

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

9th August 2020

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Divine Office Week 3

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

Rev 3:20



Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021
Fr Joe Bibby	0151 424 6641
Fr Carl Mughan	0151 513 0024
Canon Michael Fitzsimons	0151 424 2738
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 –

“The use of atomic energy for purposes of war is today, more than ever, a crime not only against the dignity of human beings but against any possible future for our common home. How can we speak of peace even as we build terrifying new weapons of war?”

So spoke Pope Francis last November at the Hiroshima Peace Park in Japan.

In 2017, the Pope condemned the ‘deterrence strategy’ with its constant threats of nuclear war, on which Russia and the U.S. rely for their own defence and the defence of their allies. People, including the U.S. Bishops, had argued that this situation was ‘tolerated’ not as an end in itself but as a step on the way toward ‘progressive disarmament’.

Continued....

The Pope said a firm 'No' to that argument, and repeated it on a number of occasions, including in addresses to Ambassadors. He meant it.

This week is the 75th. Anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I remember, with one of those sharp childhood memories, coming out of the house at home and a man pushing his bike on the opposite pavement shouting: "The Japanese have surrendered. The war is over". I fled inside to tell everybody. Little did I, as an eight-year-old, realise with what horror the war had ended.

And ever since, the world has argued about deterrence and disarmament. Our country, along with most others who have nuclear weapons, has committed itself to nuclear disarmament. And yet we go on rebuilding them. And the superpowers are in yet another nuclear arms race and doing nothing to stop it. Yet it was happening. Both Russia and the U.S. were reducing their stockpile of nuclear weapons.

John Hume, that wonderful Derryman and Nobel Peace Prize winner, who died last week never lost his faith, that the only real peace would be achieved through non-violent dialogue. Through those years of dreadful violence, he remained firm in his profound conviction of this truth. The last few days have been a celebration of that conviction, even as the world mourned his death.

Jesus, Prince of Peace, help us bring your peace to our fragile world.

Bishop John

LOURDES PETITION'S

Fr Michael and Fr Carl are going to Lourdes next week and will take with them your petitions.

Please post them through St Bede's presbytery letter box before 6 pm on Sunday. There is no need to knock.

Please accept our apologies for the short notice it has been a late decision.



NEWSLETTER

The newsletter next week will be sent out on Thursday due to staff holidays.

Thank you

CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

It has been lovely to welcome people back to church at St Michael's to celebrate together. The numbers are increasing week by week as the news is filtering out and people are confident of the measures, we have put in place to keep them safe.

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.
- ***Please do not come to Mass with a cough, sneezing or cold symptoms.***
- 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.

The current situation will remain in place until at least September. We have no plans to re-open any other churches before then. We are starting to offer Baptisms and plans are in place for 1st Holy Communions in September.

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 August. 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.

Marie Kelleher 4th Ann B/day rem.

Cyril Fallon Ann

John Anthony Whitfield

Josie Conroy 1st Ann

Bridget Glover LD

Parishioners of the Parish

Bridget & William Hickey

Angela Milloy 6th Ann.

Evarard Family

Barbara Abbott

Mary Fox

Alice Thomas

Brid Butler

Anastasia Bryan

Barbara Clark

Residents of all of our Care Homes

Barbara Abbott (Lately dead)

Mary Fox (Lately dead)

Bridget Glover (Lately dead)

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, 9 th August	19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Fr Joe
Sunday, 16 th August	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9am	Fr Michael

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

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.

Parish Administrator (Admin & Finance)

St Catherine of Siena, All Saints and St Lewis Parishes

(Based at All Saints Presbytery, High Street, Golborne, Warrington WA3 3BG)

20 hours per week Salary £10,816.00 per annum (equivalent to £10.40 per hour) 5 weeks holiday and Pension scheme are available.

To apply, visit www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs Alternatively, ring 0151 522 1102 for an application pack

UPDATE ON FR BILL

Fr Bill remains in hospital. He is recovering from his infection and is looking forward to returning home.

Please continue to remember him in your prayers.

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.

We pray for. those who have recently died

Stephen Marsh

Thomas Graham Farthman

Elizabeth Mary White

Reflection from Fr Joe

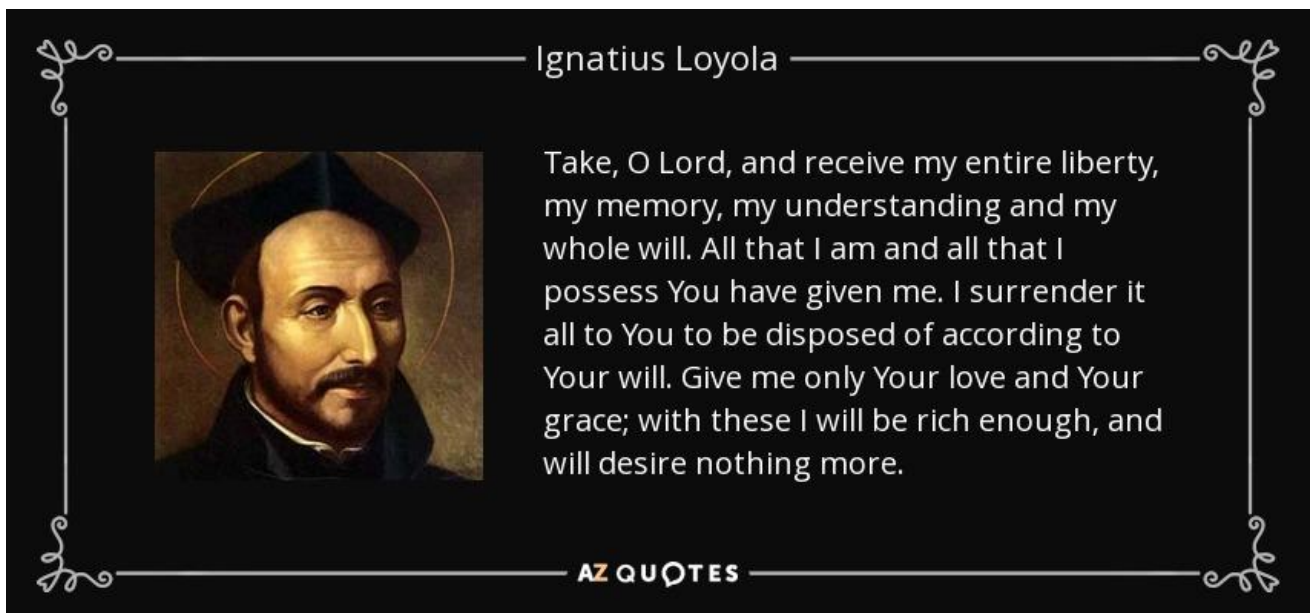
Well, what a difference a month makes! As I came out of thirty days of retreat according to the Spiritual Exercises of on July 31st (his Feast Day and my birthday) it was incredible to learn that cafes and restaurants are open once again, and that we can gather for Mass as a parish. Of course, things are not as they were at the start of the year, but there are some welcome changes even though we still need to take care to protect ourselves and each other.

So, the 30-day retreat ended.... What an incredible experience! Very difficult some days, very dry and barren. But other days were full of an incredible joy, tranquillity, and contemplation. And yes... I did manage the whole time in silence without radio, mobile phone, TV, or Internet.

I was able to listen to the voice of God like never before. I didn't always like what He said, because He challenged me. However, his mercy, forgiveness, love and presence were overwhelming, and I pray they have a lasting effect on my life.

Going into retreat a month ago, you may remember that my question was "**How do I respond to God?**". I have been able to reflect on that question during this past month, and the challenge for me now is to integrate into my daily life the answers I was given as I begin to reconnect with parish, family, and friends. Obviously, it will take me some time to fully discern what I heard from God during the retreat, but I would like to thank you all for the support of your prayers which were very evident to me.

Fr Joe



Livesimply...CAFOD in Action

Working together in this time of pandemic.... **A message**

from Siobhan and Colette (*community participation workers CAFOD Liverpool*)

CAFOD is providing vulnerable families with handwashing stations and information on how to keep safe.

We're supporting frontline workers with protective equipment, medical supplies and training.

And we're working hard to ensure that the coronavirus crisis does not mean people go hungry. The need is great.



This picture shows staff from St. Albert's Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe making Facemasks to give to vulnerable people, funded by CAFOD.

Whatever you have been able to do to raise money and awareness this summer is making a difference....

St Wilfrid's 'CAFOD Coronavirus Emergency Appeal' Final Update
[Christopher and Friends Sponsored Walk](#)

A fantastic [Grand Total £2,396.25](#) has been raised!!!

Wednesday Word

This could be a very helpful way of accessing the Sunday readings.

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

CATHOLIC PICTORIAL

The AUGUST edition is available digitally at: <https://bit.ly/2Uz4olx>

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

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 the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (also available as an audio download).
- Readings for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- What sort of church do we want? A church of compassion.
- More articles and video clips in 'Life During Lockdown'.

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



PAPYRUS is the national charity for the prevention of young suicide. We want to smash the stigma surrounding suicide, by making suicide part of the everyday conversation. We do this in three ways: supporting those who are experiencing thoughts of suicide, equipping communities through suicide prevention training and awareness raising, and influencing government policy on a local and national scale.

At HOPELINEUK – PAPYRUS's dedicated suicide prevention helpline – our trained advisers work on a safety plan with young people aged 35 and under who are experiencing thoughts of suicide, to help keep them safe for now.

Our free, confidential phone, text and email service is also for concerned others – that's anybody who might be concerned that a young person may be experiencing thoughts of suicide, and would like to talk about it with one of our suicide prevention advisors.

As well as supporting concerned others and young people who may be experiencing thoughts of suicide, we also offer a debriefing service for professionals – such as GPs, medical staff, first responders and teachers – who may have had a recent encounter with suicide and would like to talk it through with a trained adviser.

HOPELINEUK is open seven days per week, 365 days of the year. You can call us on 0800 068 4141, text us on 07860 039 967, or email us pat@papyrus-uk.org

Visit our website to find out more about the suicide prevention work that we do at PAPYRUS:

www.papyrus-uk.org

Or follow us on social media:

Instagram: [@papyrus_uk](https://www.instagram.com/papyrus_uk)

Twitter: [@PAPYRUS_tweets](https://twitter.com/PAPYRUS_tweets)

Facebook: [@PAPYRUSUK](https://www.facebook.com/PAPYRUSUK)

TikTok: [@papyrus_uk](https://www.tiktok.com/@papyrus_uk)

#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.

