

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## 1st Sunday of Lent (B)

18 February 2024

### Introductory Rites

#### Processional Litany of the Saints

*Please join in singing the refrains:*

**Pray for us.**

**Lord, deliver us, we pray.**

**Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.**

#### Greeting & Introduction

##### Collect

Lord our God,  
you formed us from the clay of the earth  
and breathed into us the spirit of life,  
but we turned from your face and sinned.  
In this time of repentance  
we call out for your mercy.  
Bring us back to you  
and to the life your Son won for us  
by his death on the cross,  
for he lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**R. Amen.**

### Liturgy of the Word

#### First Reading

*(Genesis 9: 8-15)*

A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant

between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 24

**Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth  
to those who keep your covenant.**

- 1 Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.
- 2 Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord.
- 3 The Lord is good and upright.  
he shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path,  
he teaches his way to the poor.

#### Second Reading

*(1 Peter 3: 18-22)*

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

#### Gospel

*(Mark 1: 12-15)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

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

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Homily

### Commissioning of New Headteacher *(St Benedict's)*

#### 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

*Response after each intention:*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

#### Preparation of the Gifts

*Music:* Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts –  
Henry Purcell (1659-95)

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;  
shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers;  
but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty.  
O holy and most merciful Saviour,  
thou most worthy Judge eternal,  
suffer us not at our last hour,  
for any pains of death to fall away from thee.

#### Prayer over the Offerings

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray,  
to make these offerings,  
for with them we celebrate the beginning  
of this venerable and sacred time.  
Through Christ our Lord.

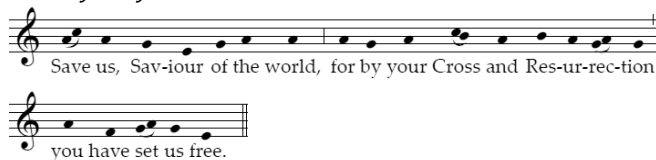
**R. Amen.**

#### Eucharistic Prayer

*Holy, Holy – Mass of Christ our 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*



#### Our Father

Notre père... Tève Mūsų... 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.

#### Breaking of the Bread

**Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
dona nobis pacem.**

#### Communion

*Song:* Be not afraid (964)

#### Prayer after Communion

Renewed now with heavenly bread,  
by which faith is nourished, hope increased,  
and charity strengthened,  
we pray, O Lord,  
that we may learn to hunger for Christ,  
the true and living Bread,  
and strive to live by every word  
which proceeds from your mouth.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## Concluding Rite

#### Blessing & Dismissal

#### Final Song

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer (960)

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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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#### Acknowledgements

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