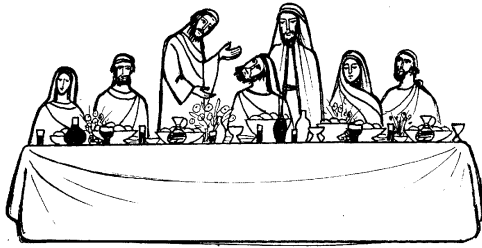


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Mass for the Care of Creation
31 August 2025

Introductory Rites

Gathering Song (*Psalm 148*)

**All the nations of the earth,
praise the Lord who brings to birth
the greatest star, the smallest flower.
Alleluia!**

- 1 Let the heavens praise the Lord, alleluia.
Moon and stars, praise the lord, alleluia
- 2 Snow-capped mountains, praise the Lord, alleluia.
Rolling hills, praise the Lord, alleluia.
- 3 Deep sea water, praise the Lord, alleluia.
Gentle rain, praise the Lord, alleluia.
- 4 Roaring lion, praise the Lord, alleluia.
Singing birds, praise the Lord, alleluia.
- 5 Kings and princes, praise the Lord, alleluia.
Young and old, praise the Lord, alleluia.

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Penitential Litany

God of Creation, you have created land and trees,
animals and all living creatures on the earth. We are
destroying the forests through poisons and logging;
the voices of the birds, insects and forest dwellers are
silenced.

**Lord, have mercy on us,
hear us as we pray;
Lord, have mercy on us,
take our sins away.**

You created a world that produces enough food for all
humanity, and yet, millions of people go hungry while
food wastage is a huge problem in our society.

**Christ, have mercy on us,
hear us as we pray;
Christ, have mercy on us,
take our sins away.**

You created Mother Earth, our common home, who
sustains us. Human activities are causing the
destruction of her delicate ecosystems as we
contaminate the atmosphere with harmful emissions.

**Lord, have mercy on us,
hear us as we pray;
Lord, have mercy on us,
take our sins away.**

Collect

God of the universe,
you graciously give us all good gifts.
Teach us to care for the earth:
to till the soils responsibly, to keep the air pure,
to free the waters from pollution,
to harvest the warmth of the sun,
to protect the climate
and to respect the rights of all species.
May we share the gifts of your goodness with all.
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 (*Sirach 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29*)

A reading from the book of Sirach

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will
be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you
are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will
find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the
might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The
affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of
wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the
intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive
ear is the wise man's desire.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68

**God, in your goodness, you have made a
home, a home for the poor.**

- 1 The just rejoice and exult before God;
they are glad and rejoice.
Sing to God, chant praise to his name;
whose name is the Lord.
- 2 The father of orphans and the defender of widows
is God in his holy dwelling.
God gives a home to the forsaken;
he leads forth prisoners to prosperity.

Second Reading (*Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24*)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may
be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and
a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice

whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel (Luke 14: 1, 7-14)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'

He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Creed & Bidding Prayers

Please join in singing the refrain:

**Credo in unum Deum,
Credo in unum Deum.**

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Song: All things bright and beautiful (685) v 1-3, 5

Prayer over the Offerings

Creator God,

may these gifts,
the fruits of the earth and the work of human hands,
become for us the body and blood of your Son,
Jesus Christ, who is Lord for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Mass of Hope – Bernadette Farrell (559)

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy Lord, Holy Lord, God of hosts.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed, blessed, blessed, blessed is he
who comes in the name,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The Mystery of Faith

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

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

St O: Excerpt from 'The Lark Ascending' – Ralph Vaughan Williams (1914)

Prayer after Communion

All-powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Concluding Rite

Blessing & Dismissal

Final Song

We plough the fields (735)

Acknowledgements

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