.23	£875.77	(£310.25 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.69	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£148.50	(£63.50 Gift Aid)
Online Giving	£80.00	
Total	£1233.96	
2nd Collections	£357.62	(Catholic Education)
	£296.80	(Home Missions)
CAFOD	£10.00	
Parish Caritas	£5.20	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

LGBTQ+ CATHOLICS

The next Mass with LGBTQ+ Catholics and friends will take place at 2.00 pm on Sunday 8 October at St Bede's, Appleton Village, Widnes WA8 6EL. All are most welcome.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EAST WARRINGTON

The next meeting of church representatives will take place this Tuesday, 26 September, at 7.00 pm in the Mission Hall at the Church of the Ascension, Warren Lane, Woolston WA1 4ES.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

There are lots of events going on across the Archdiocese. See Archdiocesan website: go to 'Menu' and then 'Events' at www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

Today	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
<i>Readings</i>	Isaiah 55: 6-9 Philippians 1: 20-24, 27 Matthew 20: 1-16
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 25

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 Moms, Fr Tony Slingo, Pamela Watson (*nee* Park).

Those who have died recently, especially:

Kathleen Murray