



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

*Incorporating the churches of St Bede, St Michael,
St John Fisher and St Basil*



10th November 2024

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

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Psalm Response

My soul, gives praise to the Lord

Science and Faith

During this last week I have been working away in my job as a university lecturer, scientist and deacon. For the first part of the week, I was away in Leeds, presenting research on the diaconate at a conference. This spoke about data from a national questionnaire survey of deacons and how this may impact their future ministry. The second part of the week I was on residential fieldwork in Snowdonia, North Wales, teaching postgraduates how to collect data on upland vegetation and to work out how to analyse it to help conserve nature.

These work things were about collecting 'evidence' / 'data' and then to use it to 'prove' things scientifically. Nothing wrong with that at all in a general sense, but it's well worth thinking whether such approaches give us a full answer to all things. Personally, I doubt it.

Catholics believe that our belief in the existence of God gives a more comprehensive and coherent explanation of many aspects of the world than scientific evidence alone does. But this doesn't mean that science and scientific evidence has no place in our faith. Science aids understandings of our faith.

As the great mathematician and physicist John von Neumann once put it, "many things are easier to explain if there is a God than if there isn't."

What do you think?

Deacon Paul

St. Bede's Gardens

The gardens around St. Bede's Church are kept beautifully by VOLUNTEERS, who give their time, their expertise and their own money in ensuring the gardens look cared for around our church. We are all in their debt. The garden and the memorial is the property of the church and if you do not like something in the garden or around the memorial it is NOT up to you to act independently. We are all entitled to our opinion, but our opinion may not be shared or correct.

As the Parish Priest, you are welcome to make your views known to me, but ultimately, it is my decision, acting for the good of all, not just a few. You are not to take matters into your own hands.

Fr. Mark Moran, Parish Priest

Gift of Life for Zambia Trip to Chester on Wednesday, 4th December

Our last outing of this year is to Chester where you can enjoy the Christmas Market and the new shopping arcade. Visit the Cathedral for their annual Christmas Tree Festival. Enjoy shopping in the decorated centre where there is an abundance of cafes to suit all tastes. We leave St. Basil's Church at 9.30am and return at approximately 5pm. The cost is £15.

To book your place simply put your money in an envelope marked with your name, address and telephone number and pass it to Monica (424 8194) or Angela (424 8668). You can call them for further information or availability. Thank you for your wonderful support this year.

November – Month of the Holy Souls

November is when we as a Church remember and pray in a special way the dead, those we have known and loved and those, who in charity, who have no one to pray for them. At every Mass the faithful departed are remembered but during this special month certain opportunities are offered to draw together as a community to pray, remember and support one another in faith.

Sunday 10th and Sunday 17th November – Mass for all who have died from our parish in the past 12 months, St. Basil's, 4pm. At these two Masses the names of all who have died in our parish community in the past 12 months will be read aloud, to call them to mind, to pray and to thank God. for them.

"In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die...they are in peace." Book of Wisdom

St. Michael's Church

Just to keep you up to date... Fr. Mark has presented the case for a new heating system to the Pastoral Organisation Committee, and they will make a recommendation to the Archdiocesan Trustees when they meet in the new year. Whilst we await their decision the Buildings Committee have investigated different affordable options for heating the church in the winter months. We have ordered 6 heaters which will be delivered in the next couple of weeks.

We shall see if these are sufficient for our needs. We might need to huddle up and sit closer together at Mass so that we can heat a specific area rather than the whole area of church, as this seems to be unmanageable with the restraints of cost and safety. Thank you for your understanding.

Fr. Mark and Buildings and Finance Committee

Mass Association Cards

We are offering Mass Association Cards to the parish community. These large, padded cards can be given for a bereavement, anniversary, birthday or to mark a special occasion. Once enrolled, the person will share in a Mass, once a month for twelve months. The newsletter will state 'Mass Association' should you wish to attend the Mass. Individual names will not be advertised.

They are available at the back each church there are baskets with the Mass Association Cards in and at the front of the basket are small envelopes with 'Mass Association' on. The cards cost £10 each. Place your offering inside the envelope and on the back of the envelope write the name of the person you wish to be enrolled into the Association. Hand the envelope to the sacristan who will return it to the Parish Office for entry into the Mass Association Book for inclusion in the monthly Mass.

Month of the Holy Souls - Pious Envelopes

Please return all your envelopes with the name of those you wish to be included in our parish November Pious List asap. These names will be placed before the altar and be remembered in a special way at each Mass during this month dedicated to remembrance of those who, we pray, have already entered the Kingdom of God.

"May the choirs of angels, come to greet you, may they speed you to Paradise"

Readers and the Revised Lectionary

To help understand these changes we strongly encourage *all readers* in our parish to come to a formation session on **Monday 11th November** in **St John Fisher's Hall**. Led by Deacon Paul, the evening will start at **7.00pm** with light refreshments and then the formation session from **7.30pm** until **9.00pm**. It is hoped that all our readers would attend but this is open to everyone in the parish. The revised Lectionary is an important development in our liturgical celebrations, one that is of particular significance for our Readers.

Please make every effort to attend. For catering and handout purposes, **please pass your name into the parish office asap.**

Pension Credit Toolkit

Please see link below regarding the Pension credit toolkit, within it is support around pension credit, pension credit calculators, and who will qualify. Up to 850,000 pensioner households may be entitled to Pension Credit, but do not claim it. It is worth looking to see if you qualify.

[Pension Credit toolkit: advice and guidance for stakeholders - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-toolkit)

The Gospel of St Luke

Thank you to all who attended Fr Andrew Robinson's talk on the Introduction to the Gospel of St Luke. Over 100 attended and we received great feedback. Our next talk is on 13th November at 19.00 in St John Fisher Hall, is "Luke, the Gospel of the Outsider", given by Sister Ann Buckeridge, followed by benediction at 20.00. Everyone is welcome, please join us if you can.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of the community. If you have any concern, it is your responsibility to make it known to the appointed officers in the parish.

Safeguarding Lead – Fr. Mark Moran

Safeguarding Representatives – Pauline Ruth, Carol Murray and Pauline Rolt.

Parish Liturgy

Please check where Holy Mass is each day as everything is subject to change!

Sunday	10th November	Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Brian Holding
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Winnie Conway
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Brian Morris & Florence Reid
16.00	Holy Mass	St Basil	Bob Milliard

(Please note this is a Mass for the Faithful Departed and the change of venue)

Monday	11th November	Memorial of St Martin of Tours	
12noon	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Michael Stevenson

Tuesday	12th November	Memorial of St Josaphat	
12noon	Requiem Mass	St John Fisher	Mary Teresa Alderton

Wednesday	13th November	Ferial	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Michael Hindley

Thursday	14th November	Ferial	
10.00	Funeral Service	St Michael	William Bloomfield
10.20	Holy Mass	Widnes Hall Care Home	Residents of nursing homes
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Peter Geraghty

Friday	15th November	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition and Rosary		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Marie Bold
12noon	Funeral Service	St John Fisher	Michael Hegarty

Saturday	16th November		
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Pat Carney & Family
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Parishioners

Sunday	17th November	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	William & Margret Smith
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Agnes Kennedy
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Annie & Patrick Moran
16.00	Holy Mass	St Basil	Nancy Prendergast

(Please note this is a Mass for the Faithful Departed and the change of venue)

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	John & Nancy Prendergast
St Basil	Donna Bewley-Smith
St John Fisher	Patrick Hyland
St Michael	Special Intention

Requiescant in pace

Donna Bewley-Smith, Daniel John Constantine,
Winifred McGraff, David Hindle, Mary Norris,
Andrew McDonald & Patricia Kinsley.

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!