

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
12 October 2025

My dear sisters and brothers,

Gaza Peace Agreement

As I write, Israel and Hamas have agreed to the first phase of a peace plan with a view to ending the brutal war in Gaza. This is an answer to so many heartfelt prayers by people all over the world. As the news was announced, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem issued the following statement:

"The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem welcomes with joy the announcement of an agreement that envisages a cessation of the attacks in the Gaza Strip and the immediate release of the hostages, as well as that of Palestinian prisoners. The Patriarchate ardently hopes that this accord will be fully and faithfully implemented, so that it may mark the beginning of the end of this terrible war. It also stresses the absolute urgency of immediate humanitarian relief and the unconditional entry of sufficient aid to Gaza's suffering population. Above all, the Patriarchate prays that this step may open a path of healing and reconciliation for both Palestinians and Israelis."

Prisoners' Sunday

Today is Prisoners' Sunday when we pray especially for those in prison and their dependents. Prisoners, people with convictions, together with their children and families, often find themselves on the margins of society because of the stigma associated with imprisonment. Yet Jesus challenges us with his words: "I was in prison, and you came to see me" (Mt 25: 36).

The Prison Advice and Care Trust (PACT) is an independent UK charity that provides practical services for prisoners and their families. First established as the Catholic Prisoners Aid Society in 1898, please check out their website: www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.

We pray for those in prison.

Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.

Support with your love prisoners, their families and friends, prison staff and all who care.

Heal those who have been wounded by the

actions of others, especially the victims of crime.

Help us to forgive one another, to act justly,

love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ,

in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.

Amen.

'Mustard Seed' Children's Club

The 'Mustard Seed' Children's Club is especially for children who have celebrated their First Communion. The club aims to help children grow in their relationship with Jesus through lots of fun activities, arts and craft. The next meeting takes place after the 10.30 am Mass today (Sunday) at St Benedict's and will last about an hour.

Thank You

† Thank you to our Hong Kong parishioners for sharing their Mid-Autumn Festival with us last Sunday.

† Thank you to Briar Melbourne, Clare Lancaster, Kevin Holt and others for the beautiful display they put together for the Flower Festival at Padgate Methodist Church.

† Thank you to Deacon Dan and Chris Sykes for helping me with last Sunday's Blessing of Animals. Fifty people attended the service with their beloved pets. £150.62 was raised for Warrington Animal Welfare!

† Thank you to Wendy and friends for the beautiful flowers that now adorn the statues at St Benedict's.

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

5) 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.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Sunday 12 October 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) <i>Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families</i>	10.30 am Mass Joan Howl	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Rita Devine 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 13 October		
Tuesday 14 October		11.00 am Mass Eric Hamnet
Wednesday 15 October St Teresa of Avila	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Fr Tony Slingo	
Thursday 16 October		11.00 am Mass Best & McDonagh Family No Novena today
Friday 17 October St Ignatius of Antioch	11.00 am Mass Concepcion Arcenas 11.30 am Rosary for Peace	<i>Mass with Year 7 & Parents at St Gregory's High School</i>
Saturday 18 October Feast of St Luke		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Special Intention (KE)
Sunday 19 October 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) <i>World Mission Day</i>	10.30 am Mass Andrew McDonagh	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

28.09.25	£721.77	(£208.90 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£152.50	(£123.75 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£225.00	(£110.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£1099.27	
05.10.25	£700.25	(£315.50 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£152.50	(£123.75 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£247.00	(£101.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£1099.75	
2nd Collection	£889.56	(CAFOD's Fast Day)
Fundraising	£235.00	(200 Club)

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION

Next Sunday is World Mission Day when we pray and reach out to missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. There will be a Second Collection for the Pope's charity, 'Missio' (i.e. the 'Red Box' charity).

ROSARY FOR PEACE

Pope Leo has urged us to pray the Rosary during the month of October for peace in the world. This week, I will lead the Rosary after Friday's 11.00 am Mass.

LORETO GRAMMAR SIXTH FORM

Students in Year 11 are warmly invited to attend Loreto Grammar's Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 23 October, 5.30 – 8.00 pm. Loreto Grammar is an all-girls Catholic Grammar School founded on the vision of Mary Ward. More details can be found at www.loretogrammar.co.uk No pre-registration required, just come along on the evening.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 4)

Today **28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Readings 2 Kings 5: 14-17
 2 Timothy 2: 8-13
 Luke 17: 11-19

Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 28

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

(Names can only be included with the person's consent)

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

Kath Bradshaw, Malcolm Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Ged Hughes, Jim Hyland, Vin Jackson, Susan Keating, Trina Mouldsdales, Christine Murphy, Ann Pearson, Vincent Pinnock, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Dolores Woodall.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Brenda Brathing, Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Dave Ferris, Marguerite Jones, Jo Roberts, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts, Wilf Whelan.

Other Parishes

Mary Davies, Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, James Hutchinson, Archbishop Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Elizabeth Nash, Margaret Smith, Pamela Watson.

Those who have died recently, especially:

Kath McQuillan