

East Warrington Family of Parishes
PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

Parish Feast of Blessed James Bell
25 October 2026

My dear sisters and brothers,

Congratulations, Fr Dan!

When you read this, Deacon Dan will have been ordained to the priesthood. So our heart-filled congratulations to Fr Dan!

Fr Dan will take up an appointment in the Archdiocese in January. Meanwhile, the Archbishop has asked Fr Dan to assist me here in Warrington. The reason for this is that Fr Mark Drew is moving from St Peter & St Michael's, Woolston, to St Matthew and St Cecilia's in Liverpool. The priest replacing Fr Mark will not arrive until December, so I will need to cover St Peter & St Michael's in the interim. So Fr Dan will be with us for a short while.

Happy Feast Day!

Today we celebrate our Parish Feast of Blessed James Bell (*transferred from 20 April*). It was eight years ago, on 26 October 2018, that Archbishop Malcolm came to Warrington and inaugurated our new parish under the patronage of the Warrington martyr, Blessed James Bell, bringing together the three former parishes of St Benedict's, St Mary's and St Oswald's.

Notice for St Oswald's

Please note: The pathway between St Oswald's and Sheerwater Close will be closed for 24 hours from 11.00 pm on Sunday 25 October to 11.00 pm on Monday 26 October. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Deanery Mass

Our monthly Deanery Mass takes place this Friday, 30 October, at 12.00 noon. This month the Mass will be at St John Fisher, Moorfield Road, Widnes WA8 3JA. Do

come along if you can. If you're driving, perhaps offer a lift to someone. Many thanks.

All Saints & All Souls

Next weekend, we will celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints. All Souls falls on Monday 2 November. There will be a Mass at St Benedict's at 11.00 am to commemorate all the faithful departed.

November Pious Lists

During the month of November, we pray especially for those who have died. You will find the traditional Pious Lists at the back of church. Please take one if you want, write the names of those you want to remember on the list, and then return it to church. We will remember all those on the Pious Lists during Mass in November. There's no obligation to place an offering in with your list, but if you want to, the money will go to the Priests' Training Fund.

Our Catholic Schools

As a Governor of Catholic Schools for over thirty years, I am concerned at the amount of work expected from the leaders and teachers in our schools today. The expectations of parents, the amount of administration, the number of differing needs in each class, in addition to all the policies and procedures now expected is simply unreal. On top of that, budgets have never recovered from the 2008 economic crisis and remain tight. In spite of all this, the staff of our schools do their very best and serve the children entrusted to us in exceptional ways. I am so proud of our schools, and wish all our staff and children a very well-deserved half-term break this 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 25 October Parish Feast of Blessed James Bell <i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)</i>	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners	<i>No Saturday 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</i> 10.30 am Fr Dan's First Mass Fr Dan's Intention
Monday 26 October		
Tuesday 27 October	11.00 am Mass Teresa Moss	<i>Mass at St Benedict's</i>
Wednesday 28 October Feast of Saints Simon & Jude	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Catherine Eason	
Thursday 29 October	10.30 am Funeral Service Diane Farnan	No Novena this week
Friday 30 October	12.00 noon Deanery Mass at St John Fisher, Widnes	
Saturday 31 October		4.30 pm Vigil Mass James O'Donnell
Sunday 1 November Solemnity of All Saints	10.30 am Mass Bill Moss	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

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

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 Tuesday.

EXAM INVIGILATOR

Cardinal Newman Catholic High School are looking to recruit Exam Invigilators. Rate of pay £12.35 per hour. See church noticeboard for full details. Closing date: 6 November 2026. Application form available here: <https://www.cardinal-newman.org.uk/vacancies.php>

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

Please pick up a copy of this month's Newsletter Extra. There are all sorts of events going on, 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.

MESSAGE FROM POPE LEO

"I would like to thank all those who have prayed for me in recent days. I wish to express my particular gratitude to the doctors, nurses and all the staff of the Gemelli Hospital. This experience has made me feel particularly close to all those who are living with illness or infirmity. Now that I have overcome this delicate phase I will gradually resume my activities, always with God's help and your prayers."

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 2)

Today **30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**
Readings Exodus 22: 21-27
 1 Thessalonians 1: 5-10
 Matthew 22: 34-40
Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 30

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, Fr Frank Fearn, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Pamela Watson, Carol Whitehouse.

Those who have died recently, especially:

Diane Farnan, Fr Brian Newns.