

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

5th Sunday of Lent (A)
22 March 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to Archbishop John who will be visiting St Oswald's this weekend as part of his Visitation to the Deanery. The Archbishop will preside at the 4.30 pm Vigil Mass and then meet with parishioners over refreshments in the Parish Centre.

Welcome to the children in Year 4 from St Benedict's and St Oswald's Catholic Primary Schools, and their parents, who will be joining us for Mass this weekend as part of their preparation for First Communion.

Holy Week (29 March – 5 April)

Holy Week is the most important week of the year for Christians. We remember and celebrate what Jesus did out of love for each one of us. The word 'holy' means 'set apart'. So let us try to set aside some of the week for our Lord by joining in the ancient liturgies we will celebrate in communion with other Christians all over the world. This year's schedule for Holy Week is as follows:

Palm Sunday

Saturday 4.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Oswald's
Sunday 8.30 am Mass at St Oswald's
10.30 am Mass at St Benedict's

Tuesday of Holy Week

11.00 am Mass at St Oswald's
7.30 pm Penance Service at St Oswald's
(*Service of Reconciliation*)

Wednesday of Holy Week

11.00 am Mass at St Benedict's
7.30 pm Chrism Mass at the Cathedral

Holy Thursday

7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (with
'Watching' until 9.30 pm) at St Benedict's

Good Friday

10.00 am Stations of the Cross in Cantonese
St Oswald's
11.00 am Stations of the Cross for Children
St Benedict's
12.00 noon Stations of the Cross
St Oswald's
3.00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
St Oswald's

Holy Saturday

8.00 pm The Easter Vigil at St Oswald's
(*Please note: there will be no 4.30 pm Mass*)

Easter Sunday

8.30 am Mass at St Oswald's
10.30 am Mass with Baptisms at St Benedict's

Chrism Mass

This year's Chrism Mass will take place in the Cathedral on Wednesday 1 April at 7.30 pm. At the Mass, the oils used in the sacraments will be blessed by the Archbishop and the priests of the diocese will renew their commitment. It's the biggest Archdiocesan celebration of the year. The coach will leave St Oswald's at 6.15 pm. We hope to arrive back around 10.00 pm. You may like to bring some refreshments with you! There are a few places left on the coach. If you want a place, please phone the Parish Office this week. Many thanks.

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 22 March 5th Sunday of Lent (A)	10.30 am First Communion Preparation Mass Olive Elizabeth Swift	(Sat) 4.30 pm First Communion Preparation Mass The Parishioners 8.30 am Mass Sheila Mellor
Monday 23 March		
Tuesday 24 March St Oscar Romero	12.15 pm Funeral Service Gerald Griffin	11.00 am Mass Thomas Bradley
Wednesday 25 March Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Alan Lloyd	
Thursday 26 March		11.00 am Mass Mgr Francis Frost 7.00 pm Stations of the Cross
Friday 27 March	9.15 am Funeral Mass Allan Joseph Lunt	12.00 noon Deanery Mass <i>at St John Fisher, Widnes</i>
Saturday 28 March		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Eileen Lawton
Sunday 29 March Palm Sunday (A)	10.30 am Mass Gerald Griffin	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

08.03.26	£696.22	<i>(Gift Aid details to</i>
Standing Orders	£191.25	<i>follow)</i>
Digital Giving	£226.00	
Total	£1113.47	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Offertory envelopes for the new tax year are available at the back of church. **Please note:** those boxes with names on are for those who Gift Aid their offerings, those boxes without names on are for anyone to use.

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

Please pick up a copy of this month's Newsletter Extra or download it from the Parish website. It contains events going on in the Deanery and the Archdiocese.

BLESSED DOMINIC PILGRIMAGE

Easter Monday, 6 April 2026

Leaving St Mary's Shrine, Warrington, at 9.30 am after Mass, reaching the Shrine of St Anne and Blessed Dominic Barberi in Sutton at approximately 4.00 pm. Pilgrims need to wear supportive footwear and suitable clothing and carry necessary water and food for a full day outside, whatever the weather. If you would like to join in the walk, please complete the application form (*available at the back of churches*) and post it in at St Mary's Priory on Smith Street. For further details, or if you would be willing to help as a support driver, first aider, road marshal or managing refreshments at the end, then please contact Alison Kahn on 07840 072641 or email penketh.kahns@gmail.com

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

Today	5th Sunday of Lent (A)
<i>Readings</i>	Ezekiel 37: 12-14; Romans 8: 8-11 John 11: 1-45
Weekdays	Lent – Week 5

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, Ray Chriscoli, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Ged Hughes, Gail Hyamson, Jim Hyland, Vin Jackson, Susan Keating, Judith McDowall, Trina Mouldsdale, 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, Margaret Exell, Dave Ferris, Marguerite Jones, Jean Murphy, Jo Roberts, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts, Wilf Whelan.

Other Parishes

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

Those who have died recently, especially:

Gerald Griffin, Allan Joseph Lunt and Harold Boyle.