

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**  
**14 January 2024**

My dear sisters and brothers,

### Welcome

A very warm welcome and many thanks to Fr Austin who will be presiding at the Masses this weekend while I have a week off. I'll be back in the saddle, as they say, on Tuesday.

### Peace Sunday

Today, the Bishops of England and Wales invite us to observe a Day of Prayer for World Peace using the theme proposed by Pope Francis: 'Artificial Intelligence & Peace'. It might seem a strangely technical, rather abstract title, of limited interest except to experts, but new technologies are developing so quickly that we need to think about their consequences for our freedom, peace and security. Who is gaining power through AI – and who is being disempowered? We also need to think of the risk of Artificial Intelligence, which will only have as much soul and ethical vision as those who programme it, calling the shots on the battlefield, deciding who lives and who dies – and possibly one day even triggering wars automatically. For more information: [www.cbcew.org.uk/peace-sunday-2024](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/peace-sunday-2024)

### Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

This Thursday, 18 January, marks the beginning of the annual Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year's theme is "You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself" (cf. Luke 10: 27). For more information: [www.cbcew.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2024](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2024) Locally, we will have an Ecumenical Service at Risley Independent Methodist Church on Wednesday 24 January at 7.00 pm. All are very welcome.

### First Communions 2024

Parishioners in Year 4, who do NOT attend St Benedict's Catholic Primary School or St Oswald's

Catholic Primary School, and who would like to celebrate First Communion this year, please contact Fr Dave as soon as possible. Thank you.

### Confirmations 2024

If you are in Year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, please visit the Liverpool Called website [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk) and click 'Register for Confirmation' at the top right-hand side of the page. Registration is open until 15 March 2024. Information about the preparation scheme can also be found on the website.

### Parish Office

In the absence of a Parish Administrator (Secretary), some parishioners have kindly offered to help staff the Parish Office this week: Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm. St Benedict's Church will be open for private prayer during the same hours.

*Please note:* the church and the office will be closed on Mondays because I'm going to start taking a day off again!

### St Oswald's Parish Centre

I am very sorry that the Parish Centre had to close recently and for the distress it has caused, especially to all those who had bookings. The situation was unforeseen and unavoidable. Thankfully, normal service will resume tomorrow (Monday).

*With my prayers,  
Fr Dave*

### General Information

- 1) **Parish Priest:** Canon Dave Heywood. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: [frdave@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:frdave@rcaol.org.uk) Address: St Benedict's Priory, Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE.  
**Deacons:** Revv Tony Kerrigan & David Boyle.
- 2) **Parish Office:** Please phone 01925 630127 or email [frdave@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:frdave@rcaol.org.uk)
- 3) **Parish Website** [www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk](http://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: Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm.
- 6) **Communion at Home** – If you are not able to come to Mass and would like to receive communion at home, please phone Fr Dave (630127).

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
<b>Sunday 14 January</b> 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>Peace Sunday</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Michael Charles Seymour	<b>(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Peter, Jo, Barbara & Geraldine Ellington <b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners
<b>Monday 15 January</b>		<b>7.00 pm Prayer Group</b>
<b>Tuesday 16 January</b>		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Tom Fiddler
<b>Wednesday 17 January</b> St Anthony, Abbot	<b>10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition</b> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> Gary O'Donnell	<i>Funeral Mass at St Joseph's</i> <i>Evening Mass at St Joseph's</i>
<b>Thursday 18 January</b> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins</i>		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Ken Armitage <b>7.00 pm Novena &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Friday 19 January</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Thanksgiving to God	
<b>Saturday 20 January</b>		<b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Laurence & Agnes O'Connor, Margaret Lomax
<b>Sunday 21 January</b> 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Hans Burgess	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Totals for last Sunday will be published next weekend.

### ST BENEDICT'S 200 CLUB

St Benedict's have restarted the 200 Club to help fund the maintenance of the church building. Cost is £5 per month paid in advance. Numbers will be drawn on the last Sunday of the month. There will four prizes: 1st = £50, 2nd = £25, 3rd = £15, 4th = £10.

### AUSTEN IVEREIGH IN LIVERPOOL

Dr Austen Ivereigh is a writer, journalist and commentator on religious and political affairs. He was personally invited by Pope Francis to attend the recent Synod in Rome. He will share his insights and expertise at St Anne's, Overbury Street, on Sunday 28 January at 6.00 pm. The event will be live-streamed and recorded. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

### RNIB WORKSHOP

The RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) will be holding a workshop at St Margaret Clitherow Centre on Monday 29 January at 7.00 pm to help us to learn about some of the challenges experienced by those affected by sight loss, and to explore some methods and strategies that could be helpful to support people with sight loss in our parishes. To book a place, please visit: <https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/ncz37tpe>

### FOR MORE EVENTS, NEWS & VACANCIES

[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

**Today**                      **2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**  
*Readings*                1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19  
                                      1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20  
                                      John 1: 35-42  
**Weekdays**            Ordinary Time: Year 2, Week 2

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

**Those who are sick or homebound, especially:**

*St Benedict's & St Mary's*

Luciano Bartolo, 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, Dolores Woodall.

*St Oswald's*

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

*Other Parishes*

Marie Barnes, Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, Pauline Heywood, James Hutchison, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Sr Maire Moms, Elizabeth Nash, Margaret Smith, Pamela Watson.

**Those who have died recently, especially:**

Mary Moynihan, Mary Brennan, Eunice Fletcher, Josephine Hall.