

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Solemnity of Christ the King (A)

World Youth Day – 26 November 2023

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### Introductory Rites

#### Gathering Song

Hail Redeemer King Divine (320) verses 1, 3, 4

#### Greeting & Penitential Act

#### Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

#### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
whose will is to restore all things  
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,  
grant, we pray,  
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,

may render your majesty service  
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

### Liturgy of the Word

#### First Reading

*(Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17)*

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 23

**The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.**

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose.
- 2 Beside restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

#### Gospel Acclamation

#### Gospel

*(Matthew 25: 31-46)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him

in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Homily

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## Bidding Prayers

### Liturgy of the Eucharist

#### Preparation of the Gifts

*Antiphon:* Let all the world – Ralph Vaughan Williams

#### Prayer over the Offerings

As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice  
by which the human race is reconciled to you,

we humbly pray,  
that your Son himself may bestow on all nations  
the gifts of unity and peace.

Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

#### Eucharistic Prayer

*Holy, Holy – Mass of Christ the Saviour (Dan Schutte)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes,  
who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Mystery of Faith*

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.**

#### The Lord's Prayer

Notre père... Têve Mūsų... Vater unser... Ojczy nasz...  
Padre nostro... 我們的父親

#### Sign of Peace

Please exchange the Sign of Peace with those around  
you in whatever way is most comfortable for you.

#### Communion

*Song:* Jesus Christ is waiting (889)

#### Prayer after Communion

Having received the food of immortality,  
we ask, O Lord,  
that, glorying in obedience  
to the commands of Christ, the King of the universe,  
we may live with him eternally  
in his heavenly kingdom.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## Concluding Rite

### Blessing & Dismissal

#### Final Song

Majesty (767)

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The **Offertory Collection** takes place as you leave  
church – a basket will be available, or you can use the  
'Tap & Go' facility. This collection is the main source  
of income for the parish. Many thanks for your  
generosity.

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