

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
23 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.

Annual Mission Appeal

I'm delighted to welcome Fr Stephen Adedeji OSJ who is joining us this weekend to make the Annual Mission Appeal. Fr Stephen is a member of the Oblates of St Joseph. You can find out more about the Oblates of St Joseph here: <https://osjnigeria.org>

Repairs to the Roof at St Oswald's

At long last, the repairs to the church roof at St Oswald's will begin tomorrow (Monday)! These repairs will be substantial and will take 12 to 14 weeks. During this time, the church will be designated as a construction site. As such, health and safety rules apply which mean there can be no access to the church during the working day, Monday to Friday.

Please note the following arrangements:

- 1) Weekday Masses (Tuesday & Thursday) will take place at St Benedict's.
- 2) Those who usually need access on weekdays (Eucharistic Ministers, Cleaners, etc): please make alternative arrangements with me.
- 3) Masses on Saturday and Sunday will take place in church as usual.

Parking at St Benedict's

I know that parking is difficult at St Benedict's and has become increasingly more challenging in recent years. The places we used to take for granted on Sundays

(Adam Street behind the church, the 'backs' opposite the church, and Dorothea Street) are now mostly full as many new residents have more than one car. There's nothing we can do about that. However, I do urge parishioners to park with consideration for residents. Last Sunday, I was informed that an ambulance was unable to access Alamein Crescent because of the way cars were parked. The resident told me that the cars causing the obstruction belonged to those attending church.

Building Works at St Benedict's

Following a meeting with one of the Archdiocesan surveyors, we have been given permission to carry out two urgent repairs. The first is to the stonework of the church which, you may have noticed, is spalling and falling in places. The second is to the brickwork of the Priory which urgently needs pointing in places to prevent further damp. Fortunately, the church is watertight following repairs undertaken in 2018.

Deanery Mass

This month's Deanery Mass takes place this Friday, 28 August, at 12.00 noon. The Mass will be at St Peter & St Michael's in Woolston. Do come along if you can.

Co-Cathedral in the Isle of Man

Finally, today is the Feast of the Dedication of our Co-Cathedral in the Isle of Man. The Church of St Mary of the Isle in Douglas was built in 1859. At the request of Archbishop Malcolm, it was granted the title of Co-Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Liverpool in 2023. Let us remember our sisters and brothers in the Isle of Man in our prayers today.

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 23 August 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Dedication of Co-Cathedral in Isle of Man</i>	10.30 am Baptism Mass Len Gannon	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Bruce Felskie 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 24 August Feast of St Bartholomew		
Tuesday 25 August St Edmund Arrowsmith	11.00 am Mass Margaret & John McGinty	<i>Mass at St Benedict's due to construction work</i>
Wednesday 26 August Blessed Dominic Barberi of the Mother of God	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Cathy Moorcroft	
Thursday 27 August St Monica	11.00 am Mass Bernard Eason	<i>Mass at St Benedict's No Novena during August</i>
Friday 28 August St Augustine	12.00 noon Deanery Mass at St Peter & St Michael's, Woolston	
Saturday 29 August The Passion of St John the Baptist		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Don Abbott
Sunday 30 August 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	10.30 am Mass Rita Hutson	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

16.08.26	£727.23	(£274.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£191.25	(£162.50 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£361.00	(£166.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£1279.48	
Donation	£100.00	(Parish Caritas)
<i>Thank you so much for your generosity.</i>		

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Pilgrimage Mass to the Holy Hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith** at 3.00 pm on Sunday 30 August at St Oswald & St Edmund Arrowsmith Church, Ashton-in-Makerfield WN4 9NP.
- Pilgrimage Mass in Honour of Blessed Dominic Barberi** at 12.00 noon on Monday 31 August at St Anne & Blessed Dominic Church, St Helens WA9 3ZD.
- St Francis Jubilee Pilgrimage Walk and Mass** on Saturday 5 September. Join Archbishop John on a 3.6-mile walk beginning at St Francis of Assisi, Garston, at 10.00 am and concluding at St Anthony of Padua Church, Mossley Hill. Mass will be celebrated at 12.30 pm followed by a packed lunch in the hall.
- Evening Prayer with the Apostolic Nuncio** in the Cathedral at 3.00 pm on Sunday 13 September, followed by a drink's reception in the Cathedral Crypt.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill returns to the House of Commons for its Second Reading on 11 September. Those wishing to express their opposition are encouraged to contact their MP using the online resources provided by CBCEW in association with Right to Life UK. For more information and resources: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide>

PARISH SAFER RECRUITMENT & DBS REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

Today	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Readings	Isaiah 22: 15, 19-23 Romans 11: 33-36 Matthew 16: 13-20
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 21

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:

Eric Morgan, Fr John Joyce, Fr Joe Kendall (*Funeral Mass at the Cathedral on Friday 4 September at 12.00 noon*).