

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sunday of the Word of God
25 January 2026

Introductory Rites

Every Sunday, the Deacon processes with the Book of Gospels and places it on the altar. This gesture shows us that the Word of God comes among us and takes central place in our gathering.

Gathering Song

Dear Lord and Father of mankind (934)

Greeting & Introduction

Penitential Act

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

Gloria

Mass of Christ the Saviour – Schutte (1013)

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Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works.
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

**"When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church,
God himself speaks to his people, and Christ,
present in his own word, proclaims the Gospel."**
(General Instruction of the Roman Missal, No. 29)

First Reading

(Isaiah 9: 1-4)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the former time the Lord brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?
The Lord is my life's refuge;
of whom should I be afraid?
- 2 One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
That I may gaze on the loveliness of the Lord
and contemplate his temple.

Second Reading

(1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17)

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

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgement. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarrelling among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each one of you says, 'I follow Paul', or 'I follow Apollos', or 'I follow Cephas', or 'I follow Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptised in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptise but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel*(Matthew 4: 12-23)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: 'The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.' From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily**Renewal of Commitment for Readers****A Profession of Faith**

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Bidding Prayers

At the end of the prayers:

**We promise to respect the Word of God.
We shall read and reflect on it as a family of God.
May we draw from it inspiration for our decisions,
strength for our work, and comfort in suffering.
Jesus, help us to be faithful to our promise,
you who live forever and ever.
Amen.**

*(Matthew 4: 12-23)***Liturgy of the Eucharist****Preparation of the Gifts**

Song: A Song of the Light – Simon Lole

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,
and in sanctifying them
grant that they may profit us for salvation.
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: Oh the word of my Lord (979)

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, receiving the grace
by which you bring us to new life,
we may always glory in your gift.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Concluding Rite**Final Song**

City of God (824)

Acknowledgements

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