

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

26th July 2020

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Divine Office Week 1

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

Rev 3:20



Fr Carl Muga	0151 513 0024
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021
Canon Michael Fitzsimons	0151 424 2738
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 - Lourdes at Home

As I write this reflection, I should be on the final leg of a 30-hour coach journey to Lourdes. This is the most uncomfortable stage - everyone is tired and cramped and just wishing to be arriving in Lourdes to stretch out, have a shower and settle into the hotel. Last night I was able to sleep in my own bed and roll over and have a comfortable night's sleep but still I would prefer to be on that hot miserable coach!

I am not really missing the discomforts of the journey but I am missing the camaraderie of the young people, the coach staff team and that growing hope that 'this is going to be great week in Lourdes!' chats.

Continued

It was right and correct that we had to cancel or rather postpone our Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage - all being well we will be able to return next year - and although this is sad there is a whole programme of Lourdes at Home planned and the information is attached to this newsletter. There are a number of Masses and services planned which will be streamed online and even if you do not have access to these you can join in prayer as part of a spiritual pilgrimage. I hope the young people on my coach will be able to join in the main pilgrimage online services and I know they are planning online get togethers this week for night prayers, a social evening and quiz and also engaging in posting the favourite Lourdes photos on Facebook - there is also a rumour of a 'bad shirt' fancy dress night!

Central to Lourdes is of course the priority given to the sick, and indeed the young and the poor. Lourdes is now an international, even global, centre of prayer and pilgrimage. In these days of the Corona virus outbreak I feel that the spirituality of Lourdes is near to us in Widnes or wherever we are. The call to prayer, conversion, living for service to others and the value of all human dignity and flourishing that is found in Lourdes is needed everywhere so maybe this year really is the year that Lourdes is needed here and all around the world. 'Lourdes at Home' reminds us at this time of COVID 19 to be focussed on the primary need to care for the sick, and to remember the lonely and the poor. We can do this in word and action if we are able but all of us can focus on our prayers and our personal conversion of heart. Let this year be a true week of Lourdes Pilgrimage for us all across the whole Archdiocese.

Fr Michael



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 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 leaflet sent with the newsletter and watch the video from Archbishop Malcolm outlining what to expect from our new way of celebrating Mass.

<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

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.

Thomas and Ethel Colman Ann.

Carol Collett (lately dead)

John Fernandez LD

Eileen Kenyon (lately dead)

Margaret Smyth

Residents of all of our Care Homes

Liam and Edward Carter

Hughie Brennan

Alan Marston 2nd Ann.

Parishioners

Special Intention

Thomas Gilhooly LD

Ann Connor LD

Frank Myler

Julie Conway

Maurzen Galligan

It's time to #CanceltheDebt Campaign

Campaigners across England and Wales are calling on world leaders to #CanceltheDebt to ensure everyone has a safe, sustainable recovery from COVID-19.

As part of our livesimply commitment to supporting Cafod campaigns, some of our parishioners and priests have sent in photos to add to those from across the country....



These photos will be used to send a message to world leaders that it's time to #CancelTheDebt.

How to get involved

- Take a selfie, or ask a friend to take a photo of you creatively displaying the words 'Cancel the Debt'
- Share your message on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and use the hashtag #CancelTheDebt
- If you don't have a social media account, email your photo to campaign.writer@cafod.org.uk

By showing your face and voice, you can show that debt isn't something the international community will stand for.

'CAFOD Coronavirus Emergency Appeal' Final Update

Christopher and Friends Sponsored Walk

A fantastic Grand Total £2,341.25 has been raised!!!

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, 26 th July	17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Fr Carl
Sunday, 2 nd August	18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Bishop John

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

WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP

This is a '**shout-out**' for more volunteers to put their name forward to act as stewards in St Michael's initially; both midweek and at weekends. We also need volunteers for funerals at St. Michael's and St Bede's.

We can only ask for volunteers who are under 70 years and are not shielding. If you fall into either of these categories whilst we are very grateful, we cannot utilise your services at the moment.

You will be required to act as a steward; guiding people into the church and directing to a pew. You will then be needed to direct them to receive communion and then to leave the church. After mass has finished you will be required to assist with the cleaning and sanitising of benches before the next service resumes.

You will be provided with all necessary PPE.

If you feel that you can help, please email or call the parish office on Monday.

Thank you

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 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (also available as an audio download).
- Readings for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

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

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.

SICK LIST

Please remember that instead of a printed sick list, we invite you to email or telephone the parish office with the name of any sick relative or friend, and Fr Michael will light a candle in Our Lady's chapel in St Bede's church.



'Together on the Road'

As you know the word Synod comes from 2 Greek words which can be translated as together on the road, together on the way, on the path, on the journey. When we set off on the Synod 2020 journey with the words: “together on the road” and “becoming the Church God is calling us to be”, we never imagined what God had in store for us.

The last few months have been unexpected and they have taught us all that the road has many twists and turn on it and, as the Synod journey continues, God is calling us to listen, often in new and exciting ways.

'Becoming the Church God is calling us to be'

This phrase is the other part of our Synod tag line. We cannot doubt that God is inviting us to take a fresh look at the ways we have been doing things. It is certainly a gifted time to be part of the Church, especially part of our Synod process.

It is important to say and to emphasise that the Synod has not been postponed; it has not been halted; it has not been cancelled. The Synod is happening; it is ongoing; it is alive and dynamic.

In the light of all this we have had to look again at the proposed Synod timetable.

Please keep praying for the work of the Synod. Look at the Synod web site and Synod social media so that you can keep playing your part.

Father Philip Inch
Synod Moderator

These changes are explained further by Fr Philip Inch, Synod Moderator, in his article published in the July 2020 edition of the Catholic Pic.



Synod 2020 Timetable

Revised and Updated June 2020

1 September 2020	<p>Reflections during COVID-19 Pandemic close The online portal for receiving proposals in the light of the challenges of COVID-19 will remain open until this date.</p>
18 October 2020	<p>Synod Sunday A leaflet will remind the people of the Archdiocese of our four Synod Themes which will include any new reflections from the COVID-19 experience. This leaflet will also outline the revised journey and the immediate next steps.</p>
18 October to 4 December 2020	<p>Period of Reflection on Long Lists of Proposals Members hold local gatherings in whatever way they are able to look at the long lists of Synod Proposals and listen to people's views.</p>
7 to 14 December 2020	<p>Sharing Responses In the light of the local gatherings Members share their responses to these proposals via an online system.</p>
11, 12, or 13 March 2021	<p>Meetings of Synod Members: Presentation of Synod Proposals Synod Members will receive the final Synod Proposals and be asked to return to their communities, consult on the Proposals, and discern their vote.</p>
March to June 2021	<p>Parish and Local Community Discussions Members will lead local consultation as they discern how they will vote on the Synod Proposals.</p>

18, 19, and 20 June 2021: Synod Weekend

Friday 18 June 2021	<p>Prayer Vigil Evening of prayer and reflection at the Metropolitan Cathedral</p>
Saturday 19 June 2021	<p>Synod Saturday Synod Event at The Edge, Wigan</p>
Sunday 20 June 2021	<p>Synod Sunday Mass of Thanksgiving at the Metropolitan Cathedral.</p>

Please note: This is the new timetable for Synod 2020 but some of the details and venues may vary in response to developments in government guidelines. We will keep you informed.



Lourdes at Home

The live-streamed services can be accessed through the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/Liverpool-Lourdes-at-Home-2020-109541120834991>

Here is our “Lourdes at Home” links as they currently stands:

Saturday 25th July - DES Face Book

Opening Mass 2pm

Reconciliation Service 7pm

Sunday 26th July - Bishop Tom Cathedral Face Book/You Tube

Mass 17th Sunday 11am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm

Monday 27th July - John Butchard Holy Rosary mcnmeia

Mass of Our Lady of Lourdes 10.30am

Rosary 7pm

Tuesday 28th July - Archbishop Lydiate Face Book

Mass of St Bernadette 12noon

Stations of the Cross 7pm

Wednesday 29th July - Joe Kendall Our Lady's Portico mcnmedia

Mass on the theme for the year 11.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm

Thursday 30th July - Grant Face Book

Mass of Healing 12noon

Rosary/Torchlight procession 7pm

Friday 31st July – Mark St Chad's Face Book

Mass of Thanksgiving 11am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm

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/2Uz4olx>

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

#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)

[The Mankind Initiative](#) - 01823 334244 (Mon-Fri 10am-4pm)

[National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Domestic Violence helpline](#) - 0800 999 5428

[Respect Phonenumber](#) offers confidential advice and support to help domestic violence perpetrators stop being violent and abusive to their partners or ex-partners. 0808 802 4040

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.

