

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

### *Newsletter*

**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)  
1 September 2024**

My dear sisters and brothers,

#### **Season of Creation**

Today is the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The day marks the beginning of the annual Season of Creation which lasts until the feast of St Francis on 4 October.

#### **All are welcome**

I would like to thank Dan Howarth, our seminarian, for sharing his experience of attending the LGBT Conference in Washington DC with us last weekend. It breaks my heart to think that some people feel unwelcome in Christ's Church. That's down to us not God. In Christ's Church, all are welcome without exception. If we can't accept that, the problem is with us not God. It means we don't understand God's welcome, his great love, and his mercy.

I'm reminded of a notice I saw when visiting a Cathedral in the UK some years ago:

**We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich or dirt poor. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds.**

**We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our priest who can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing", just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism.**

**We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organised religion," we've been there too.**

If you blew all your offering money at the bookies, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts ... and you!

Let's be this Church!

#### **Schools are back!**

Our schools reopen this week, so a very warm welcome back to all the children and staff. A special welcome to those who are new and to the little ones starting school for the first time. Let us pray:

**God our Father,  
watch over our schools as they reopen  
after the summer holidays.**

**Be close to the little ones starting school for the first time and those beginning a new school:  
reassure them through their parents and teachers.**

**Bless all the children and staff as they arrive fresh faced and ready for a new year together:  
help them in their work and in their play.**

**Pour out your Spirit upon the leaders of our schools  
as they seek to guide, inspire, and serve  
all those entrusted to their care.**

**Through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*With my prayers,  
Fr Dave*

#### **General Information**

1) **Parish Priest:** Canon Dave Heywood. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: [frdave@rcaol.org.uk](mailto: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. Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: [blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk)

3) **Parish Website:** [www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk](http://www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk)

4) **St Benedict's Church** is open for private prayer: Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm.

5) **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
<b>Sunday 1 September</b> 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Peace in the Holy Land and Ukraine	<b>(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Christopher John Murphy <b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners
<b>Monday 2 September</b> Blessed Dominic Barberi	<b>12.45 pm Funeral Mass</b> Sheila Mary Conwell	
<b>Tuesday 3 September</b> Feast of St Gregory the Great		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> John & Peggy McGinty
<b>Wednesday 4 September</b>	<b>10.15 am Exposition</b> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> Allan & Bett Lunt	
<b>Thursday 5 September</b>		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Veronica Judge <b>7.00 pm Novena &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Friday 6 September</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Private Intention (LISC)	
<b>Saturday 7 September</b>		<b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Jasmine Turner
<b>Sunday 8 September</b> 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>Education Day</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Sr Marie Morris	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Details for 25 August 2024 will be available in next week's Newsletter.

### SECOND COLLECTION

Next Sunday is Education Day. It's an opportunity to pray for our Catholic Schools and to support them by making a donation to the Catholic Education Service.

### LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group will be meeting on Thursday 5 September at 8.00 pm in the lounge at St Oswald's Parish Centre.

### ST BENEDICT'S 200 CLUB

**August Winners:** £100 – John Cartledge (rollover), £25 – Paul Ng, £15 – Joe Prendergast, £10 – Margo Davies. Many thanks everyone.

### ADOREMUS LIVERPOOL

There will be a coach going from Warrington on Saturday 21 September for the Adoremus event at the Cathedral. Full details in this month's 'Newsletter Extra'. Please book this week if you want to go.

### NEWSLETTER EXTRA!

This month's Newsletter Extra is available at the back of church and includes information about 'Sight Loss Friendly Church'; Pilgrimages to York, Walsingham

and Rome; Training for Readers; Music at the Met; National Eucharist Congress and Adoremus Liverpool.

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)*

**Today**                    **22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**  
*Readings*                Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8  
                                   James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27  
                                   Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**Weekdays**            Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 22

### 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 Mouldsdales, 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.

*Other Parishes*

Marie Barnes, Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, James Hutchison, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Elizabeth Nash, Sr Maria Natella, Margaret Smith, Pamela Watson.

**Those who have died recently, especially:**

Sheila Mary Conwell, Veronica Keenan.