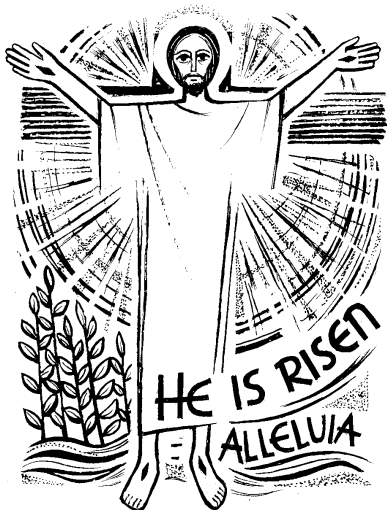


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

Easter Sunday – 31 March 2024

**“This is the day that God has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!”**

(Psalm 117)

EASTER MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we start going out, and coming home in the light again, it usually means one thing: Easter is around the corner. As we leave Winter and enter Spring, we are also reminded of the new life that starts at this time of year. Whether that be the plants in your garden, the leaves on trees, or the caterpillars and butterflies that start showing their faces again.

This time of year is an incredibly important one in our faith. We remind ourselves that Jesus Christ died for our sins, descended into Hell, and rose from the dead. It is a reminder that there is always hope, even in the depths of despair.

When Jesus was betrayed by Judas and ultimately crucified on Good Friday, it felt like hope was lost. But on the third day, Christ rose from the depths of Hell and things were looking light again.

It is a message we can all take into our everyday lives. When things are looking bleak, whether it be a personal issue, or a wider issue like conflict in Ukraine, Gaza and other parts of the world, a light can always be found.

It's also important to remember the journey we have been on for the past 40 days for Lent. From Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday we have all tried to enrich

our lives, by either giving up something that is bad for us, or adding something more positive, like praying into our everyday life. Whatever you have decided to do this year, I hope you had every success, and life is better for the choices you have made.

May the light of Jesus Christ be present in you all, as we celebrate his resurrection.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon, OP
Archbishop of Liverpool

HE IS RISEN
alleluia

A very happy Easter to you all!

May the joy of this day – the greatest day of the year for Christians – lift your spirit, renew your hope, and bring peace to your heart.

With my prayers,
Fr Dave

General Information

1) **Parish Priest:** Canon Dave Heywood. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: frdave@rcaol.org.uk Address: St Benedict's Priory, Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE.

Deacons: Rev Tony Kerrigan & Rev David Boyle.

2) **Parish Office:** Mrs Bernie Griffin. Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk

Please note: The Parish Office will be closed this week.

3) **Parish Website** 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.

Please note: St Benedict's will be closed this week.

6) **Communion at Home** – If you are not able to come to Mass and would like to receive communion at home, please phone the Parish Office (630127).



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Easter Sunday, 31 March	10.30 am Mass Peace in the Holy Land	(Sat) 8.00 pm The Easter Vigil The Parishioners 8.30 am Mass Eileen Lawton
Monday 1 April Easter Octave		<i>No Prayer Group</i>
Tuesday 2 April Easter Octave		<i>No Mass today</i>
Wednesday 3 April Easter Octave	<i>No Mass today</i>	
Thursday 4 April Easter Octave		<i>No Mass or Novena today</i>
Friday 5 April Easter Octave		10.00 am Funeral Mass Mary Teresa Adkins
Saturday 6 April Easter Octave		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Cathy Gorse
Sunday 7 April 2nd Sunday of Easter (B)	10.30 am Mass Teresa Moss	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

24.03.24	£768.23	(£252.71 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.69	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£216.00	
Total	£1113.92	
Fundraising	£223.60	<i>(St Benedict's)</i>

Thank you so much for your generosity.

EASTER RAFFLE AT ST OSWALD'S

- 1st Prize - Pam Banks (Ticket 291)
 - 2nd Prize - Greg Casswell (Ticket 6)
 - 3rd Prize - Janet McQuilton (Ticket 302)
 - 4th Prize - Mr Mellor (Ticket 336)
 - 5th Prize - Margaret Gibbons (Ticket 186)
 - 6th Prize - Kath Brady (Ticket 44)
 - 7th Prize - Pat Murphy (Ticket 301)
 - 8th Prize - John Lawless (Ticket 47)
 - 9th Prize - Maria Weatherhead (Ticket 181)
 - 10th Prize - Clare Lancaster (Ticket 118)
 - 11th Prize - Sharon Orwin (Ticket 251)
- Thank you so much to everyone who donated prizes and to all who were able to contribute.*

EASTER BUNNY WALK

An Easter Bunny Walk to raise money for the Liverpool Lourdes Pilgrimage will take place on Monday 1 April at 11.00 am. The walk will go from St Gregory the Great, Lydiate L31 2NA to Our Lady's and back. Guests of all ages and well-behaved dogs are welcome. Each person will get a water bottle, bunny ears, and an Easter egg! Cost: £8 per person or £20 for a family of 4. To register, please email: Mpmmurphypat@aol.com

COME AND SEE DAY AT IRENAEUS

The Irenaeus Project will be hosting their latest Come and See Day on 6 April. The talk is on the Power of

Forgiveness with keynote speakers Barry and Margaret Mizen. For more information, contact jenny@reanaeus.co.uk or phone on 0151 949 1199.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

Today	Easter Sunday
<i>Readings</i>	Acts 10: 34, 37-43; Colossians 3: 1-4 John 20: 1-9
Weekdays	Easter Octave

Alleluia!

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

Rosa-Maria Berry, Malcolm Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Jim Hyland, Ged Hughes, Susan Keating, Sheila Mellor, Peter Milner, Trina Mouldsdale, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Dolores Woodall.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Dave Ferris, Betty Fiddler, Sam Johnson, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts, Margaret Whitlow.

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:

Mary Teresa Adkins, Fr Barry McAllister, Michael John Cook.