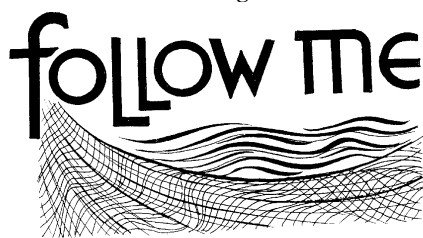


East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
30 August 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Back to School!

Our schools reopen this week, so a very warm welcome back to all the children and staff. A special welcome to new pupils and to the little ones starting school for the first time.

Season of Creation

Tuesday (1 September) is the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The day marks the beginning of the annual Season of Creation which lasts until the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October. We will mark the beginning of the season during the Masses next weekend.

Assisted Suicide

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill returns to the House of Commons for its Second Reading on 11 September. Archbishop John has issued a statement which will be distributed with this week's Newsletter at the end of Masses this weekend. Those wishing to express their opposition are encouraged to contact their MP using the online resources provided by the Catholic Bishops' Conference in association with Right to Life UK, or by using one of the postcards available at the back of church. For more information and resources: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide>

Thinking about becoming a Catholic?

If you have been thinking about becoming a Catholic and would like to know more (without obligation), I invite you to a short meeting at St Benedict's Church on Saturday 12 September at 10.30 am. Come along, have a cuppa, ask your questions and find out what is involved.

Evening Prayer with the Apostolic Nuncio

The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, is the Pope's representative in Great Britain and the Holy See's ambassador to the UK. His

Excellency will be visiting the Archdiocese as part of a pastoral visit in September – meeting Clergy, Religious, Catholic Educators, School Children and Parish communities. He will also meet with Civil and Religious leaders in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, reflecting the strong relationships shared between our Christian communities and wider Civic Society. Archbishop John invites YOU to join the Apostolic Nuncio for Evening Prayer in the Cathedral on Sunday 13 September at 3.00 pm followed by a drink's reception in the Cathedral Crypt.

Safeguarding Survey

In October, the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) will conduct an audit on the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team and the work they do to keep our Parishes safe. As part of this audit, everyone within the Archdiocese – whether you are a victim, survivor, volunteer or parishioner – is invited to take a few minutes to complete a survey. The survey is open until Friday 25 September and can be found here: <https://catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/contact-us-and-other-information/public-calls-for-information>

Roof Repairs at St Oswald's

The long-awaited repairs to the roof of St Oswald's began this week and will take 12 to 14 weeks.

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, please make alternative arrangements with me.
- 3) Masses on Saturday and Sunday, as well as Thursday's Novena, will take place in church as usual.

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 30 August 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	10.30 am Mass Rita Hutson	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Don Abbott 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 31 August		
Tuesday 1 September Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation	11.00 am Mass John Mallon	<i>(Staff Mass at Cardinal Newman Catholic High School)</i>
Wednesday 2 September	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Fr Jimmy McPartland	
Thursday 3 September Feast of St Gregory the Great	11.00 am Mass Jakub Fullmueller	<i>Mass at St Benedict's</i> 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 4 September	No Mass today	<i>(Funeral Mass for Fr Joe Kendall at the Cathedral)</i>
Saturday 5 September St Teresa of Calcutta		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Tommy O'Brien
Sunday 6 September 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	10.30 am Mass Shing-Wo Lau	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

23.08.26 £718.11 (£356.30 Gift Aid)
 Standing Orders £191.25 (£162.50 Gift Aid)
 Digital Giving £294.00 (£168.00 Gift Aid)
Total £1203.36
 Mission Appeal £793.70 (*Oblates of St Joseph*)
Thank you so much for your generosity.

SOME FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 1) **Pilgrimage Mass to the Holy Hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith** at 3.00 pm today (Sunday) at St Oswald & St Edmund Arrowsmith Church, Ashton-in-Makerfield WN4 9NP.
- 2) **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.
- 3) **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.
- 4) **Concert for the Apostolic Nuncio** at St Francis de Sales Church, Hale Road, Walton, L4 3RL on Saturday 12 September at 7.30 pm followed by a light supper. Soprano, Anna Callacher, with the Hope Street Consort, Paul Thomas (Trumpet) & James Luxton (Organ).

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 (07585 761965) or Claire Newton (0151 522 1043), or you can email: safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

PARISH SAFER RECRUITMENT & DBS REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

Today 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Readings Jeremiah 20: 7-9
 Romans 12: 1-2
 Matthew 16: 21-27

Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 22

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:

Fr Joe Kendall.