

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
21 July 2024

My dear sisters and brothers,

Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

On Friday, pilgrims from all over the Archdiocese left by plane, train and coach for the annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes. You can find details of the pilgrimage on the Archdiocesan website: www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk This weekend, we'll join the pilgrims in Lourdes by celebrating Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes as has become our custom in recent years.

Priests in Retirement

While priests can retire from active ministry at the age of 75, many continue to serve in our parishes or help out as needed, not least because there are fewer priests. In our own Deanery, Bishop John Rawsthorne and Fr Bill Murphy, both in their eighties, have been serving in Widnes for the last ten years; Fr Austin Griffin is a tremendous support, and Canon Christopher continues to serve as parish priest of Sacred Heart and St Alban's.

In our diocese, we have a priests' retirement fund known as the George Andrew Fund (named after Archbishop George Andrew Beck). The fund helps to support our retired priests by providing them with suitable accommodation alongside other services. Above all, it makes sure that their social and healthcare needs are met.

Today, there will be a Second Collection as you leave church to help support our priests who have retired.

'Fun in the Sun'

Many thanks to those who organised last Sunday's 'Fun in the Sun' for children. Although it turned out to be 'Fun in the Rain!', the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. I think the adults did too!

A Week of Farewells

On Tuesday evening, we thanked and bid farewell to Bishop John Rawsthorne, Fr Bill Murphy and Fr Thomas Clarke who are leaving Widnes. Bishop John and Fr Bill are retiring, and Fr Thomas is going to Belgium to undertake further studies. This leaves just two priests in Widnes – Fr Mark Moran and Fr Peter Ross (who was ordained last Saturday).

On Thursday morning, we said goodbye to Year 6 at St Oswald's Catholic Primary School; then, in the afternoon, we thanked and bid a very fond farewell to Miss Helen Lennon who has served as Head Teacher for the last 25 years, and to Mrs Wendy Bluck who has been PA to Miss Lennon for the last 14 years.

Next week, we will say farewell to Year 6 at St Benedict's Catholic Primary School. Then, at the beginning of August, we will say goodbye to Fr Gwilym Evans, FSSP, who is leaving St Mary's Shrine to undertake further studies in Jerusalem.

"And he's off!"

Whenever Terry Wogan took a break from his breakfast show on Radio 2, he would say, "I'm off to the darkened room for a couple of weeks!" That always amused me. Well, I'm off to the darkened room for the next couple of weeks – time to rest and recharge after a busy year. The priests of the deanery will cover the Masses next weekend, but there will be no weekday Mass. I do hope you are able to manage a break during the summer.

*God bless you,
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:** Miss Bernie Griffin. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk
Please note: the Parish Office will only be open on Tuesday and Thursday morning this week.
- 3) **Parish Website** www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk
- 4) **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (*Confession*)
No confessions this week.
- 5) **St Benedict's Church** – The church will only be open for Funeral Services and Mass 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
Sunday 21 July 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)	10.30 am Mass Ron Monks	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Sr Helen Flynn 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 22 July Feast of St Mary Magdalene		
Tuesday 23 July Feast of St Bridget		<i>No Mass today</i>
Wednesday 24 July	9.45 am Funeral Service Jeannette Catherine Workman	
Thursday 25 July Feast of St James, Apostle	12.00 noon Funeral Service Phyllis Buckley-Mellor	<i>No Mass today</i> 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 26 July Saints Joachim & Anne	<i>No Mass today</i>	
Saturday 27 July	1.30 pm Wedding Mass <i>Marzena Swiderska & Richard Davidson</i>	4.30 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners
Sunday 28 July 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and Older People</i>	10.30 am Mass Olive Elizabeth Swift	8.30 am Mass Derrick Roberts

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

14.07.24	£754.17	<i>(£494.67 Gift Aid)</i>
Standing Orders	£156.75	<i>(£107.50 Gift Aid)</i>
Digital Giving	£161.00	
Total	£1071.92	
Fundraising	£45.80	<i>(Fun in the Sun)</i>
Donation	£50.00	<i>(Fundraising)</i>

Thank you so much for your generosity.

RAFFLE PRIZES

The following are invited to claim their prizes from the sacristy at St Benedict's: Mary McDonagh, Greg Caswell, Patricia Thompson, Kieran Kane, Joan Flanagan, Dorean Child and Ticket No 531-535.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

A National Eucharistic Congress will take place at St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham, on Saturday 14 September in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025. Around 1500 Catholics are expected. For those who would like to go, the Archdiocese has organised a coach which will depart from St Margaret Clitherow Centre (Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA) at 8.00 am in time for a 10.15 am arrival with events beginning at 11.00 am. The coach aims to return to the St Margaret Clitherow Centre by 8.00 pm. Cars can be left at St Margaret Clitherow Centre's secure car park for the duration of the day. The cost per person is £20 which includes return coach travel and entry to the event. If you have any questions or queries, please contact Fr Ged Callacher on g.callacher@rcaol.org.uk To book a place: www.archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/zm5sh2jf

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 4)

Today	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
<i>Readings</i>	Jeremiah 23: 1-6 Ephesians 2: 13-18 Mark 6: 30-34
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 16

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

Malcolm Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Jim Hyland, Ged Hughes, Susan Keating, Sheila Mellor, Peter Milner, Trina Mouldsdale, Christine Murphy, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Peter Ward, Dolores Woodall, Carol Worsley.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Dave Ferris, Betty Fiddler, Marguerite Jones, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts, Wilf Whelan, 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:

Phyllis Buckley-Mellor, Jeannette Catherine Workman, John Leicester, Deacon Paul Cooper.