

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

**2nd Sunday of Easter (A)
12 April 2026**

My dear sisters and brothers,

Holy Week

Thank you so much to everyone who came to celebrate the Holy Week liturgies and to all those who helped.

In particular, my heartfelt thanks to the teams of cleaners who keep our churches looking pristine (no easy task!); the ladies who decorated the churches with the most beautiful Easter flowers; the Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, and Musicians; the children who joined the procession on Palm Sunday, presented the Holy Oils on Holy Thursday and helped Deacon Dan to lead the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday; those who humbly allowed me to wash their feet on Holy Thursday; the young people who carried the Cross on Good Friday; the ladies who knitted lambs for the children on Easter Day; and, of course, our Deacons, Stewards, and all who helped to make the liturgies so beautiful and prayerful. Thank you so much.

Continuing the Path of Synodality

Pope Leo has invited us to continue to embrace the journey of synodality. As we journey through Eastertime towards the great feast of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we have an opportunity to reflect on the document that came from the final session of the Synod on Synodality called by Pope Francis that Pope Leo is now urging us to embrace at every level in the life of the Church. Tuesday evenings, 7.00 to 8.30 pm, on 21, 28 April, 5, 12, 19 May. To join the zoom meeting, use the weblink below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89983555285?pwd=VBT0x3xbJiWrU8x00sbiuCGmnO97Xn.1>

Meeting ID: 899 8355 5285 Passcode: 981267

Help us shape Youth Ministry for the Future

How can we as Church best respond to the needs of young people today? The Archdiocese is exploring how we can best accompany young people. **We want to hear from you** to help us to plan youth ministry for the coming years. You are invited to one of two open meetings, 7.00 – 9.30 pm on Monday 20 April at St Joseph's, Crow Orchard Rd, Warrington WN6 9PA [QR](#) Tuesday 21 April at St Monica's, Fernhill Road, Bootle L20 9GA. For more information, contact Sarah McGeehan on s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk or 07415 099048.

Parish Development Strategy

You may remember that in January we launched the Parish Development Strategy – a tool to help us to plan for the future in the light of the age profile of our congregations and the number of priests available to serve in the coming years.

Since the launch we have been completing an audit of our buildings, finances, community engagement and outreach, numbers attending Mass, our schools, Parish Centres, etc. The final part of the audit invites parishioners to reflect on a number of questions about the life of the parish. In order to do this, I invite you to come to ONE of the following meetings.

Saturday 18 April, 10.30 – 12.00 noon, in the Sacristy Meeting Room at St Benedict's.

Thursday 23 April, 7.00 – 8.30 pm, in the lounge of St Oswald's Parish Centre.

Please do your best to come to ONE of the meetings. 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 12 April 2nd Sunday of Easter (A)	10.30 am Mass Catherine Eason	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners 8.30 am Mass Marion Naughton
Monday 13 April		
Tuesday 14 April	1.00 pm Funeral Service Bernard Hill	10.00 am Funeral Mass Don Abbott
Wednesday 15 April	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Ian Whelan	
Thursday 16 April		11.00 am Mass Alice & Samuel Taylor 5.45 pm First Reconciliation (Y4) 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 17 April	11.00 am Mass Mgr Francis Frost	
Saturday 18 April		4.30 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners
Sunday 19 April 3rd Sunday of Easter (A)	10.30 am Mass Helen Catherine Swift	8.30 am Mass Thanksgiving (Perdi) 2.00 pm Holy Hour for Life

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Details of last weekend's collection will be available next weekend.

WARRINGTON WALKING DAY

If you would like to be involved in this year's Warrington Walking Day event, there will be a meeting after the 10.30 am Mass TODAY (Sunday) in the Sacristy Meeting Room at St Benedict's.

HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE

Next Sunday, 19 April, the Bishops of England & Wales have asked every parish to hold a Holy Hour to pray for the promotion of a culture of life in our lands. Archbishop John urges us to pray for parliamentarians debating assisted suicide as well as those who are suffering near the end of their lives and those who care for them. To join in this national moment of prayer, there will be a **Holy Hour at St Oswald's next Sunday, 2.00 – 3.00 pm.**

ST OSWALD'S EASTER RAFFLE

Many thanks to everyone who was able to participate in this year's Easter Raffle for Padgate Walking Day. *Winners:* 1st Prize: 390 Kath, 2nd Prize: 98 Trish Fletcher, 3rd Prize: 257 Kath Brown.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Last Sunday, there were two envelopes for Easter Sunday. This was an error by those who produce the envelopes. It seems they have made the same error for next year's Easter Sunday too! Please ignore the white 'Easter Offering' envelope. I do apologise. Fr D.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

Today **2nd Sunday of Easter (A)**
Readings Acts 2: 42-47
 1 Peter 1: 3-9
 John 20: 19-31
Weekdays Easter – Week 2

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 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, 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:

Harold Boyle, Bernard Hill, Don Abbott.