

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

Solemnity of All Saints 1 November 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Ordination & First Mass

Last weekend's celebrations for Fr Dan's Ordination on Saturday and his First Mass with us on Sunday were pure joy and such a tonic for us all. More than four hundred people attended the Ordination and so many said how beautiful and prayerful it was. Dan wanted his Ordination to be a simple, prayerful, parish celebration – and so it was.

Both Fr Dan and I would like to thank everyone who came to support him, and those who weren't able to be present but joined us in prayer. We would like to extend a very special thanks to the many people who helped, including:

- † Briar, Clare, Kevin and others who worked so hard to decorate the church (and the scaffolding) with beautiful flowers, bunting and pew ends.
- † Mary, John, Frances, Josephine and Michele for the music which was simply brilliant.
- † Our team of altar servers – it was the first time most of them had served at St Oswald's.
- † Those who stood in the rain directing traffic, and those who greeted and seated people.
- † Anne, Jean and Jim for the teas and coffees in the Presbytery and the Parish Centre – they were kept busy!
- † Sarah, Paul and Sue for the delicious buffet, and to Ethan, our Parish Centre Manager.
- † Our church cleaners who had the unenviable task of trying to remove all the dust and debris after weeks of building repairs.
- † And, of course, Dan for turning up!

Thank you all so much.

As you may know, Fr Dan will be staying with us until the New Year to assist me while I cover St Peter and St Michael's in Woolston.

Solemnity of All Saints

During the month of November, we remember and pray especially for all those who have died. The month begins with today's Solemnity of All Saints. The feast remembers and celebrates all those people of every time and place who tried to follow Jesus during their lives on earth and are now with God in heaven.

All Souls

All Souls' Day is on Monday 2 November. On this day, the Church prays for all the faithful departed. Mass will be celebrated at 11.00 am at St Benedict's. During the Mass, we will remember especially those parishioners who have died during the last twelve months.

Remembrance Sunday

Next Sunday is Remembrance Day. We will join churches and groups across the country by celebrating Masses of Remembrance, Peace and Hope over the weekend. We will also join the Acts of Remembrance at Bridgefoot and Bennetts Rec by keeping two minutes' silence at each Mass to remember those who gave their lives in war and armed conflict.

Remembrance Tree

This year, in addition to the Pious Lists, there is a Remembrance Tree at St Benedict's. If you wish, please take a blank tag from the basket, write a personal message, prayer or the name of a loved one on the back, and tie it to a branch using the colourful yarn provided.

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 1 November Solemnity of All Saints	10.30 am Mass Bill Moss	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass James O'Donnell 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 2 November All Souls	11.00 am Mass The Faithful Departed	
Tuesday 3 November St Martin de Porres	11.00 am Mass Keiran Hinchliffe	<i>Mass at St Benedict's because of building works</i>
Wednesday 4 November St Charles Borromeo	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Julie O'Neill	
Thursday 5 November	11.00 am Mass Ronald & Elizabeth Hyamson	<i>Mass at St Benedict's</i> 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 6 November	No Mass today <i>(Funeral Mass at Sacred Heart)</i>	
Saturday 7 November		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Kathleen Postlethwaite
Sunday 8 November 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	10.30 am Mass All victims of war	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

With our Parish Administrator on annual leave, the details of collections for last weekend, this weekend and next weekend will be available on 8 November.

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE MASS

St Gregory's Catholic High School will be holding their annual Remembrance Mass on Thursday 12 November at 5.00 pm in school. Light refreshments will be provided from 4.30 pm. During Mass, they will remember pupils, staff and governors who have died. All are welcome. If you wish to attend, please email: swhitlow@stgregoryshigh.com

HCPT GROUP 180

Fr Dan writes: "HCPT Group 180 is turning 40 this year. We are having a purple weekend of fundraising and thanksgiving. Friday 13 November at 7.00 pm – Big Fat Quiz of the past 40 years at Widnes Cricket Club. £5 per person. Raffle, prizes, fun. All welcome. Saturday 14 November at 1.00 pm – Mass of Thanksgiving for HCPT at St Basil's, Hough Green, Widnes, followed by afternoon tea in the Parish Centre. All welcome."

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

Please pick up a copy of this month's Newsletter Extra or download it from the Parish website. In this month's edition: **Christmas Cupcake Decorating Class**, **Christmas Fayre** at the Church of the Ascension in Woolston, **Youth Fest 2026**, **Advent Retreat for Young Adults** in Widnes, **Christmas Wreath Making Workshops**, News from Nugent, Fatima Pilgrimage 2027, 'Be Still and Know that I am God' Retreat at Stonyhurst, and much more.

PARISH SAFER RECRUITMENT & DBS REPS

Clara Chan, Doreane Child and Clare Lancaster
Archdiocesan Safeguarding Department:
0151 522 1043 or safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)

Today	Solemnity of All Saints
<i>Readings</i>	Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14 1 John 3: 1-3 Matthew 5: 1-12
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 31

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

Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Pamela Watson, Carol Whitehouse.

Those who have died recently, especially:

Fr Brian Newns, Fr Frank Fearn, Beryl Cartledge.