



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

13th October 2024

**Second Collection Next Week
APF World Missions**

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Psalm Response

'Fill us with your love so that we may rejoice'

"No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear. I am not afraid, but the sensation is like being afraid".— C.S. Lewis, A Grief Observed

This week I attended the funeral of a man who I have known all my life, he died suddenly after a fall and the feeling of loss for his wife, children and all who loved him is immense. Death and dying is part of all our story, we experience the loss and heartbreak of people who we love dying, our losing is painful, and death changes us. We are never the same when we lose someone in our life, indeed the whole world is different.

Yet as C.S. Lewis wrote, grief can also feel like fear. It can disable us from seeing beauty and happiness around us, we can feel guilt and regret and all these emotions can be summed up in the word, fear.

As we approach the month of the Holy Souls, we have a solution to our fear and that is prayer. Prayer for those who have died and prayer for ourselves, that when our time is nigh, we shall be ready to face death and dying at peace with God and with our neighbors.

Our faith does not take away the pain of grief, yet it does give us a place to start to look for answers. In Jesus, we see one who experienced death and the pain of dying, indeed a most horrendous death, despised and rejected, yet in Him we see the light beginning to break through the darkness that fear brings – and hope flickers.

Pray for those who have died, for those approaching death today and pray for yourself, that fear gives way to the bright promise of life eternal with Jesus in heaven.

"The same fluttering in the stomach, the same restlessness, the yawning. I keep on swallowing".

Fr. Mark

Walsingham Pilgrimage

28th November till 30th November

As we prepare for our pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham we need to know your choices for the Christmas Meal.

Choices are.

- Starter**
- a. Leek and Potato soup (V and GF)
 - b. Chicken Liver Parfait (GF)
- Main**
- a. Roast Turkey and all the trimmings
 - b. Squash, Brie, Beetroot and Truffle infused Tart, new potatoes and veg (V and GF)
- Desserts**
- a. Sticky Toffee Christmas Pudding (V)
 - b. Fruit Salad (V and GF)

Please leave a note with your name and choices in the Parish Office for the attention of Susan Warburton ASAP. Details of departure will follow.

Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage 2025 - July 23rd - August 1st, 2025

Applications to join next year's "yellow t-shirts" are available online from Monday 7th October (liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk). **Young people from Warrington and Widnes parishes and schools, aged between 15 and 22 at the time of travel, are invited to travel with Coach 6.** Deposit is £100, paid at the time of application. Email Dan Antonio, Coach Leader, for more information - lourdescoach6@gmail.com, and follow the coach on Facebook, X (formally Twitter) - @lourdescoach6, and Instagram - coach6lourdes.

St. Gerard's Catholic Primary School

St. Gerard's Catholic Primary School on Lugsdale Road, Widnes has now opened its doors to two-year-olds! As of September 2024, working parents of children aged nine months to three years in England are now eligible for up to 15 hours of free childcare per week. This is an expansion of the childcare support scheme that began in April 2024, when eligible working parents of two-year-olds were able to access the same amount of free childcare.

If you would like to register your interest for a child's place or find out any further information, please telephone the school office on 0151 424 2879.

Gospel of Luke

In November, Saint Wilfrid's will be hosting a series of four sessions exploring the Gospel of Luke, the Gospel we will be hearing from on Sundays next year. These accessible sessions will take place each Wednesday evening in November (see attached poster for further details). As we prepare for the new translation of the scripture readings at Mass from Advent onwards, we are all presented with an opportune chance to discover the scriptures afresh.

Whenever we delve into the bible, we always encounter Christ anew, take my word for it. It was Saint Jerome (342-347) who famously said, "*Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ*". May we all follow Saint Jerome's example and embrace Christ by exploring the Gospel of Luke together. Come along and bring a friend!

Fr Peter

Readers and the Revised Lectionary

The Lectionary, which is the book that contains the Scripture readings for Mass and the Sacraments, is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. The revised Lectionary will be used in all parishes across England and Wales from the first Sunday in Advent. The new Lectionary will use the English Standard Version - Catholic Edition of the Bible and the Abbey Psalter. These changes are intended to make the texts a more proclaimable and, where appropriate, more inclusive.

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.

Varnishing Volunteer!

Could anyone who has experience in 'sanding down and varnishing' (Fr. Peter and I are sadly not!) help? The altar, ambo and tabernacle at St. Basil's Church could do with a freshen up and we were wondering if anyone could volunteer to do this.

It would save us a lot of money and your reward will be great in heaven! If you can, please contact the parish office and leave your name and number and we will arrange access to church. Thank you.

Knitters!

We have lots of baptisms here in the parish of St. Wilfrid and we thank God that parents still seek baptism for their child, it is a wonderful gift! Sometimes, for one reason or another, the parents forget the white shawl which is a beautiful symbol of their new life in Christ, they are being clothed in Christ.

Could any knitters in our parish knit a white shawl that could be used by the families so that the beauty of the baptism liturgy is seen. We need four in total, one for each church. If you could knit one white shawl, please pass your name into the office and we shall hear those knitting needles click across the parish! Thank you.

Feast Day Dance

Our social evening to celebrate the feast of St. Wilfrid is this coming Friday at 7.30pm at St. Basil's Parish Centre! If you were lucky enough (!) to get a ticket, get your smiles ready for an evening with your parish family. Everything that we raise on the evening will go towards the upkeep of ALL our churches!

Scriptural Encouragement

"Don't be pulled in different directions or worried about a thing. Be saturated in prayer throughout each day, offering your faith-filled requests before God with overflowing gratitude. Tell him every detail of your life."

— Philippians 4:6

Parish Liturgy

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

Sunday	13th October	Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Martin & Mary Forkin
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Carol Ann Randall
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Mary Atherton
Monday	14th October		
09.00	Exposition & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Arthur Burgess
Tuesday	15th October	Memorial of St Teresa of Avila	
11.30	Exposition & Rosary		
12 Noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Margaret McDermott
Wednesday	16th October		
11.00	Holy Mass	Mill Brow Care Home	Residents of Mill Brow
12 Noon	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Trevor Worsley
Thursday	17th October	Memorial of St Ignatius of Antioch	
11.30	Exposition & Rosary		
12 Noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Mary Donoghue
Friday	18th October	Feast of St Luke	
09.00	Exposition & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Thanksgiving (AW)
Saturday	19th October		
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	John Joseph O'Brien
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Winnie Doyle
Sunday	20th October	Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Stephen O'Connor & Norah Phillips
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Jim Riley
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Irene Pickering

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Special Intention
St Basil	Teresa Molloy
St John Fisher	Sr. Eileen Moore
St Michael	RBC

Requiescant in pace

Marek Skutnik, Frank Richards,
Kevin Keenan, Patricia Campbell, John Davies,
Brian Quinn, Margaret Mason, Mary Taylor
& Francis (Frank) Richards
May the Angels lead them into Paradise!