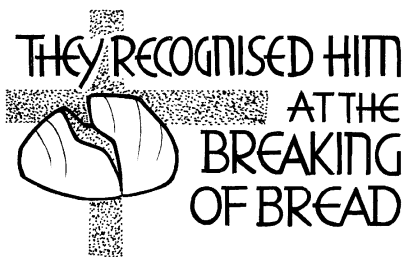


East Warrington Family of Parishes  
**PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL**

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



## *Newsletter*

**3rd Sunday of Easter (A)  
19 April 2026**

My dear sisters and brothers,

### **Pope Leo calls for Peace**

Speaking to journalists last Monday, Pope Leo responded to questions about the statements President Trump had made about him. He said: "I do not think the message of the Gospel should be abused as some are doing. I continue to speak strongly against war, seeking to promote peace, dialogue, and multilateralism among states to find solutions to problems. Too many people are suffering today, too many innocent lives have been lost, and I believe someone must stand up and say there is a better way."

At a Holy Hour for Peace in St Peter's, Rome, last Saturday, Pope Leo offered the following prayer for peace:

**"Lord Jesus,  
you conquered death without weapons or violence:  
you shattered its power with the strength of peace.  
Grant us your peace, as you did to the women filled  
with doubt on Easter morning,  
as you did to the disciples who were hiding in fear.  
Send forth your Spirit,  
the breath that gives life and reconciles, that turns  
adversaries and enemies into brothers and sisters.  
Inspire in us to trust in Mary, your mother, who  
stood at the foot of your cross with a broken heart,  
firm in the faith that you would rise again.  
May the madness of war cease, and the Earth be  
cared for and cultivated by those who still know  
how to bring forth, protect and love life.  
Hear us, Lord of life!"**

### **Holy Hour for Life**

Today (Sunday), the Bishops of England & Wales have asked parishes across the UK to hold a Holy Hour to pray for the promotion of a culture of life in our lands. Archbishop John urges us to pray especially for

parliamentarians debating assisted suicide as well as those who are suffering near the end of their lives and those who care for them. Of course, our prayer must include all those whose lives are impacted by the horrific wars and violence in Ukraine, Gaza and the West Bank, Lebanon, Iran, Sudan and Nigeria. To join in this national moment of prayer, there will be a **Holy Hour at St Oswald's today, 2.00 – 3.00 pm**. Do call in if you can.

### **Help us to shape Youth Ministry for the Future**

The Archdiocese is exploring how we can best accompany young people. 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: Monday 20 April at St Joseph's, Crow Orchard Rd, Wroughton WN6 9PA OR Tuesday 21 April at St Monica's, Fernhill Road, Bootle L20 9GA. For more information, contact Sarah McGeehan on [s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:s.mcgeehan@rcaol.org.uk) or 07415 099048.

### **Parish Development Strategy**

Many thanks to those who came to St Benedict's yesterday (Saturday) to help complete the audit that will assist us to plan for the future. Given the age profile of our congregations and the number of priests available to serve in the coming years, we have to make decisions about our buildings, finances, where we put our resources, and so on. The audit is the first step in helping us to do this together as a deanery. For those who couldn't attend yesterday's meeting, there will be a further opportunity this coming Thursday, 23 April, 7.00 – 8.30 pm, in the lounge of St Oswald's Parish Centre.

With my prayers,  
*Fr Dave*

### **General Information**

- 1) **Parish Priest:** Canon Dave Heywood. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: [frdave@rcaol.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk)
- 3) **Parish Website:** [www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk](http://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**

	<b>St Benedict's</b>	<b>St Oswald's</b>
<b>Sunday 19 April</b> 3rd Sunday of Easter (A)	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Helen Catherine Swift	<b>(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> The Parishioners <b>8.30 am Mass</b> Thanksgiving (Perdi) <b>2.00 pm Holy Hour for Life</b>
<b>Monday 20 April</b> Blessed James Bell of Warrington <i>(Transferred to 25 October 2026)</i>		
<b>Tuesday 21 April</b>	<b>6.00 pm First Reconciliation (Y4)</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Rita Hutson
<b>Wednesday 22 April</b>	<b>10.15 am Exposition</b> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> Sean Sweny	
<b>Thursday 23 April</b> Solemnity of St George		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> John McCarthy <i>No Novena &amp; Benediction</i>
<b>Friday 24 April</b>	<b>12.00 noon Deanery Mass</b> at St Joseph's, Penketh	
<b>Saturday 25 April</b> Feast of St Mark		<b>11.00 am &amp; 1.00 pm</b> <b>First Communion Masses</b> <b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Maureen Floyd
<b>Sunday 26 April</b> 4th Sunday of Easter (A) <i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Helen Catherine Swift	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

05.04.26	£989.56	(£657.96 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£191.25	(£162.50 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£360.00	(£205.00 Gift Aid)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1540.81</b>	
12.04.26	£639.94	(£380.44 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£191.25	(£162.50 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£235.00	(£170.00 Gift Aid)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1066.19</b>	
Donation	£100.00	(In mem. Allan Lunt)
Fundraising	£214.00	(St B Easter Raffle)

*Thank you so much for your generosity.*

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Next Sunday is the annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations. There will be a Second Collection for the Priests' Training Fund.

**CONTINUING THE PATH OF SYNODALITY**

Pope Leo has invited us to continue to embrace the journey of synodality. We are invited 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 Church. Tuesdays, 7.00 - 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

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)*

<b>Today</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Easter (A)</b>
<i>Readings</i>	Acts 2: 14, 22-33; 1 Peter 1: 17-21 Luke 24: 13-35
<b>Weekdays</b>	Easter – Week 3

**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, Marguerite Jones, Jean Murphy, Jo Roberts, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts, Wilf Whelan.

*Other Parishes*

Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Pamela Watson, Carol Whitehouse.

**Those who have died recently, especially:**

Sr Dominic Savio Hamer CP, Fr Brian O'Mahony CSSp, Helen Murphy.