

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
11 October 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Prisoners' Sunday

Today is Prisoners' Sunday when we pray especially for those in prison and their dependents. Prisoners, people with convictions, together with their children and families, often find themselves on the margins of society because of the stigma associated with imprisonment. Yet Jesus challenges us with his words: "I was in prison, and you came to see me" (Mt 25: 36).

The Prison Advice and Care Trust (PACT) is an independent UK charity that provides practical support for prisoners and their families. First established as the Catholic Prisoners Aid Society in 1898, please check out their website: www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Mustard Seed Children's Club

The 'Mustard Seed Children's Club' (for children who've celebrated their First Communion) meets today after the 10.30 am Mass at St Benedict's.

Arrangements for 24 & 25 October

To accommodate Deacon Dan's Ordination and First Mass, there will need to be a slight change to our usual weekend Mass schedule.

Saturday 24 October

12.00 noon Ordination Mass at St Oswald's

No 4.30 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 25 October

8.30 am Mass at St Benedict's

10.30 am Mass at St Oswald's (Dan's First Mass)

(Dan did want his First Mass to be at St Benedict's, but the church is already fairly full on a Sunday).

World Mission Sunday

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, established a hundred years ago in 1926 by Pope Pius XI. It's a global day of prayer, reflection and promotion for the Catholic Church's missionary work. This work is carried out by the Pope's charity, *Missio*. There will be a Second Collection for *Missio* next Sunday. The money raised directly supports churches, schools, hospitals and local vocations in over 1100 young or struggling mission dioceses, primarily across Africa, Asia, Oceania and Latin America. There are envelopes at the back of church if you wish to use them.

Unsung Heroes

During the week, I received this lovely note: "On a fleeting visit to St Benedict's on Tuesday, I came across a small army of people in all areas of the church. They were silently and reverently beaver away – cleaning, polishing, hoovering and tidying the church. It was really humbling. So, to all those rarely seen, who work to keep our churches (both St Benedict's and St Oswald's) clean and beautiful for the rest of us – a well deserved thank you." *From a grateful parishioner.*

Thank You

† Thank you to our Hong Kong parishioners for sharing their Mid-Autumn Festival with us last Sunday.

† Thank you to Bernie Griffin, Peter Cox and Oscar for helping me with last Sunday's Blessing of Animals. Fifty people attended the service with their beloved pets.

† Thank you to those who were able to come to the meeting last Wednesday to help prepare for Dan's Ordination.

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 11 October 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families</i>	10.30 am Mass Toni	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Robert Ross 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 12 October		
Tuesday 13 October St Edward the Confessor	10.15 am Funeral Service Janet Gibson	
Wednesday 14 October	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Zita Campbell	
Thursday 15 October St Teresa of Avila	11.30 am Mass Mgr Francis Frost	10.00 am Funeral at Walton Lea Colin Yates 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 16 October	<i>(9.00 am Mass at St Gregory's)</i> 11.00 am Mass Private Intention (LISC)	
Saturday 17 October St Ignatius of Antioch		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Deacon Dan Howarth
Sunday 18 October 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>World Mission Sunday</i>	10.30 am Mass Joan Howl	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Last week's collection details will be available next weekend.

ST BENEDICT'S 200 CLUB

September Winners: £50 Betty Lunt, £25 Terry Vernon, £15 Mary McDonagh, £10 Terry Naughton. Many thanks everyone.

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

During the month of October, Fr Dave will lead the Rosary each week. This week, the Rosary will be prayed after the 11.00 am Mass on Wednesday.

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

Don't forget to pick up a copy of this month's Newsletter Extra. There are all sorts of events going on, some of which may be of interest to you or to those you know, including:

St Benedict's Men's Breakfast Group twenty-fifth anniversary on Saturday 14 November.

Christmas Cup Cake Decorating Class on Saturday 21 November in St Benedict's Parish Centre.

You can download both the Newsletter and Newsletter Extra from the Parish website.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Given the concern of some parishioners about the Parish Development Strategy launched last January and the possible closure of some churches in the coming years, I have invited Mgr Philip Inch to address parishioners at St Benedict's on Thursday 22 October at 1.30 pm.

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 4)

Today **28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

Readings Isaiah 25: 6-10
Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20
Matthew 22: 1-10

Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 28

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.