

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

5th July 2020

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Divine Office Week 2

**“Listen!
I am
standing at
the door
knocking.”**

Rev 3:20



Fr Carl Mugan	0151 513 0024
Canon Michael Fitzsimons	0151 424 2738
Fr Joe Bibby	0151 424 6641
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021
Mrs Jessie Mottram-Noé <i>Parish Pastoral Associate</i>	
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854

***St Bede's Church will be
open for private prayer on
Tuesday, Thursday &
Saturday
From 11am to 2pm***

Follow us on Facebook:
Parish of St Wilfrid Widnes



<https://www.facebook.com/stwilfridswidnes/>

St Wilfrid's Parish Office
St Bede's Presbytery
Appleton Village
Widnes, WA8 6EL
0151 422 1772

**The parish office will re-
open on Monday 13th July.**

Please email:
stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk

Office Manager
Heather Harrison

Parish Administrators
Susan Warburton
Shelagh Hindley

Reflection

As I write this week's reflection, we are making real progress in making plans for a further re-opening of our churches, so in the coming weeks we should be able to start celebrating Masses in public again. As the Archbishop stresses in his letter to us, this is not a return to normal rather a new stage of our life living with the threat of corona virus; it has not just gone away and disappeared. It will be wonderful though to have the Mass back available to us.

Continued ...

Preparations and changes continue elsewhere too. Our parish schools have been open all this time for the children of keyworkers and now more children are returning and plans being made for September too. Thank you to all our teachers and school staff; we appreciate what a challenging time this has been but you have raised to the challenge as ever.

Nugent also has been providing all its services to the most vulnerable members of the community. They are now also gradually re-opening other services and its charity shop - we were able to send a large donation of goods to the shop that had been left here in our church collection points before lockdown and it was gratefully received. Nugent is also stepping up to respond to the ongoing crisis that coronavirus is causing. So many individuals and families are suffering terrible financial struggles and Nugent has, and continues to, provide food hampers to those in need. This week it has also relaunched its Gubay Crisis Fund which allows parishes, schools and other organisations to apply for urgent funds to directly help individuals and families in need. Already this has been able to supply grants to buy white goods such as fridges and cookers, children's clothes and shoes, and helping clear rent arrears where there is a risk of eviction and so prevent homelessness. Please remember Nugent in your prayers and thank you for your ongoing support.

So, we remain under the crisis of corona virus but the ease in restrictions are most welcome. Let's be cautious and thankful for this progress and continue to remember those most at risk and still suffering from its effects.

Fr Michael

STEPPING STONE MOMENTS



Many people have found it helpful to connect with friends and family using a video link.

Sr Catherine is offering an opportunity for parishioners to pause & meet for prayer/ reflection/ conversation at this time. Please see the attached poster with more details.

To participate:

- ✚ Download the ZOOM APP on your device and log in (this is free)
- ✚ Email Catherine with your choice of ONE meeting date.
- ✚ She will confirm your participation and send the link.

If these sessions prove popular then more opportunities will be offered.

STEPPING STONES MOMENTS

JULY 2020



TUESDAY 14 JULY 10am – 11.30am

OR

THURSDAY 16 JULY 1.30pm – 3pm

OR

THURSDAY 16 JULY 7pm – 8.30pm

(ALL SESSIONS to be ZOOM CONNECTED)

Maximum of 7 participants in any group

an opportunity...

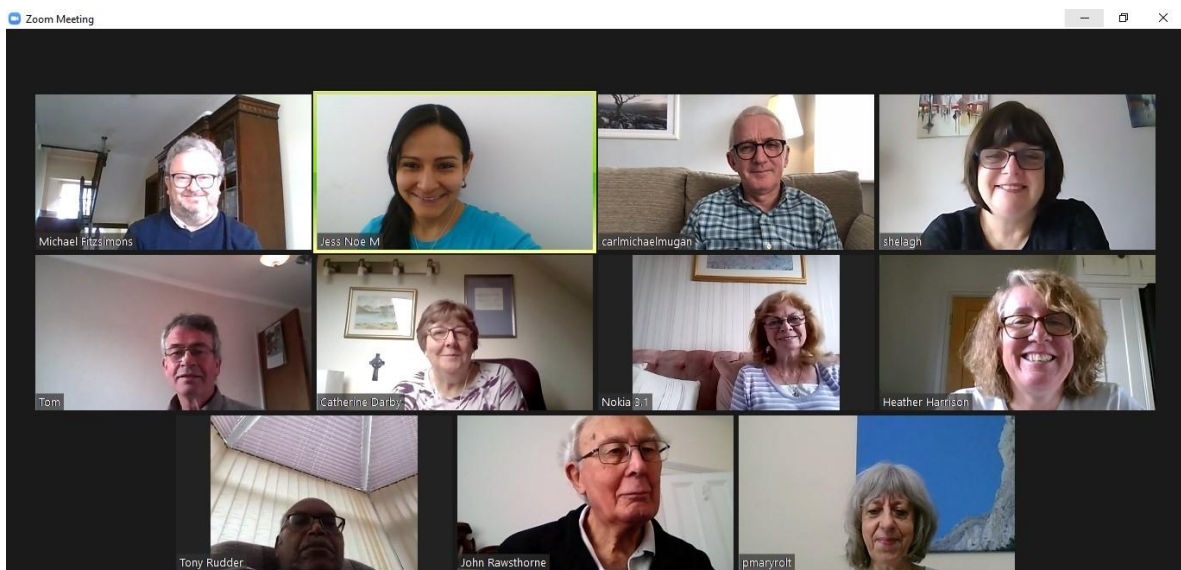
- ✚ to pause and reflect both as individuals and as group.
- ✚ to share what seems to be most important at this time – listening and speaking from the heart.
- ✚ to find God in the midst of everyday life
- ✚ to listen to the ways of God in the lives of others - which can be a most enriching and humbling experience.
- ✚ to be a source of support and encouragement to the others in the group.

PLEASE CONTACT: CATHERINE DARBY SND to find out more
or book a place of your choice.
catherine.m.darby@gmail.com

Parish Team

The Parish Team met this week via Zoom online. We discussed the following subjects:

- Options for offering an online time of reflection for small groups in the parish
- LiveSimply update
- Synod update
- Feedback from Parish Admin Team Zoom meeting and plans to reopen parish office/decoration plans
- Shared review of clergy responsibilities as Fr Michael leaves
- Welcome for our new Assistant Priest: Fr Mark Moran
- Review of arrangements for private prayer at St Bedes church
- Plans for cautious re-opening for the celebration of Mass, funerals and baptisms



Father Bernard Eager

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Father Bernard Eager, who died on Monday 29th June at St John's House (De La Salle Brothers), St Helens, aged 85 years. He was in the 61st year of his priesthood.

Please see obituary further on in newsletter.

Cautious re-opening of churches

We are sure that you will have heard on the news about churches re-opening for public worship. What good news that is and how glad we will all be.

The Archbishop has given us some guidelines and said we can open from 6th July.

We will ***not*** be open for any services on Sunday 5th July.

In order to comply with all the requirements and to keep everyone safe we have to ensure that Health & Safety guidelines are implemented and authorised before we can open. We can assure you that we are working hard to make this happen; we have a parish working party who are meeting and actively getting the churches ready.

We DO need your help though. Without the required number of volunteers to assist at the Masses we will have a greatly reduced number of services. Please help if you can, if you can only commit to one day/church or a specific time we would really appreciate you volunteering.

We will keep you up to date via e-mail, newsletter, website and on our Facebook page.

Please be patient as rest assured that we are doing everything to get our churches opened as quickly as possible.

Please follow this link to see a video from Archbishop Malcolm which explains the new procedures that we will have to follow when Mass resumes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nArwoMZvII&feature=youtu.be>

The Parish Team



We pray for. those who have recently died

Eilzèn Myler

James Meaden

NEW MASS INTENTIONS

Our churches have been closed for many weeks now and although it is a long time your Mass intentions have still been said by our Priests.

If you would like to arrange for a Mass to be said, please don't hesitate to ask. Please email into the office, stwilfridwidnes@rcaolp.co.uk and tell us the details. We will endeavour to meet your date requirements but can assure you that the Mass will be allocated and said as soon as a date is available. All Masses will be said by the Priests of our parish and listed each week on the newsletter.

If you are wondering about how to make your donation, you can use the new payment method detailed further down the newsletter. Using option 1 you can make a 'one-off' donation. Please put "MASS – Name" and this will help us tie it up with our records.

MASS INTENTIONS

Masses intentions have been allocated up to July. Any new Masses will be allocated as there is space in the individual weeks.

Daily Mass will be said by the Priests in private and they will fulfil the Mass intentions as follows during this week. Fr Joe will continue to say Mass whilst on retreat.

Philomena Conway 90th Birthday

Eilzèn Myler (lately dead)

Parishioners

John and Kathleen Ward

William Adrian Glynn B/day rem.

Edward (Nick) Carter Ann.

Patricia Brownlow B/day rem.

Mary Joseph Hyland

Residents of all our care homes

George Dickinson and all family anniversaries around this time

Margaret Smyth LD

Marié Royle

Margaret Whitmarsh LD

Sheila Faulkner LD

Margaret Beal LD

Special Intention

Thomas McCann

Livesimply 'CAFOD Coronavirus Emergency Appeal'

News Update!

£760 current online total plus £240 in envelope donations

Current Grand Total **£1,000**

Christopher's Story



Every year Christopher Roberts usually completes a sponsored walk to help the parish Lourdes fund. This is not happening this year due to the lockdown. Christopher is a key volunteer at our Livesimply supper nights and wanted to do the walk this year to help raise funds for CAFOD's Coronavirus Emergency Appeal as part of St Wilfrid's Livesimply actions.

Christopher said, 'Im doing a 10 mile + sponsored walk around Widnes passing each of the four churches of our parish to help us raise money for Cafod's Coronavirus Emergency Appeal.'

Our photo shows Christopher serving at the CAFOD Mass celebrated after the Climate Change Mass Lobby of Parliament last year.

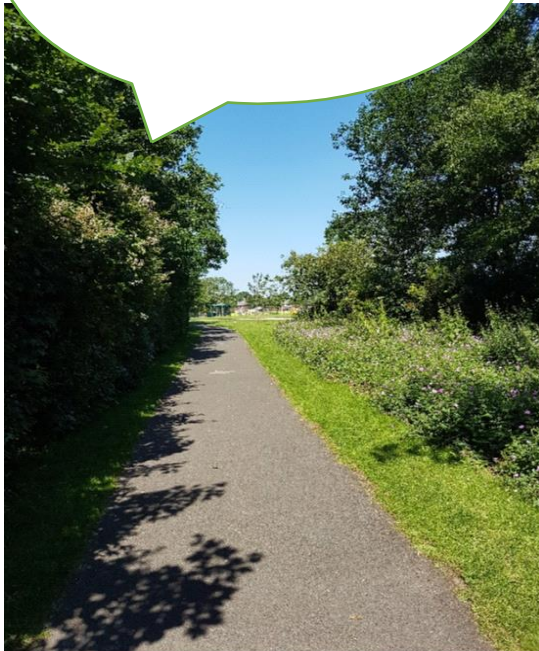
The walk will take place on: Saturday July 11th starting at 10.00am from St Bede's church...to St Michael's.... from St Michael's to St Basil's... from St Basil's to St John Fisher...and back to St Bede's. Just over 10 miles in total.

If you would like to make a donation to sponsor Christopher please visit our JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/christopherrobertslivesimplywalk> and the money you donate will go directly to CAFOD.

Or simply put your donation into an envelope marked 'Christopher and friends Livesimply Walk' and put it through the letterbox at the Parish Office.

Some parishioners have donated money not spent during lockdown....

Saved petrol money
by going for walks....
£30.00 donated



Saved money by not
going to groomers
(Freddie is delighted!)
£50.00 donated



Saved money
from missed hair
colour!
£50.00 donated



Saved money not
going out for weekly
coffee... £10.00
donated



These are just a few ideas already shared but remember all donations, of any amount, will be gratefully received... as will our continued prayers for our global family.

LIGHTING A CANDLE

Father Mike will light a candle for you or a family member in Our Lady's chapel at St Bede's.

Please e-mail in the first instance or leave a message on the office phone and this will be done for you.

Please keep in touch with as many Parishioners as possible.

They may not have access to the newsletter or the website.

Please make a phone call if you can and tell them the news from our parish.

They will be comforted to know that they are remembered in our prayers.

Thank you

YOU TUBE MASSES

YouTube videos are being prepared so that you can participate in Mass.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC52-K27EaYwySzRmeP3f3eA>



The time represents when the service will be available on You Tube although you can access them any time after that or even multiple times at your own convenience.

Sunday, 5 th July	14 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Fr Carl
Wednesday, 8 th July	Midweek Mass	9am	Bishop John
Sunday, 12 th July	15 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Bishop John

Please share this information with any parishioners who may not have access to the newsletter.

How to access Mass during lockdown.

St Wilfrid's Widnes:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC52-K27EaYwySzRmeP3f3eA>

Here you will find prayers and Masses delivered by the Priests in our churches.

Across the Archdiocese:

<http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/> by clicking on 'Prayer and Other Resources'.

New resources now available include:

- Reflection for the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (also available as an audio download).
- Readings for the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Reflections to sustain and encourage in uncertain times – hope.

All can be accessed/downloaded at <https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/> or through <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/> by clicking on 'Prayer and Other Resources'.

Update on Church Collections

Daily life has changed dramatically in these last weeks and many people are experiencing difficulties in adapting to a new situation. We continue to follow the necessary government restrictions to protect those around us, and our churches remain closed. There is no public worship at this time, but maintenance costs remain unchanged. Many people have shown their generosity by asking how they can continue to make their offerings to support our parish.

Firstly, it is important to say there will be many people who have lost work and income through the economic impact of this crisis. If you are struggling please do not have concerns about church donations. Let us all pray for those who are struggling and we can remember those in need directly and via supporting the food bank and other charities. Others have had little impact on their income and will want to maintain their giving to the church as usual.

In response to this the Archdiocese have set up two new ways to make your donations. We are now able to offer an online giving facility so that those who wish to, and are able to do so, can continue to make donations directly to St Wilfrid's.

How can I donate?

1. Follow the link <https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-wilfrid-widnes> this will take you to a specific site for St Wilfrid's parish and you will see a picture of St Bede's Church. Donations may be made by standing order, as a one-off donation, or as a regular weekly donation. Please don't forget to tick the gift aid box if you are a UK tax payer as this will boost your donation by 25% at no extra cost to yourself.
2. Text giving is now available for St Wilfrid's and the details below are ready to use for accepting both one-off and regular donations.

The details of each campaign are given below. Please use the wording below when promoting text giving to ensure compliance with fundraising regulations.

- Text WIDNESPASTORAL to 70085 to donate £2. Texts cost £2 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £2 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text WIDNESPASTORALNOINFO to 70085.
- Text WIDNESPASTORAL to 70450 to donate £3. Texts cost £3 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £3 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text WIDNESPASTORALNOINFO to 70450.
- Text WIDNESPASTORAL to 70460 to donate £5. Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £5 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text WIDNESPASTORALNOINFO to 70460.
- Text WIDNESPASTORAL to 70470 to donate £10. Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text WIDNESPASTORALNOINFO to 70470.

Finally, you can set up a standing order with your bank anytime and this is possible with many banks now if you have access to Internet or telephone banking. We would not encourage you to go in person to your bank to do this. You need the following information:

Account Name: ***St Wilfrid Church (246) Parish Account***

Account no: 51546112

Sort Code: 40-29-12

If you set up a standing order can you please email the parish office to let us know as it useful for our finance and administration planning. Please use you name as the reference.

We are going to have to think about new ways to make our church donations when we return as we are discouraged from using paper money. These new incentives will help us all to make the necessary adjustments.

Thank you for any donations that you are able to make.

Bernard Joseph Eager was born on 14th October 1934 in Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, the son of Roland and Ellen Eager. He received his early education at St Michael's, Dun Laoghaire, and St Bede's, Widnes, before entering the seminary at St Joseph's, Upholland. He was ordained to the priesthood in the college chapel by Archbishop John Carmel Heenan on 11th June 1960.

Following ordination, he was appointed as assistant to Fr Winder at St Alphonsus, Liverpool. He served here until the early part of 1965, when he was forced through ill-health to relinquish his parish duties. In November of that year he returned to parish ministry as assistant to Canon Robert Meagher, and subsequently Canon Francis Ripley, at St Oswald's, Ashton-in-Makerfield. His fairly lengthy curacy at Ashton was brought to an abrupt end by another bout of ill health in the early part of 1978. Following his recovery, he became chaplain to the Sisters of Notre Dame at Lancaster House, Parbold, in June 1978 and served the community faithfully until March 1985.

He was then asked to succeed Fr John Connolly as parish priest of St Catherine's, Lowton. This was to be his one-and -only appointment as parish priest. His long tenure in the parish was marked by his devotion to his parishioners. He took on the additional responsibility of St Lewis's, Croft, in January 2006. He retired from active ministry to Rainford in September 2009, but continued to celebrate Mass for the sisters at Parbold on many occasions.

In Paradisum deducant eum angeli.

Aidan Prescott

Chancellor



Synod 2020

Submit your proposal. In the light of the changes COVID-19 has brought to our lives, we invite you to reflect on what our Synod can learn from our experiences.

How is God speaking to us through our present experience? There have been some really challenging proposals that have been sent to the Synod Office in this “lockdown” period. If you feel that there is something that God is inviting you to contribute please go to the Synod Website where you will be able to enter your proposals online (until 1st Sept).

<https://synod2020.co.uk/themes/proposals/reflections>

FOODBANK

Widnes Foodbank gratefully receives donations of any food items but would particularly welcome donations of the following food items:

Tinned Tomatoes
Sponge Puddings
Small Jars of Coffee
Rice Pudding
Tinned Meat
Tinned Fish
Instant Mash'd Potatoes Washing up Liquid

There are food donation collection points for Widnes Foodbank at **Asda, Morrison's and Tesco**. In addition, food donations can be taken to the **Foodbank Warehouse** at the Cemetery Lodge (just inside the main gates of Widnes Cemetery in Birchfield Road) on **Mon/Wed/Fri from 9am to 11.00am**.

Thank you to anyone who can make a donation.



Thank you to anyone who can make a donation.