

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Racial Justice Day – 1 February 2026

Introductory Rites

Gathering Song

Let us build a house (458) Verses 1-2, 5

Greeting & Introduction

Penitential Act for Racial justice

Creator God, who so lovingly made this world, forgive us for not loving each other as we should.

When we stereotype people because of the colour of their skin: **R. Forgive us, Lord.**

When we dismiss someone's voice just because we do not understand their accent: **R.**

When we judge others because they are not like us: **R.**

When we let past experiences cloud our judgment: **R.**

When we are bullied into racism by others: **R.**

When we fail to learn more about other cultures: **R.**

When we do not speak up for our brothers and sisters who are subject to racism: **R.**

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Gloria

Mass of Christ the Saviour – Schutte (1013)

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Collect

Grant us, Lord our God,
that we may honour you with all our mind,
and love everyone in truth of heart.
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

(Zephaniah 2: 3; 3: 12-13)

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, who do his just commands; seek righteousness; seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the anger of the LORD.

I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD, those who are left in Israel; they shall do no injustice and speak no lies, nor shall there be found in their mouth a deceitful tongue. For they shall graze and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146

**Blest are the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

- 1 The Lord keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed,
gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets captives free.
- 2 The Lord gives sight to the blind;
the Lord raises up those who were bowed down.
The Lord loves the just;
the Lord protects strangers.

Second Reading

(1 Corinthians 1: 26-31)

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

Consider your calling, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption; so that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel*(Matthew 5: 1-12)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for
righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute
you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my
account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great
in heaven.'

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**

Music: Gabriel's Oboe – Ennio Morricone

Prayer over the Offerings

O Lord, we bring to your altar
these offerings of our service:
be pleased to receive them, we pray,
and transform them
into the Sacrament of our redemption.
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... Téve 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: Blest are they (814)

Prayer after Communion

Nourished by these redeeming gifts,
we pray, O Lord,
that through this help to eternal salvation
true faith may ever increase.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Concluding Rite**Blessing & Dismissal****Final Song**

Forth in the peace of Christ (853)

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