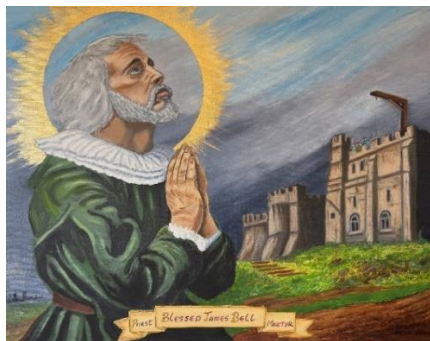


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Parish Feast of Blessed James Bell

Sunday 25 October 2026

Introductory Rites

Gathering Song

By all your saints still striving (372)

Greeting & Penitential Act

Gloria

Mass of Christ our Saviour – Schutte (1013)



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Collect

Almighty God,
who in this country raised up martyrs
from every walk of life
to vindicate the authority of your Church
in teaching and worship,
grant through the intercession of Blessed James Bell,
that all people may be gathered once again
to celebrate the same sacraments
under the one Shepherd, Jesus Christ your Son.
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading

(Exodus 22: 21-27)

A reading from the book of Exodus

Thus says the Lord: 'You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of

Egypt. You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a money-lender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbour's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 18

I love you, Lord, my strength.

- 1 I love you, O Lord, my strength,
O Lord, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.
- 2 My God, my rock of refuge,
my shield, the horn of my salvation,
my stronghold!
Praised be the Lord, I exclaim,
and I am safe from my enemies.

Second Reading

(1 Thessalonians 1: 5-10)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Brothers and Sisters: You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel

(Matthew 22: 34-40)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love

your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

Bidding Prayers

Prayer of Rededication

God our Father,
we, your pilgrim people,
gather in your presence and ask your blessing
as we seek to serve you and your people.

Under the patronage of Blessed James Bell,
and in communion with the whole Church,
form us into a community,
built on the fidelity of those who have gone before us.

May we take to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus
and go into the world
to proclaim the Good News to the whole of creation.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit,
may your Word take root in our hearts inspiring us
to gather and give thanks in the eucharist,
to serve you in our love for one another,
and to reach out in welcome to all people,
especially those most in need.

United with other Christian communities in this area,
may our parish be a source of grace and blessing
for the local community,
and so help to build your kingdom of justice,
love and peace.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Chant: Ubi caritas (245)

Prayer over the Offerings

Look with such serenity and kindness,
we pray, O Lord,
upon these present offerings,
that they may be filled
with the blessing of the Holy Spirit
and may stir in our hearts that powerful love
through which Blessed James Bell
overcame every bodily torment.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, Holy – Mass of Christ our Saviour (Dan Schutte)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

The Mystery of Faith

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

Our Father

Sign of Peace

Please exchange the Sign of Peace with those around
you in whatever way is most comfortable for you.

Communion

Song: This is my body (627)

Prayer after Communion

Restored by the sustenance of the one Bread, O Lord,
in commemoration of the blessed Martyr, James Bell,
we humbly pray,
that you may confirm us ever in your charity
and make us walk in newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Concluding Rite

Final Song

Blessed feasts of blessed martyrs (375)

Acknowledgements

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