

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

6th Sunday of Easter (B)
5 May 2024

My dear sisters and brothers,

A very warm welcome to...

† Members of the Deaf Community who will be joining us for the 4.30 pm Vigil Mass this weekend.

† Some of the little ones, and their families, who will be baptised this month.

† The children at non-Catholic schools who are preparing for First Communion and who will be presented to us at the 10.30 am Mass.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord and is a holyday of obligation. Masses will be as follows:

Wednesday	7.00 pm	Vigil Mass at St Oswald's
Thursday	9.15 am	School Mass at St Oswald's
	11.00 am	Mass at St Benedict's
	1.15 pm	Mass at St Benedict's School

'Family of Parishes' Spring Walk

Our next 'Family of Parishes' event is a Spring Walk next Sunday, 12 May, at 2.00 pm. Starting at St Oswald's, we will walk The New Cut and Ecology Trail to St Peter's where refreshments will be served. If you want a seat on the minibus to take you back to St Oswald's, please sign the list at the back of church.

Parish Outing

St Benedict's is organising a Parish Outing to the Lake District on Monday 13 May to visit the Laurel & Hardy Museum and Wax Lyrical Factory Outlet in Ulverston. Cost including entry fee from £23.00. Please sign the list at the back of church if you are interested.

Crisis Appeal for Sudan

CAFOD has launched an emergency appeal to support families in Sudan which is in the grip of the world's worst hunger and displacement crisis. Donations can be made online at www.cafod.org.uk/SudanAppeal or placed in an envelope marked 'Sudan' and handed in at church.

Grotto at St Benedict's

The restoration of the Grotto has taken a very long time. Three factors have contributed to this: the pandemic, rising building costs and contractors. However, there are just two things left to do: cladding the perimeter wall and rethinking the water feature that hasn't worked. This is in hand, and I hope the whole project will at last be complete by October.

St Oswald's Church

Just to reiterate what I shared before Holy Week... The cost to repair the roof and walls of the church is estimated to be in the region of £400,000. This sum is simply beyond us. So, what to do? We have a legacy which, having been invested, now amounts to around £150,000. This sum would allow us to patch the roof where it is leaking and to redecorate most of the interior of the church. While this won't resolve the problem in the long term, it should give us five to ten years without water ingress. All things considered, I think this is the best way forward at present. So a plan is being drawn up to present to the Trustees of the Archdiocese.

*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

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.

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
Sunday 5 May 6th Sunday of Easter (B)	10.30 am Mass Marion Williams	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Mary O'Connor 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 6 May		<i>The Prayer Group is now meeting at St John Henry Newman Church</i>
Tuesday 7 May		11.00 am Mass Fr Mark Whelehan CP
Wednesday 8 May	10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Syd Bradshaw	7.00 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners
Thursday 9 May Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord <i>Holyday of Obligation</i>	11.00 am Mass Holy Souls (K) 1.15 pm Mass at School	9.15 am School Mass (in church) The White Family 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 10 May	11.00 am Mass Private Intention (LISC)	
Saturday 11 May	11.00 am & 1.00 pm First Communion Masses	4.30 pm Vigil Mass Alf Brown
Sunday 12 May 7th Sunday of Easter (B) <i>World Communications Day</i>	10.30 am Mass Arthur & Vera Brindle 12.00 noon First Confessions	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

The Season of Easter lasts for 50 days and concludes with the great feast of Pentecost.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

28.04.24	£789.36	(£346.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.00	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£372.00	(£162.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£1290.36	
Fundraising	£225.00	(St Benedict's 200 Club)
	£43.50	(Hot Dogs)

Thank you so much for your generosity.

ST BENEDICT'S 200 CLUB

April winners: £50 John Ryan, £25 Sandra Smith, £15 Rollover to May, £10 Mary Monks.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Next Sunday is World Communications Day. There will be a Second Collection to support the work of the Bishops Conference in communicating the Good News through its websites, publications, and social media channels.

BOY & GIRL CHORISTERS

The search is on for the next generation of Boy and Girl choristers for the Cathedral Choir. All choristers are educated at Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School and St Edward's College meaning a first-class Catholic education for boys and girls at no cost. If you know of a Catholic family who might be interested in this wonderful opportunity, please share this information with them. For further details, please go to:

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

Today

Readings

6th Sunday of Easter (B)

Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

1 John 4: 7-10

John 15: 9-17

Weekdays

Easter – Week 6

Thursday

The Ascension of the Lord (B)

Acts 1: 1-11; Ephesians 1: 17-23

Mark 16: 15-20

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, Margaret Jones, 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:

Sam Johnson, Jill Selway.