

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Racial Justice Day – 28 January 2024

Introductory Rites

Gathering Song

All are welcome (458) verses 1-2, 5

Greeting & Introduction

Penitential Act

Creator God,
who so lovingly made this world,
forgive us for not loving each other as we should.

When we stereotype people
because of the colour of their skin:

R. Forgive us, Lord.

When we dismiss someone's voice
just because we do not understand their accent:

R. Forgive us, Lord.

When we judge others because they are not like us:

R. Forgive us, Lord.

When we let past experiences cloud our judgment:

R. Forgive us, Lord.

When we are bullied into racism by others:

R. Forgive us, Lord.

When we fail to learn more about other cultures:

R. Forgive us, Lord.

When we do not speak up for our brothers and sisters
who are subject to racism:

R. Forgive us, Lord.

Collect

God our Creator,
you are present in all your sons and daughters.
Forgive us when we allow hate, division, ignorance,
and fear to separate and divide us,
harming the unity for which Jesus prayed.
Open our minds and hearts
to see that you are the source of everyone
and everything that is good,

so that we see each other and ourselves as creatures
who deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.
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

(Deut 18: 15-20)

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95

**If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

- 1 Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord;
let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.
- 2 Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the Lord who made us.
For he is our God,
and we are the people he shepherds,
the flock he guides.

Second Reading

(1 Cor 7: 32-35)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should

be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel *(Mark 1: 21-28)*
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Profession of Faith

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Bidding Prayers

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Song: Be still for the presence of the Lord (720)

Prayer over the Offerings

O Lord, we bring to your altar
these offerings of our service:
be pleased to receive them, we pray,
and transform them

into the Sacrament of our redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Mass of Hope – Bernadette Farrell (559)
**Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy Lord, Holy Lord, God of hosts.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed, blessed, blessed, blessed is he
who comes in the name,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The Mystery of Faith

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

Our Father

Notre père... Têve Mûsû... Vater unser... Ojczy nasz...
Padre nostro... 我們的天父

Sign of Peace

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

Communion

Song: There is a longing in our hearts – Anne Quigley

Prayer after Communion

Nourished by these redeeming gifts,
we pray, O Lord,
that through this help to eternal salvation
true faith may ever increase.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

Concluding Rite

Blessing & Dismissal

Final Song

O Lord my God (721) omit verse 2

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.

Acknowledgements

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