

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

Feast of St Oswald, King & Martyr
2 August 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to visitors, those who have come home for the summer, and to guests of parishioners. This week, a greeting in Polish:

**"Drodzy przyjaciele, powitanie i mamy nadzieję,
że cieszyć się wakacjami tutaj z nami."**

*"Dear friends, welcome and we hope you enjoy
your holiday here with us."*

Feast of St Oswald, King & Martyr

This weekend, we keep the feast of St Oswald, King and Martyr, transferred from 5 August – the date of St Oswald's death in the year 642. While this is a special feast for the community at St Oswald's, it's also an important day for the rest of us since we are all one parish family. So, a very Happy Feast Day to you all!

The picture above is the one displayed in St Oswald's Church. It was painted by parishioner and 'Artist in Residence', Kevin Holt. Kevin has also painted a picture of St Oswald for the children in school, and of Blessed James Bell.

Global Debt Crisis

CAFOD writes: "We have a new Prime Minister, and we need him to treat the global debt crisis as an urgent priority. Across the world, many of the world's poorest countries are struggling with huge debt burdens that are severely impacting the lives of our sisters and brothers.

Money is flowing out of countries that can least afford it. Funds that could be spent on essential public services are instead paying huge debts to rich foreign banks. Countries have often repaid their original debt back several times over but will never clear it because of sky-high interest.

The action we are calling for is achievable, but it needs the political will to drive it. Will you sign our petition calling on Andy Burnham to show ambition and leadership on this issue? Petitions remain one of the best ways of showing public support on an issue – so we need your voice!" You can sign the petition online at this address: <https://cafod.org.uk/campaign>

Assisted Suicide

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is back in the House of Commons and seeks to legalise assisted suicide. It will have its Second Reading and vote on Friday 11 September. Please contact your MP as a matter of urgency. Even if you have already done so in the past, please speak up and voice your opposition. The charity **Right to Life UK** has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes just a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to your MP. <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>

Newsletter Extra

Please pick up a copy of this month's Newsletter Extra as you leave church or check it out on the Parish website. There are all sorts of events coming up this month and next.

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 2 August Feast of St Oswald, King & Martyr <i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)</i>	10.30 am Mass Clem Lawton	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Una McQuaid 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 3 August		
Tuesday 4 August St John Vianney		10.30 am Funeral Service Maria Ann Knight
Wednesday 5 August St Oswald (<i>transferred to 2 August</i>)	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Special Intention	
Thursday 6 August Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (A)		11.00 am Mass Elizabeth O'Neill <i>No Novena during August</i>
Friday 7 August	11.00 am Mass Private Intention (LISC)	
Saturday 8 August St Dominic		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Kathleen Postlethwaite
Sunday 9 August 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	10.30 am Mass The Parishioners	8.30 am Mass Ray Harris

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

26.07.26	£647.17	(£276.50 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£191.25	(£162.50 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£196.00	(£126.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£1034.42	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

DONATIONS

Last week we received a number of donations: £3000 from and in memory of Luke C.M. Wong; a further £300 for Venezuela which brings the total to £1261.85 – this sum has now been sent to CAFOD's partners in Venezuela; and an anonymous donation of £950 for our Parish Caritas Fund which we use to help those in need in the local community. Thank you so much to the donors for your kindness, generosity and support.

PRACTICAL HELP FOR REFUGEES

a) Do you have a spare **bicycle** in working order or not (men's, women's or children's)? If so, please phone 815646 or the Parish Office. Unwanted accessories (helmets, pumps, locks, etc) would also be welcome.

b) Care UK needs **new underwear**, 80% male 20% female, mainly small and medium, but all sizes are needed. Also, Care UK is also looking for **old mobile working phones** with chargers?

These items can be taken directly to Care UK (Riverside Retail Park) or left in church. Many thanks.

c) The Warrington Asylum Seeker and Refugee Support Group are planning a **multicultural recipe book** and are looking for a volunteer who knows how to organise and get the book ready for publishing. Do you know someone who might be able to help? If so, please let Fr Dave know.

PARISH SAFER RECRUITMENT & DBS REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(*Divine Office – Psalter Week 2*)

Today **18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**
Readings Isaiah 55: 1-3

Romans 8: 35, 37-39

Matthew 14: 13-21

Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 18

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

Fr Leo Cooper, Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Fr Hubert Strowbridge, Pamela Watson, Carol Whitehouse.

Those who have died recently, especially:

Maria Ann Knight (*Funeral Service at 10.30 am on Tuesday 4 August at St Oswald's*).