

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

19th July 2020

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Divine Office Week 4

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

Rev 3:20



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

PARISH WEBSITE:

catholicchurches-widnes.org.uk

Please keep looking at our website for up to date news.

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 is now
open for telephone
enquiries.**

Please email:

stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk

Office Manager
Heather Harrison

Parish Administrators
Susan Warburton
Shelagh Hindley

Reflection.

Points of View and Perspectives

Oh, the relief! After all these weeks of lockdown I have managed to get my haircut. I wasn't quite through the door on the first day but very shortly after. I was so pleased to be able to get my haircut. For me this was looked forward to sort of as a treat or prize for surviving lockdown. But I suspect the hairdressers and barbers had a rather different feeling, perhaps one of relief at the ability to be back at work and earning their income to pay their bills and look after themselves and their families. Same setting but very different perspectives depending on your particular and personal viewpoints.

During these past few months, we have seen the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement that very clearly and starkly brought to the fore the real prejudice, discrimination and racism faced by black people here at home and indeed around the world. We still have a long way to go to create a truly just world where all people flourish. I don't think anyone would defend or promote racism or any other discrimination but there have been debates about statutes, memorials and even images of Jesus in church and this has caused discussion and conflict. I have heard people saying well we all know it's just a painting, or just a statue, or we have moved on from the past and others need to too. The issues the Black Lives Matter movement raises for all people are often uncomfortable and challenging and maybe encourage us to broaden or even change our perspective. Being made aware of our privilege can be unsettling but unless we can start to imagine how the world, or even our little part of the world, looks like from others perspectives then we can remain sealed off and protected from inequalities and injustice. To step out from that can be challenging but to confront and change the system will cost us - not just necessarily in our pockets but in relationships, privilege or social standing and somehow that feels even more costly.

The next time we hear a 'joke' told at the expense of black people - all too often when there are no black people present - will we publicly stop it being told or say it's unacceptable, or the next time someone talks about 'them gays', 'those feminists' or any group of 'others' will we take a stand? If we are being honest, we know this happens in our communities, our families and friendship circles and sadly in our church and in our parish. We would want to proclaim all are welcome here, but does it feel that way if you are black, gay, an asylum seeker, an ex-prisoner and the list could continue?

In his time Jesus went out of his way to identify with the 'other', the poor, the women, the foreigners, the lepers, the sex workers and prostitutes. He scandalised the rich and the powerful - and he also confronted and challenged how they saw the world or understood their own privilege and perspective. He called for a radical new way of seeing the world and change or perspective. I personally struggle with this and have to admit I know there are times when I fall short - it is not easy. Today as followers of Jesus we know it might cost us and challenge us but it might be worth giving it a try. It might change how we see the world.

Fr Michael

St Pius X

I am pleased to tell you that our former parish church of St Pius X has been sold. Managing an empty site over these past few years has been a challenge and the condition of the buildings had been suffering. The whole site has now been purchased and handed over. The new owners are planning to run a nursery there. Seeing a much-loved church remain empty and deteriorate is hard but I hope its sale and hopefully a new lease of life will help protect memories and enable us to continue in our parish together.

CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

We are pleased to announce that The Archbishop has given us permission to cautiously re-open some of our churches for public worship.

Please remember that Sunday obligation **has not** been restored. If you are able to please consider attending a midweek mass.

St Bede's will continue to be open for private prayer and the lighting of candles is now be allowed.

St Michael's will be open on the following days for Mass:

SATURDAY	5pm
SUNDAY	9am
SUNDAY	11am
SUNDAY	4:30pm
MONDAY	9:15am
WEDNESDAY	7pm
FRIDAY	9:15am

Please note the church will be open *half an hour* before the Mass starts. This is to allow for controlled and staggered arrival times. Please consider this when making your plans and allow enough time.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE CHURCH CAR PARK

Funeral services will be at **St. Bede's** on Monday and Friday and **St. Michael's** on Tuesday and Thursday.

Please be aware that this does not mean we are returning to Mass as we knew it before the pandemic. Please view the video from Archbishop Malcolm and look at the leaflet attached to the newsletter *before* you come to Mass. The following points, together with the previous guidelines issued for private prayer, should help you to keep safe and ensure the safety of others.

- You **MUST** wear a face-covering as you enter Church and throughout Mass.
- Please use the hand sanitisers provided as you enter and leave Church.
- If you have a device or missal with text for Mass you may bring this with you.
- A steward will direct you to a seat; people from the same household will be able to sit together.
- Holy Communion will be given out at the end of Mass.
 - The priest will say “The Body of Christ” and everyone will answer “Amen”. There will be no words spoken as you come to receive.
 - A steward will invite each row forward in a pre-determined order. Please wait to be invited before leaving your bench.
 - Take your face covering down when the person in front of you is receiving.
 - Receive the host in your hand, step to the side, consume the host and then put your face covering back on.
 - Make your way slowly and reverently out of Church, using the one-way system.

We will work to open the other churches in the parish as soon as possible, given the H&S constraints put in place. We may have to stop offering public worship at very short notice following Archdiocesan and Government advice.

Please see the attached leaflet and watch the video from Archbishop Malcolm outlining what to expect from our new way of celebrating Mass.

</content/pages/documents/1594123661.pdf>

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

We look forward to welcoming you to one of the above Masses when you feel that it is safe for you to do so. Please share this good news with everyone you know who might not have access to the website.

The Parish Team

We pray for. those who have recently died

Joan Carroll

Mary Burke

Carol Collett

Eileen Kenyon

NEW MASS INTENTIONS

Whilst our churches have been closed your Mass requests have continued to be said by the Priests at their private Masses. We will continue to do this until more of our churches open.

If you would like to arrange for a Mass to be said, 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.

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.

Family Intentions Catherine Harrington (late)ly dead)

Jean Hunt B/day rem Catherine O'Brien (late)ly dead)

Frank Broomer B/day rem Joan Carroll (late)ly dead)

Margaret and Eddie Burke B/day Rem. Ann. Mary Burke (late)ly dead)

Dorothy Thompson & Joan Horabin

William (Bill) Callerton Ann.

Special intention

Residents of all our care homes

Parishioners

Sick person

Jose Emilio ezna Cortez

Pat Cluff

Peter Murphy

Anthony Gilmore

Private intention

Livesimply 'CAFOD Coronavirus Emergency Appeal'

Christopher and Friends Sponsored Walk

Last Saturday members of our parish came together to support Christopher, Kesh and Clare who walked around the parish, a 10-mile circuit, stopping off at all four of our churches to raise money for *CAFOD Coronavirus Emergency Appeal*.



A fantastic Grand Total £2,281.25 has been raised!!!

Christopher said, 'I really enjoyed the walk with Clare and Kesh, we kept each other going! I can't believe how many people have donated to support the Appeal it's fantastic. Thanks to everybody for your help and support.'

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, (the site is still open until next week).

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

Office. All donations, of any amount, will be gratefully received... as will our continued prayers for our global family.

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, 19 th July	16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Fr Michael
Sunday, 26 th July	17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Fr Carl

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

How to access Mass

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 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (also available as an audio download).
- Readings for the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- Reflections to sustain and encourage in uncertain times – trust.
- Dementia activity/reminisce ideas for July.
- A guide to praying with people living with dementia.
- Parenting support.

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

LIGHTING A CANDLE

You can now light a candle at St Bede's church on the candle stand in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Candles must be lit from an existing candle. There will be no tapers or matches.

If you are not coming to church Fr Michael will still light a candle for you. If you send in your details by e-mail, he will light a candle in Our Lady's Altar.



Church Collections

Thank you to everyone who has continued to send in their weekly donations and those of you have found a new way to donate through your bank account. Moving forward we would like to encourage as many of you to donate on line but recognise that is not the right thing for everyone. We will have collection baskets at St Michael's for you to make your donations before and after Mass and thank you in advance for your donation.

It continues to be important to recognise that 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.

You can continue to use any of the following ways to make a donation.

How can I donate?

- 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.
- 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.

- You can put your donation through the letterbox at the parish office at any time.

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.

FR BILL UPDATE

Fr Bill continues to make good progress. He has just completed his third session of Chemo without any problems. He is undergoing his fourth session on the 17th July and is praying it all goes well.

He thanks everyone for prayers and best wishes and says it has been a tower of strength for him to know he is in your thoughts.



We have made a donation from the parish to the staff working throughout the coronavirus pandemic at Medaille Trust.

Pauline Rolt visited them this week to drop off chocolates and biscuits and pass on our best wishes.

Magda, Amanda, Faith and all the team were very appreciative and send a big "THANK YOU" to all the parishioners of St Wilfrid's.

#YouAreNotAlone

At home shouldn't mean at risk, but sadly for many people the lockdown has meant that they are trapped in isolation with their abuser under a pressurised situation.

Over the weekend, the Government launched its #YouAreNotAlone domestic abuse campaign to reassure victims of domestic abuse that there is still help for them during the Covid crisis, and that the household isolation instruction as a result of COVID-19 does not apply if you need to leave your home to escape domestic abuse. ([Gov.uk, Covid19 and domestic abuse](#))

- If you are in immediate danger, call 999 and ask for the police - the police will continue to respond to emergency calls.
- If you call 999 from a mobile and cannot speak, press 55 to [Make Yourself Heard](#) (link embedded to scheme) and this will transfer your call to the police. Pressing 55 only works on mobiles and does not allow police to track your location.
- National Domestic Violence Helpline – 0808 2000 247 or www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk

Help is also available from (all hyperlinked):

[Childline](#) – 0800 1111

[Refuge](#) – 0808 2000 247

[Women's Aid](#)

[Men's Advice line](#) - 0808 801 0327 (weekdays 9am-5pm)

Wednesday Word

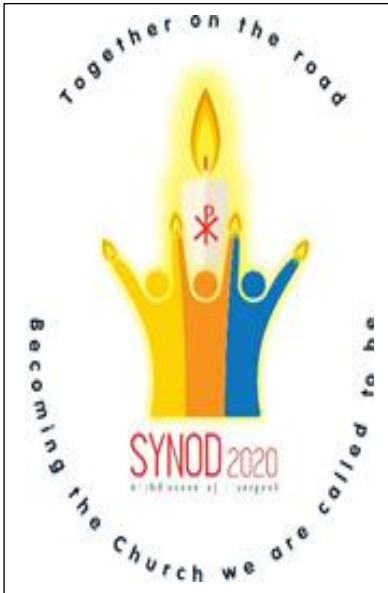
While we have no Masses, this could be a very helpful way of accessing the Sunday readings.

<http://wednesdayword.org/parish/index.htm>

CATHOLIC PICTORIAL

The JULY edition is available digitally at: <https://bit.ly/2Uz4oIx>

www.catholicpic.co.uk updated throughout the week with news from around the Archdiocese



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 Mashed 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.