

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Feast of St Benedict, Abbot

Sea Sunday – 12 July 2026

### Introductory Rites

#### Gathering Song

- 1 **Our blessed father, Benedict,  
sure guide in dark and troubled days,  
has shown his countless children here  
the paths of peace, the Lord's own ways.**
- 2 **He dwelt in heaven while on earth,  
true man of God and man of prayer;  
for him, the love of Christ was all  
and God was present everywhere.**
- 3 **He left all things that bind the heart,  
in poverty to find release;  
unmoved among the things that change,  
he sought and found a lasting peace.**
- 4 **Now Benedict with all who knew  
and lived his holy Rule on earth,  
give praise to you, blest Trinity,  
in splendid light and time untold.**

*Adapted from the Benedictine Nuns of Stanbrook Abbey.*

#### Greeting & Penitential Act

##### Gloria

*Please join in singing the refrain:*

**Gloria in excelsis, in excelsis Deo! (x2)**

##### Collect

O God,  
who established the Abbot Saint Benedict  
as a renowned master in the school of divine service,  
grant, we pray,  
that we may prefer nothing to your love  
and run with open hearts  
in the way of your commandments.  
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

*15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*

### First Reading

*(Isaiah 55: 10-11)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

'For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.'

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 65

**The seed that falls on good ground  
will yield a fruitful harvest.**

- 1 You have visited the land and watered it;  
greatly have you enriched it.  
God's watercourses are filled;  
you have prepared the grain.
- 2 Thus have you prepared the land:  
drenching its furrows, breaking up its clods,  
softening it with showers,  
blessing its yield.

### Second Reading

*(Romans 8: 18-23)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Brothers and Sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption, and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

#### Gospel

*(Matthew 13: 1-9)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time: Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds

came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.'

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

*A Hymn to St Benedict*

**Alleluia vir Dei benedictus  
Omnium iustorum spiritum  
Plenus fuit ipse intercedat  
Pro cunctis monasticae professionis**

Alleluia, the man of God, Benedict  
Was filled with the spirit of all the just  
May he intercede for all  
Of the monastic profession

#### Prayer over the Offerings

Look kindly, Lord, upon these holy offerings,  
which we make in honour of Saint Benedict,  
and grant that,  
by following his example in seeking you,  
we may merit the gifts of unity in your service  
and of peace.

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*

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.**

## Our Father

Notre père... Tève Mūsų... Vater unser... Ojczy 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: O the word of my Lord (979)*

## Prayer after Communion

Having received this pledge of eternal life,  
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,  
that, attentive to the teaching of Saint Benedict,  
we may faithfully serve your designs  
and love one another with fervent charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

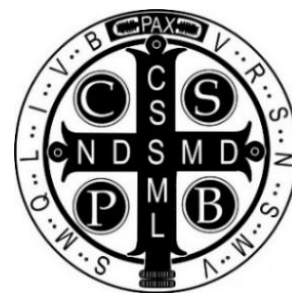
**R. Amen.**

## Concluding Rite

## Blessing & Dismissal

## Final Song

*City of God (824)*



## Acknowledgements

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