

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
27 September 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Hymn-A-Long!

If you like singing hymns, why not join us for a 'Hymn-A-Long' today (Sunday), 12.00 noon – 1.00 pm, in St Benedict's Church. If you wish to stay for a shared lunch afterwards, we'll have a 'bring and share' in the Sacristy Meeting Room at 1.00 pm. All are welcome.

CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day

This coming Friday, 2 October, is CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day – one of two days in the year when we go without a meal, or something we enjoy, and give what we save in this way to the poorest of the poor in the world. Giving to CAFOD means our Church network can respond quickly to emergencies overseas. Please take an envelope home with you today and bring it back next weekend. Alternatively, you can donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030.

Mid-Autumn Festival

Our Hong Kong parishioners invite us to celebrate with them in the Parish Centre after the 10.30 am Mass next Sunday. The occasion is the Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as 'Moon Festival' or 'Mooncake Festival' – a traditional festival celebrated in Chinese culture around this time.

Blessing of Animals

The annual Blessing of Animals will take place at St Benedict's next Sunday, 4 October, at 2.00 pm. This short service provides an opportunity to thank God for our animal friends, to bless those who are poorly, remember our beloved pets who have died, and pray for the many animals that suffer in our own country and across the world. The service will last about 25 minutes

and will be followed by some treats for pets and refreshments for their servants!

Events for Young People

See the poster at the back of church, on the Parish website or at www.animateyouth.org for next year's Archdiocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Faith in Action Award, Music Youth Ministry, Youth Sunday on 22 November and an Advent Youth Alive Mass on 6 December.

Mustard Seed Children's Club

The next meeting of the 'Mustard Seed Children's Club' (for children who've celebrated their First Communion) will take place after the 10.30 am Mass at St Benedict's on Sunday 11 October.

Archbishop's Certificate in Catechesis 2026-2028

Applications are now open for the Archbishop's Certificate in Catechesis. This two-year online course aims to equip and support catechists and lay leaders in evangelisation and formation. Beginning from mid-October, the course consists of 12 units of study, with four in-person Saturday sessions and seven online study sessions. For more details and sign up, please visit: www.aec.rcaos.org.uk/liverpool It would be very helpful if one or two parishioners were interested in trying the course – we could really do with some catechetical support in the parish.

Deacon Dan's Ordination

A reminder that Archbishop John will ordain Deacon Dan to the Priesthood at 12.00 noon on Saturday 24 October at St Oswald's. More information next week.

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 27 September 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees</i>	10.30 am Mass The Ryan Family	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Annette Aldrich 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 28 September		
Tuesday 29 September Feast of SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	11.00 am Funeral Mass Brenda Brathing	<i>Mass at St Benedict's</i>
Wednesday 30 September St Jerome	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Fola	
Thursday 1 October St Therese of Lisieux	No Mass today <i>(Priests meeting with Archbishop)</i>	7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 2 October The Holy Guardian Angels <i>CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day</i>	11.00 am Mass Canon John Short	
Saturday 3 October		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Vincent Hennessey
Sunday 4 October 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>(St Francis of Assisi)</i>	10.30 am Mass Wellbeing of all Animals 2.00 pm Blessing of Animals	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

20.09.26	£621.40	(£217.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£161.25	(£127.50 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£50.00	(£25.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£832.65	
2nd Collection	£334.98	(Home Missions)
<i>Thank you so much for your generosity.</i>		

APOLOGIES

Last week's Offertory Collection is low because the digital machines at both churches went down. Thankfully, they are both up and running again now.

ADOREMUS

Saturday 10 October, 9.00 am – 6.00 pm

Join us for this year's Adoremus at the Cathedral. The theme is "We Are Eucharist". The event is free and available to all. There will be Eucharistic Adoration throughout the day, Mass, opportunities for Confession, a variety of workshops, and a shared time of prayer for all. Sign up for workshops here: www.archdioceseofliverpool.org/adoremus2026

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

St Benedict's Men's Breakfast Group is marking twenty-five years on Saturday 14 November. All past and present members, as well as families of those members who have died, are invited to a Mass in church at 9.00 am with Fr Tony Slingo (who founded the group), followed by breakfast in the Parish Centre. For catering purposes, please let Deacon David know if you will be attending (07925 014707). Many thanks.

PARISH SAFER RECRUITMENT & DBS REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

Today	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
<i>Readings</i>	Ezekiel 18: 26-28 Philippians 2: 1-11 Matthew 21: 28-32
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 26

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, 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:

Brenda Brathing, Colin Yates, Janet Gibson.