



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

Second Collection for Priests Training Fund



11th May 2025

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Psalm Response

'We are his people, the sheep of his flock'.

The Fruit of...

Last Sunday evening, the 18-35 group welcomed Sr. Marina Margaret and Sr. Bethany, Missionaries of Charity, to their gathering to hear of their life and also to hear from one of the sisters what it was actually like living with Mother Teresa, now St. Teresa of Calcutta! What a powerful evening it was for these young people as they grow in faith!

When I came into the office the next morning, I saw a small card on the desk that the sisters must have left and I wanted to share it with you all as I think it sums up what we are all being called into as followers of Jesus – that is 'SERVICE'.

'The fruit of SILENCE is prayer,

The fruit of PRAYER is faith,

The fruit of FAITH is love,

The fruit of LOVE is service,

The fruit of SERVICE is PEACE'.

Mother Teresa, MC

It is only in serving one another that we will find peace. Service calls us to seek the needs of others before ourselves and wards off selfishness and envy and bitterness. Let us all be ready to serve one another, even when it costs us, even when the extra mile seems too far, even when it is difficult to see the face of Jesus in our neighbour – let us serve with joy and be rewarded with the peace that only God can give.

Fr. Mark

Fr. Bill Murphy – 50 years of Priesthood

Fr. Bill would like to invite you all to a Mass of Thanksgiving as he celebrates 50 years of Priesthood. There will be Holy Mass celebrated on **Friday 30th May at 7pm** at **St. Basil's Church** and then refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to come and celebrate with Fr. Bill!

Installation of Archbishop John Sherrington **10th Archbishop of Liverpool**

On **Tuesday 27th May** at 12noon + John Sherrington will be installed as the 10th Archbishop of Liverpool at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. I have managed to secure **50** tickets for this wonderful event and have also been assured that we will have specific seating in the Cathedral.

We shall leave outside of St. Bede's Church at **10.30am** and return after the Mass (I would imagine we would be back home by 2.30pm). If you would like to secure your place for this wonderful Mass and to welcome Archbishop Sherrington, then please pass your name and £10pp for the cost of the coach into the office asap. Please **do not** leave it till last minute to book your place as any tickets that we have spare must be returned to the Cathedral asap as seating is anticipated to be at a premium.

Deanery Jubilee Event

To mark this year's Jubilee of Hope, the Archbishop will lead a May Procession for all the parishes in the deanery on **Sunday 18 May at 3.30pm** beginning in St Mary's Shrine on Buttermarket Street, Warrington. The procession won't be long and will conclude with Benediction and refreshments. The event is suitable for all ages and will be a great way of gathering us all together.

Trinity Safe Spaces Appeal

Trinity Safe Space Charity which supports asylum seekers, refugees and vulnerable migrants in Widnes and Runcorn, is currently very short of unrestricted funding but is constantly being asked for the following by many of our newcomers.

Men's bicycles in a roadworthy condition, working 2nd hand laptops /tablets, working 2nd hand smart phones (please take off all personal information from the phones and laptops/tablets), men's t-shirts, hoodies, jog pants and summer coats - sizes small to XL, men's new boxer shorts sizes small to XL, men's trainers in good condition sizes 7 upwards, men's socks and men's toiletries.

Donations can be brought to St Michael's Catholic Presbytery on **Mondays 10.15am – 1pm** or **Wednesdays 1.30pm - 3.30pm** or dropped off at our churches from where they will be picked up.
Thank you. **Pauline Ruth, Chair of Trustees**

Parish Choir

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or haven't been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally, it doesn't matter, you would be most welcome. Sadly though, at this time, all members of the choir must be over 18 due to safeguarding guidance. Our next practices are on Monday 12th May, Tuesday 3rd June, Monday 30th June and Tuesday 22nd July, all at 7pm in St. John Fisher Church.

Welcome to the Spiritan Fathers

On the weekend of the 17th/18th May we welcome Fr. Peter Otuonkpaikhian and Fr. Benedict Ogbuevule to our parish as they make their appeal on behalf of their religious congregation. Founded in 1703, **The Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers)** are a Roman Catholic Religious Congregation dedicated to sharing hope and love worldwide. For over 300 years, our mission has been clear: to evangelize the poor and the needy, pursue justice, foster peace, care for creation, inspired by **Luke 4:18** and advance God's kingdom here on earth.

Today, more than 3,000 Spiritans from all continents bring this mission to life in over 60 countries, serving where the need is greatest—hospitals, parishes, prisons, schools, and refugee communities. We also support integral development for young people and work for justice globally. As Pope Francis reminded us in May 2023, we serve "in simplicity of life, respecting peoples and cultures," embracing the most abandoned with fraternity and prayer.

Your support and prayers keep our mission alive. Together, we carry the Spiritan light to the world's darkest corners.

Medjugorje Pilgrims

Could all pilgrims meet outside St. Bede Church at **9.30am** to board our coach to Manchester airport. Please do not arrive before 9.05am as the congestion with school traffic will make things unmanageable. We have plenty of time!

Petitions and Candles in Medjugorje

The parish is going on pilgrimage to Medjugorje on Wednesday 14th May. If you would like Fr. Mark to take a petition or light a candle for you in this Marian Shrine, please pass them into the Parish Office asap. Please keep the donation for a candle separate from intentions.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace – Pray for us!

Mary Poppins – Liverpool Empire Theatre

I am thinking of booking tickets for us to go to see Mary Poppins in the Liverpool Empire Theatre on **Friday 30th January 2026**. But the tickets are pricey and with the cost of the coach to and from Widnes we would be looking at a cost of £95pp. Which is a lot! Before I book the tickets could you register your interest by popping your name and telephone number into the Parish Office for the attention of **SUSAN Warburton** and if we have enough interest, I will book for us all! It will be supercalifragilisticexpialodocious!

Fr Mark

Lourdes Thank You's

"To the amazingly generous parishioners of St Wilfrid's parish community, thank you for supporting me by contributing towards my pilgrimage to Lourdes this year. Be assured that you will be in my prayers each day."

Hannah Moriarty

"Thank you to everyone in the parish that gave money and supported me to go to Lourdes this year. I promise to think of you all and you will be in my prayers and intentions when I go."

Caolan Rooney

Parish Liturgy

| | | | |
|------------------|--|--|------------------------------|
| Sunday | 11th May | Fourth Sunday of Easter | |
| 09.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Ruth Bibby |
| 10.15 | Holy Mass | St Michael | Brian (Successful Operation) |
| 11.30 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Celia Morris |
| 15.00 | Lourdes Hospitality Mass | St John Fisher | Lourdes Pilgrims |
| 16.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Ann Fallon |
| Monday | 12th May | Week 4 of Easter | |
| 09.00 | Exposition and Morning Prayer | | |
| 09.30 | Holy Mass | St Basil | Marie Sheridan |
| Tuesday | 13th May | Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral | |
| 11.30 | Exposition and Rosary | | |
| 12noon | Holy Mass | St John Fisher | Ray Johnson |
| Wednesday | 14th May | Feast of St Matthias | |
| NO MASS | | | |
| Thursday | 15th May | Week 4 of Easter | |
| 12noon | Service of the Word with Holy Communion | St Michael | |
| Friday | 16th May | Week 4 of Easter | |
| 09.30 | Service of the Word with Holy Communion | St John Fisher | |
| Saturday | 17th May | Fifth Sunday of Easter | |
| 16.30 | Holy Mass | St Basil | Parishioners |
| 18.00 | Holy Mass | St John Fisher | James & Marie O’Brien |
| Sunday | 18th May | Fifth Sunday of Easter | |
| 09.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Cecilia McMullan |
| 10.15 | Holy Mass | St Michael | William & Kate Forrest |
| 11.30 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Michael McKeown |
| 16.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Martin Wynne |

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| St Bede: | Anniversary Remembrance |
| St Basil: | Ethel Parr |
| St John Fisher: | Prayers for Guidance |
| St Michael: | Steve Cawley |

Rest in Peace

Robert John Sherman (Bob)
Mary (Marie) Morris & Bridget Donaghy

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!