

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

7th Sunday of Easter (B)
12 May 2024

My dear sisters and brothers,

World Communications Day

Today is World Communications Day. This annual day reminds us of the importance of not just keeping the faith but sharing it. Vital to this is good communication – through websites, publications, and social media channels. So there is a **Second Collection** today to support the Church's work in communicating the Good News in the media.

First Communion

Many congratulations to the children in Year 4 at St Benedict's who are celebrating their First Communion this weekend. Next weekend, the children at non-Catholic schools will celebrate their First Communion with us during the 10.30 am Mass.

'Family of Parishes' Spring Walk

Parishioners from our 'Family of Parishes' (*St Stephen's, Blessed James Bell and St Peter's*) are coming together today (Sunday) for a Spring Walk at 2.00 pm. Starting at St Oswald's, they will walk The New Cut and Ecology Trail to St Peter's where refreshments will be served. Do come along if you're free. The walk will be gentle and will take about an hour.

Pentecost Sunday

Next weekend, the fifty days of Easter conclude with the great feast of Pentecost. Between now and then, the Church invites us to keep a Novena of Prayer for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives, in the Church, and in the world. You will find a sheet at the back of church entitled, "Come Holy Spirit", with a short passage of Scripture and a prayer for each day of the week. If you prefer, you could simply pray the age-old mantra, "Come, Holy Spirit!"

Fundraising Walkathon

St Benedict's fundraising team is organising a gentle Walkathon to Orford Park on Sunday 26 May at 12.00 noon followed by a picnic (bring your own) together at church. Please sign the list at the back of church if you would like to take part and pick up a sponsorship form.

Corpus Christi Procession

Fr Matthew Goddard, FSSP, the new Rector at St Mary's Shrine, and I would like to 'resurrect' the Corpus Christi Procession we used to hold as a parish. So we plan to hold the procession this year on Sunday 2 June beginning in St Mary's Shrine at 2.00 pm and then walking to St Alban's where Canon Christopher will lead Benediction at approximately 3.00 pm. I do hope some of you will be able to join us. Please extend an invitation to anyone you think might like to come along.

Building Updates

Sunny days has meant that it's been a good week when it comes to buildings. Roofing specialists visited St Oswald's to help me put together a plan for repairs to submit to the Archdiocese. They will return this week to complete their survey. A contractor also visited to ascertain the best way forward for treating the walls of the church once the water ingress has been stopped. A contractor also visited to quote for repairs to the paving outside the church which has become raised in places and is a potential trip hazard.

*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 12 May 7th Sunday of Easter (B) <i>World Communications Day</i>	10.30 am Mass Arthur & Vera Brindle 12.00 noon First Reconciliation <i>(First Confessions)</i>	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Alf Brown 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 13 May Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral		<i>The Prayer Group is now meeting at St John Henry Newman Church</i>
Tuesday 14 May Feast of St Matthias, Apostle		11.00 am Mass Michael Clifton
Wednesday 15 May	10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Ron Monks	
Thursday 16 May		No Mass today <i>(Fr Dave on CPD Training)</i> 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 17 May	No Mass today <i>(Fr Dave on CPD Training)</i>	
Saturday 18 May		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Avril Hamnet
Sunday 19 May Pentecost Sunday (B)	10.30 am First Communion Mass The Parishioners	8.30 am Mass Miriam Jones

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

For more information, please call 0151 708 7283 or email music@metcathedral.org.uk

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

05.05.24	£772.23	(£266.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.00	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£219.00	
Total	£1120.23	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

LAY CHAPLAIN

Saint Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic Academy, Whiston, are looking to appoint a Lay Chaplain. Details can be found at <https://www.pfcmat.org/Lay-Chaplain>. Visits to the academy are welcomed. Deadline for applications is Wednesday 22 May at 12 noon.

MUSIC AT THE MET 2024

The Metropolitan Cathedral is celebrating the return of the restored grand organ with a series of concerts and events that will demonstrate the versatility of the instrument.

† **Choral Evening Prayer with the Rededication of the Grand Organ**, followed by the Opening Organ Recital by Martin Baker today (Sunday) at 3.00 pm.

† **Two Cathedrals' Messiah** on Saturday 18 May at 7.30 pm.

† **Organ Recital** by Katherine Dienes-Williams on Monday 27 May at 11.15 am.

† **Organ Recital** by Matthew Walters on Saturday 1 June at 7.30 pm.

† **Two Cathedral Choirs** with Ian Tracey on Sunday 7 July at 3.00 pm.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)

Today **7th Sunday of Easter (B)**

Readings Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26

1 John 4: 11-16

John 17: 11-19

Weekdays Easter – Week 7

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, Marguerite 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.