

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

Solemnity of Pentecost (A)

24 May 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Pentecost

Today, the fifty days of Easter culminate in the great feast of Pentecost. We remember how Jesus, after returning to his Father in heaven, sent the Holy Spirit upon the disciples which drove them out to proclaim the Good News of God's love to the whole of creation. This event marked the birth of the Church.

Two thousand years later, the mission of the Church remains the same and is enshrined in our own Archdiocesan Mission Statement: *"Taking to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus, we will go into the world to proclaim the Good News to the whole of creation."*

This year, at the 10.30 am Mass, we will celebrate the various nationalities that now make up our congregations by having the Bidding Prayers in various languages, and then sharing foods from different cultures after Mass. Everyone is welcome.

Confirmation 2026

The candidates for Confirmation from our Parish and St Peter & St Michael's in Woolston began their preparation for Confirmation last week. The next meeting takes place this Wednesday, 27 May, 7.00 – 8.00 pm, in the lounge of St Oswald's Parish Centre.

Deanery Mass

This month's Deanery Mass takes place at 12.00 noon this Friday, 29 May, at St John Fisher, Moorfield Road, Widnes WA8 3JA. As part of his visitation of the Deanery, Archbishop John will preside at the Mass. It

would be good to have parishioners from Warrington at the Mass, so do come along if you can. Thank you.

Corpus Christi Procession

Our annual Parish Corpus Christi Procession, which brings together our three churches of St Benedict's, St Mary's Shrine and St Oswald's, will take place on Sunday 7 June. The procession will begin in St Mary's Shrine at 2.00 pm and conclude in St Alban's Church where Canon Christopher will lead Benediction at around 3.00 pm. The procession is a great witness to our faith in Jesus Christ in a society that increasingly no longer knows him. All are welcome.

First Communion Children

Children who have celebrated their First Communion recently are invited to wear their special clothes and walk together at the front of the procession.

Marshals

We could do with some parishioners to help as marshals. If you could assist in this way, please let me know after Mass or by phoning the Parish Office.

Padgate & Woolston Walking Day

Preparations are well under way for Walking Day on 20 June. We have been asked to provide some volunteer marshals. Could you help, or do you know someone who could help? If so, please let me know as soon as possible. The marshals work in teams and are provided with all they need. They are essential for Walking Day to go ahead. We particularly need help outside St Oswald's where a lot of people gather to watch the procession. St Oswald's need to do their bit, so please think about helping in this way.

God bless you,

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 24 May Solemnity of Pentecost (A)	10.30 am Mass Tom Howell & Terry Davies	(Sat) 4.30 pm Baptism Mass The Parishioners 8.30 am Mass Patrick Naughton
Monday 25 May Mary, Mother of the Church		
Tuesday 26 May St Philip Neri		11.00 am Mass Halina Kelly
Wednesday 27 May Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Kathleen Coleman	
Thursday 28 May Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest (A)	12.30 pm Funeral Mass Monica Brown	11.00 am Mass Peter Toner 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 29 May St Paul VI	12.00 noon Deanery Mass <i>At St John Fisher, Widnes</i>	
Saturday 30 May		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Helen Murphy
Sunday 31 May Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (A)	10.30 am Mass Bruce's Birthday	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Details of last week's Offertory Collection will be available next weekend.

NOVENA FOR DAY FOR LIFE

Archbishop John invites us all to join in praying a Novena in preparation for this year's Day for Life on Sunday 21 June. The Novena runs from Saturday 23 May to the Feast of the Visitation on Sunday 31 May. Don't worry if you don't start on 23 May, simply start when you can. The Novena can be found on the Bishops' Conference website at this address:

<https://cbcew.org.uk/novena-for-life>

COMMUNION AT HOME

If you are no longer able to come to Mass and would like to receive communion at home, please phone the Parish Office (630127).

PARISH SOCIAL GROUP

Wednesdays, 11.30 am – 1.00 pm, in the Sacristy Meeting Room at St Benedict's. Come along for some tea and toast, company and chat. All are welcome.

SAFEGUARDING

If you are concerned about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult and feel they are in immediate danger, please call the Police. If you wish to report any non-urgent concerns, please contact your Local Social Services or our Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team: Mark Robson (0151 522 1013 or 07585 761965) or Claire Newton (0151 522 1043 or 07384 643237), or you can email: safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 4)

Today **Pentecost Sunday (A)**
Readings Acts 2: 1-11
 1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13
 John 20: 19-23

Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 8

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, 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:

Monica Brown and Kaye Leah.