

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



IF YOU  
ABIDE IN ME  
YOU WILL BEAR  
MUCH FRUIT

## 5th Sunday of Easter (B)

29 April 2024

### Introductory Rites

#### Gathering Song

Sing to the mountains (282)

#### Greeting & Penitential Act

#### Gloria

- 1 **Father, we adore you,  
lay our lives before you.  
How we love you.**
- 2 **Jesus, we adore you...**
- 3 **Spirit, we adore you...**

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#### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,  
that those you were pleased to make new  
in Holy Baptism  
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit  
and come to the joys of life eternal.  
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

*(Acts 9: 26-31)*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles,

and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 22

**I will praise you, Lord,  
in the assembly of your people.**

- 1 I will fulfill my vows  
before those who fear the Lord.  
The lowly shall eat their fill;  
they who seek the Lord shall praise him:  
"May your hearts live forever!"
- 2 All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the Lord;  
all the families of the nations  
shall bow down before him.

#### Second Reading

*(1 John 3: 18-24)*

A reading from the first letter of St John

My children,  
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,  
but something real and active;  
only by this can we be certain  
that we are children of the truth  
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,  
whatever accusations it may raise against us,  
because God is greater than our conscience  
and he knows everything.

My dear people,  
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,  
we need not be afraid in God's presence,  
and whatever we ask him,  
we shall receive,  
because we keep his commandments  
and live the kind of life that he wants.  
His commandments are these:  
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ  
and that we love one another  
as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments  
lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us  
by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Gospel Acclamation

## Gospel

(John 15: 1-8)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,  
and my Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me that bears no fruit  
he cuts away,  
and every branch that does bear fruit  
he prunes to make it bear even more.  
You are pruned already,  
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,  
but must remain part of the vine,  
neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,  
bears fruit in plenty;  
for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
is like a branch that has been thrown away –  
he withers;  
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,  
and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me  
and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will  
and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father  
that you should bear much fruit,  
and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Homily

### 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

Risen Saviour! **R. Hear our prayer.**

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

### Preparation of the Gifts

*Music:* If ye love me – Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

### Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who by the wonderful exchange  
effected in this sacrifice  
have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead,  
grant, we pray,  
that, as we have come to know your truth,  
we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.  
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*

**Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

### Our Father

Notre père... Têve Mûşu... 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

*Music:* Unless a grain of wheat (748)

### Prayer after Communion

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord,  
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries  
to pass from former ways to newness of life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## Concluding Rite

### Final Song

O praise ye the Lord (406)

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### Acknowledgements

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