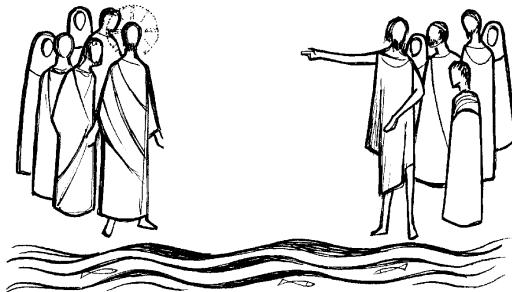


# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Peace Sunday – 18 January 2026

### Introductory Rites

#### Gathering Song

- 1 **Peace, perfect peace,  
is the gift of Christ our Lord,  
Peace, perfect peace,  
is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Thus, says the Lord,  
will the world know my friends.  
Peace, perfect peace,  
is the gift of Christ our Lord.**
- 2 **Love, perfect love,  
is the gift of Christ our Lord...**
- 3 **Faith, perfect faith,  
is the gift of Christ our Lord...**
- 4 **Hope, perfect hope,  
is the gift of Christ our Lord...**
- 5 **Joy, perfect joy,  
is the gift of Christ our Lord...**

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#### Greeting & Introduction

#### Litany of Reconciliation

The hatred which divides nation from nation,  
race from race, class from class:

**R. Father, forgive.**

The covetous desires of people and nations  
to possess what is not their own:

**R. Father, forgive.**

The greed which exploits the work of human hands  
and lays waste the earth:

**R. Father, forgive.**

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others:

**R. Father, forgive.**

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned,  
the homeless, the refugee:

**R. Father, forgive.**

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men,  
women and children:

**R. Father, forgive.**

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves  
and not in God:

**R. Father, forgive.**

**Be kind to one another,  
tender-hearted,  
forgiving one another,  
as God in Christ forgave you.**

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#### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
who govern all things,  
both in heaven and on earth,  
mercifully hear the pleading of your people  
and bestow your peace on our times.  
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

*(Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'  
And now the LORD says,  
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
and that Israel might be gathered to him —  
for I am honoured in the eyes of the LORD,  
and my God has become my strength —  
he says:  
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;  
I will make you as a light for the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 40

**Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

- 1 I have waited, waited for the LORD,  
and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.  
And he put a new song into my mouth,  
a hymn to our God.
- 2 Sacrifice or offering you wished not,  
but ears open to obedience you gave me.  
Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not;  
then said I, "Behold I come."

#### Second Reading

*(1 Corinthians 1: 1-3)*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the  
Corinthians

Paul, called by the will of God to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

#### Gospel

*(John 1: 29-34)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Homily

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### Bidding Prayers

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

### Preparation of the Gifts

*Song: The light of Christ (747)*

### Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,  
that we may participate worthily in these mysteries,  
for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated  
the work of our redemption is accomplished.

Through Christ our Lord.

**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*

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.**

### Our Father

Notre père... Tève Mūsū... Vater unser... Ojcze 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

*Song: The Servant King (749)*

### Prayer after Communion

Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,  
and in your kindness  
make those you have nourished  
by this one heavenly Bread  
one in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### Concluding Rite

### Final Song

Brother, sister, let me serve you (924)

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### Acknowledgements

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