

St Benedict's, St Mary's & St Oswald's



Archdiocese of Liverpool

Newsletter

Sunday 24 December 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)



Our Benedictine Heritage

Parish Priest: Fr Dave Heywood

Deacons: Revv Michael Birchall, David Boyle, Michael Oxley & Tony Kerrigan (rtd)

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Office: stbenedicts.warrington@rcaolp.co.uk

Personal: frdave@rcaolp.co.uk

St Benedict's Church is open Monday - Friday 9.00 am – 4.30 pm for Private Prayer (Exc. Bank Holidays)

St Benedict's & St Oswald's Masses & Services 24 December 2017 - 1 January 2018		
	ST BENEDICT'S Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE	ST OSWALD'S Padgate Lane, Warrington WA1 3LB
Sunday 24 December <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)</i> Day of Prayer for Expectant Parents	10.30 am Mass <i>The Hill Family</i>	6.00 pm Vigil Mass <i>The Parishioners</i> 8.30 am Mass <i>Bill Morgan</i> 3.30 pm Polish Mass
<i>Vigil of the Nativity</i> Christmas Eve	4.00 pm Slovak Christmas Mass 11.30 pm Christmas Midnight Mass <i>The Parishioners</i>	6.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass <i>Alan Oxley</i> 8.00 pm Polish Christmas Mass
Monday 25 December <i>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</i> Christmas Day	10.30 am Christmas Day Mass <i>The Brindle Family</i>	8.30 am Christmas Dawn Mass <i>The Holt Family</i> 2.00 pm Polish Christmas Mass
Tuesday 26 December <i>Feast of St Stephen, 1st Martyr</i>		2.00 pm Polish Mass
Wednesday 27 December <i>Feast of St John, Apostle & Evangelist</i>	12.15 pm Mass <i>John Kwasnicki</i>	
Thursday 28 December <i>Feast of the Holy Innocents</i>		10.00 am Mass <i>Nadine Davies</i> <i>No Novena today</i>
Friday 29 December <i>Feast of St Thomas of Canterbury</i>	12.15 pm Mass <i>Matthew Shaw</i> <i>No Meditation Today</i>	
Saturday 30 December	4.00 pm Slovak Mass	10.00 - 11.00 am Exposition 6.00 pm Vigil Mass <i>Annie & Timothy Dewane</i>
Sunday 31 December <i>Feast of the Holy Family (B)</i>	10.30 am Mass <i>Patrick Cullen</i> 11.15 pm New Year's Eve Vigil Mass <i>Colin Sykes</i>	8.30 am Mass <i>The Parishioners & Alan Oxley</i> 3.30 pm Polish Mass
Monday 1 January 2018 <i>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</i>		12 noon New Year's Day Mass <i>Connie Adams</i>

St Mary's Shrine, Buttermarket Street, Warrington WA1 2NS

Telephone: 01925 635664 Website: www.stmaryswarrington.org.uk

Served by the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter

Rector: Fr de Malleray FSSP malleray@fssp.org Assistant: Fr Konrad Loewenstein FSSP

LATIN MASS IN THE EXTRAORDINARY FORM (with translations)

Holy Mass <i>Sunday</i> 11.00 am & 6.00 pm <i>Monday to Saturday</i> 12.10 pm	Confessions <i>Everyday</i> 30 minutes before Mass <i>Saturday</i> 10.00 – 11.45 am	Adoration & Benediction <i>Saturday</i> 10.00 – 12.00 noon	Holy Rosary <i>Sunday</i> 5.30 pm <i>Monday to Saturday</i> 11.30 am
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THIS WEEK

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve (Sunday 24 December)

- 4.00 pm Slovak Mass at St Benedict's
- 6.00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass at St Oswald's
- 8.00 pm Polish Mass at St Oswald's
- 11.30 pm Midnight Mass at St Benedict's

Christmas Day (Monday 25 December)

- 8.30 am Christmas Dawn Mass at St Oswald's
- 10.30 am Christmas Day Mass at St Benedict's
- 2.00 pm Polish Christmas Day Mass at St Oswald's

Please note:

- 1) The Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve at St Benedict's will begin at 11.30 pm not Midnight.
- 2) Children are invited to bring a home-made birthday card for Jesus to the 6.00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve at St Oswald's or the 10.30 am Mass on Christmas Day at St Benedict's.
- 3) Altar Servers, Readers, Collectors and Eucharistic Ministers are invited to sign the sheet at the back of church if they are available to help with the liturgies.

CHRISTMAS MASSES AT ST MARY'S SHRINE

Christmas Eve

12.00 am Midnight Mass (preceded by carols at 11.30 pm)

Christmas Day

- 9.00 am Low Mass
- 11.00 am Sung Mass

CRIB OFFERINGS

Crib offerings traditionally go to support the work of Nugent (the social welfare agency of the Archdiocese).

**May the joy and peace of Christ be with you
this Christmas and throughout the New Year**

*Fr Dave, Fr de Malleray, Fr Loewenstein, Fr Austin
Deacons Mike B, David, Michael & Tony*

ALTAR SERVERS

Altar Servers are invited to renew their commitment at Mass next Saturday/Sunday, 30/31 December. New servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen. After the 10.30 am Mass at St Benedict's, all servers are invited to stay for lunch together.

ALTERNATIVE NEW YEAR IN CHURCH

New Year's Eve Mass

If you would like to welcome in the New Year in church, there will be a Vigil Mass at 11.15 pm on New Year's Eve at St Benedict's, followed by the chimes of Big Ben (live), a New Year Blessing, and some cheese and wine.



New Year's Day Mass

The first day of the New Year is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. There will a New Year's Day Mass at 12.00 noon at St Oswald's. All welcome.

**PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR
THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2018
AND ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD 2020**

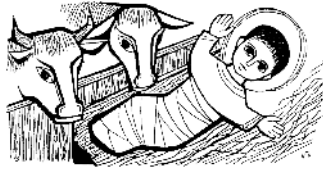
We thank you Father
for the love you have shown us
in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
Keep us grateful each day
for the blessings that surround us.

As we are fed by you,
so now send us out
to share what we have received
with our hungry brothers and sisters.

We humbly ask your help to become the Church
that you are calling us to be:
a community that listens, that trusts,
that lives with courage
and that puts out its nets into new waters.

May the gentle presence of Christ in our hearts
be a source of healing, of new life
and of a deeper trust in you.
We ask this in faith
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP



If we take time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, the feast can transform our lives, and not just for a few days at the end of the year. The Christmas message of peace and love never changes from one year to the next because it is there for us every day of our lives. The Gospel tells us that 'God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life'. We remember this especially at Christmas, showing our thanks by reaching out to those around us.

We remember the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem: the nativity reproduced each year in numerous plays and presentations and recreated through the centuries in countless works of art. The stable, Mary, Joseph and the child Jesus, visited by shepherds and wise men.

It is right that we should remember and celebrate in this way, but sometimes our celebrations can lose sight of the reality of that cold winter's night two thousand years ago. The distance travelled: Mary and Joseph were far from home, they were living in a land ruled by an occupying power, forced to travel to Bethlehem to take part in a

census. When they arrived there, among the crowd, there was nowhere for them to stay until an innkeeper let them use a stable. There were shepherds looking after their flocks on a dark hillside with no light and no warmth and wise men who travelled from afar, a great distance, in the hope of seeing the saviour.

Suddenly, a transformation as darkness became light. A child is born. Shepherds, at first cowering and scared, have a vision of angels bringing tidings of great joy, for 'today a Saviour has been born to us, he is Christ the Lord'.

Christmas transforms our lives too, especially if we give to those around us: to people who are on their own at Christmas, or by visiting the housebound and the sick in hospital. We can make welcome those, who like Mary and Joseph, are far from home; those seeking asylum, those in prison, and members of the Forces who must be apart from their loved ones.

On Christmas Day we hear the account of the nativity showing us what God's love means for us today. Let us recognise His love so that our lives may be transformed.

With my prayers and every good wish for a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP
Archbishop of Liverpool

CHOOSING A NAME FOR OUR NEW PARISH

Results of the Ballot

246 ballot papers were received. Of these, 3 were spoilt and 1 was blank. Some ballot papers only indicated a 1st Preference, so the 2nd and 3rd Preferences do not add up to the total number of valid ballot papers received.

	1 st Preferences	2 nd Preferences	3 rd Preferences
All Saints	37	34	45
Blessed James Bell	75	32	38
Blessed Oscar Romero	21	26	26
English Martyrs	20	49	28
Holy Trinity	46	47	29
St Francis	35	36	42
St Scholastica	8	9	21

The clear winner, if that's the right word, is Blessed James Bell, which is very appropriate. However, as I said at the beginning of the process, it is for the Archbishop to assign names to parishes. I wanted you to let him know your preferences as a way of assisting him in making a decision. After Christmas, I will submit this table of preferences to the Archbishop so that he can make the final decision.

It's very rare for new parishes to be established these days and for parishioners to have the opportunity of considering a patron for their parish. So, many thanks to everyone for taking part in the process. *Fr Dave*

2018 DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES...

Craft Club (St Benedict's)	Wed 3 Jan, 10.00 am
Men's Group (St Benedict's)	Sat 6 Jan, 9.30 am
Drama Group (St Benedict's)	Wed 10 Jan, 7.00 pm
Ladies Group (St Oswald's)	Thurs 11 Jan, 8.15 pm
Meditation (St Benedict's)	Fri 19 Jan, 6.45 pm
Prayer Group St Oswald's	Mon 22 Jan, 7.30 pm

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday - 4th Sunday of Advent (B)
Weekdays - Octave of the Nativity
Divine Office – Psalter Week 1

Monday	(Day)	Is 52: 7-10 Heb 1: 1-6 Jn 1: 1-18
Tuesday		Acts 6: 8-10 Mt 10: 17-22
Wednesday		1 Jn 1: 1-4 Jn 20: 2-8
Thursday		1 Jn 1: 5-2:2 Mt 2: 13-18
Friday		Col 1: 24-29 Lk 22: 24-30
Saturday		1 Jn 2: 12-17 Lk 2: 36-40
Sunday		Gen 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3 Heb 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2: 22-40 (or 2: 22, 39-40)

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's Paul Vernon, Brenda Snelson, Jean Molphy, Beryl Campbell, Anne Hill, Susan Keating, Alan Brown, Ann Brown, Bill Hampson, Marney Hampson, Peter Milner, James Malone, Vera Brindle, Thomas Ireland, Michael Mullin, Matilde Valentine, Syd Bradshaw, Sandra Richardson, Stanley Yates

St Mary's Luciano Bartolo, Dorothy Parry

St Oswald's Susan Disley, Mary Massey, Maureen Holt, Catherine Carne, Colin Pearce, Sarah Boardman, Sam Johnstone, Hollyann Prince, Shirley Jones, Betty Mannion, Margaret Watts (nee McGinty), Mary Metcalfe, Kevin Wainwright

Other Parishes Ged O'Connor, Daniel Davies, John Heywood (aged 10), Grace Fernandapolle, Kat Clifford (aged 13)

Those who have died recently, especially:

St Benedict's Monica Gallimore

A CHRISTMAS TABLE PRAYER

Loving God, on this Christmas Day, we give thanks that Jesus, your Son, has come into our world bringing us gifts of peace and joy.

Bless us as we sit down together at this table for our Christmas meal.

Bless the food we share, and help us to remember those who are hungry.

Be with our neighbours and our friends, all who are lonely, sick or away from home.

We pray that our departed loved ones may now sit at your table in heaven.

May the joy of this feast give us strength and light, now and in the days ahead.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

If you would like to add a parishioner to the prayer list, please check with them first and then email Fr Dave on frdave@rcaolp.co.uk or give him a note of their name and phone number. Many thanks.



ST BENEDICT'S 200 CLUB WINNERS

17 Dec : 31 Marion Yates

(£100 prize to be drawn on 31 Dec.)

Please make sure your subscription is up to date to qualify for entry

POPE FRANCIS TWEET

“Every stranger that
knocks at our door is an
opportunity to meet
Jesus Christ.”

18 December

ROOM AT THE INN GIFT CARDS

A huge **thank you** to all who purchased Gift Cards to help Warrington's Homeless, who would have no where to sleep or share a Christmas meal with.

Both parishes raised £280.00

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please ensure the Parish Office receives items for the Newsletter by Wednesday at the latest.

Tel: 630127

ST OSWALD'S PARISH CENTRE Padgate Lane, Warrington, WA1 3LB

The Week Ahead

Sunday	9.00 pm	Quiz – Concert Room
Monday	2.00 pm	Sequence Dancing
Tuesday	7.30 pm	Line Dancing
Wednesday	8.00 pm	Bingo

Contact Lynne on 812266 or 07939 574790 for bookings

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH CENTRE Rhodes Street, Warrington, WA2 7QE

The Week Ahead

Sunday	8.30 pm	Cabaret Night
Monday	6.00 pm	Rainbows
	7.45 pm	Bingo
Thursday	7.30 pm	Line Dancing

Contact Steve on Tel. 633920 after 7pm for bookings

Parish Finance – Thank you so much for your offerings on Sunday 17 December

ST BENEDICT'S £427.67 (£200.56 Gift Aid)

ST OSWALD'S £640.77 (£319.03 Gift Aid), £10.00 Animate Youth Ministries late entry