

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

**4 February 2024**

My dear sisters and brothers,

### **Pauline Heywood, RIP**

My dear mum died last Sunday afternoon. Thank you for praying for her – she needed to go home to our Lord. She was tired and in pain. Her death was very peaceful.

For the last forty years, mum lived in Bray about 12 miles from Dublin. In Ireland, they don't hang around when it comes to funerals! The Funeral Mass was arranged for last Thursday. So, like so many of you, I joined my brothers and sisters in preparing the funeral. The Irish Sea meant we had to do that by phone and email. Then, very early on Thursday morning, I flew over to preside at the Funeral Mass in the local church – St Fergal's in Ballywaltrim. It was beautiful. The parishioners couldn't have been more welcoming and helpful, even some of the children from the local school provided a guard of honour as the hearse left church!

My mum had reached the great age of 91; my dad is 94 tomorrow! It will be hard for him. They had been together for nearly 64 years! So, please pray for him. It's so hard to lose your companion whose always been there. The empty chair, the silence, the lonely meals... It's hard – and I know many of you know what it's like.

One of the things I noticed was the respect people showed during the funeral procession. The traffic just stopped as the hearse left the church, and we walked to the cemetery about ten minutes away. There were no cars beeping horns or trying to overtake the procession as sadly now happens here; even the cars on the opposite side of the road stopped as the hearse passed by! It was quite surreal. It used to be like this in our own country.

Thank you for your prayers and your kindness at this time. I'm very grateful to you.

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Speaking with the other priests in Warrington, we are planning to reintroduce communion under both kinds on Holy Thursday. So, during Lent, there will be a meeting for those who were Eucharistic Ministers prior to the pandemic (if they wish to continue) and a training session for those who would like to be Eucharistic Ministers at Mass as well as taking communion to parishioners who are sick or homebound.

### **St Oswald's Parish Centre**

I'm afraid it's looking like there's simply no way to reopen the Parish Centre until the staffing issues are resolved. I've been advised that the earliest this could happen is sometime in March. It's an extraordinary situation and immensely frustrating, but it's where we are. I know there's plenty of gossip and misinformation doing the rounds. There have also been what can only be described some abusive phone calls. That's not acceptable. All I can say is that everything that can be done is being done.

### **Confirmation 2024**

If you have a child or grandchild in Year 8, please encourage them to sign up for the Sacrament of Confirmation by visiting the website [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk) and clicking on the 'Register for Confirmation' tab. Signing up will mean your child or grandchild will be included in this year's preparation for Confirmation which will help them to decide if this is something they want to do at this stage in their lives. Registration is open until 15 March 2024.

### **First Communion 2024**

Finally, parishioners in Year 4, who do NOT attend St Benedict's or St Oswald's Catholic Primary Schools, and who would like to celebrate First Communion this year, please contact me as soon as possible. Thank you.

*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 Website** [www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk](http://www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk)

3) **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.

4) **St Benedict's Church** is open for private prayer:  
Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm.

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
<b>Sunday 4 February</b> 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> <i>(including Children's Liturgy)</i> John & Mary Bostock	<b>(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> James Byrne <b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners
<b>Monday 5 February</b> St Agatha		<b>7.00 pm Prayer Group</b>
<b>Tuesday 6 February</b> St Paul Miki & Companions		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> John Morris
<b>Wednesday 7 February</b>	<b>10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition</b> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> Private Intention (LISC)	<b>12.30 pm Funeral Mass</b> Philomena McCarron
<b>Thursday 8 February</b> St Josephine Bakhita <i>Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking</i>		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Liam O'Callaghan <b>7.00 pm Novena &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Friday 9 February</b>	<b>No Mass today</b> <i>(Interviews for Headteacher)</i>	
<b>Saturday 10 February</b> St Scholastica	<b>11.00 am Cantonese Mass</b>	<b>4.30 pm First Communion</b> <b>Presentation Mass</b> Carole Lawless
<b>Sunday 11 February</b> 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>World Day of Prayer for the Sick and those who care for them</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> Eileen Lawton

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

28.01.24	£609.33	(£284.35 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.69	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£174.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£913.02</b>	
2nd Collection	£563.22	(Survive-Miva)
Fundraising	£45.50	(Hot Dogs)
£200 Club	£125.00	(St Benedict's)

*Thank you so much for your generosity.*

### ST BENEDICT'S 200 CLUB

January winners: Linda Flynn (£50), Mary McDonagh (£25), Mr/Mrs Jameson (£15), Nora Addis (£10). Thank you to the organisers and to all who've joined the club.

### THANK YOU

Terry Vernon and her family would like to thank all the friends who sent cards and Masses in memory of Paul. "Your thoughts and prayers have sustained me over the last weeks and continue to do so. Your love was felt at the funeral and beyond."

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Afternoon Tea** for Senior Citizens tomorrow (Monday), 1.00 – 3.00 pm, at St Oswald's Parish Centre.

**Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes** – 12.00 noon on Saturday 10 February at Christ the King, Childwall.

**Race Night Fundraiser** on Friday 16 February, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, in St Benedict's Parish Centre.

*There are job opportunities and lots of events going on across the Archdiocese: [www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)*

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)*

<b>Today</b>	<b>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</b>
<i>Readings</i>	Job 7: 1-4, 6-7 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23 Mark 1: 29-39
<b>Weekdays</b>	Ordinary Time: Year 2, Week 5

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

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

*St Benedict's & St Mary's*

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, Jean Murphy, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts.

*Other Parishes*

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

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

Pauline Heywood, Philomena McCarron, Pete Rigby, Mgr George Mooney, Edith Morris, Eileen Price, Peter McKeown and Ray Toft.