

# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

16th August 2020

The Assumption of Our Lady (A)

Divine Office Week 4

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

*Rev 3:20*



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

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
**[catholicchurches-widnes.org.uk](http://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](mailto:stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk)**

**Office Manager**  
Heather Harrison

**Parish Administrators**  
Susan Warburton  
Shelagh Hindley

## Reflection

Of all the pressing challenges for our country at this time, the politicians are pushing the desperate asylum seekers risking their lives in small boats crossing the Channel to the number one priority, or very close to it.

As a fellow human being, my heart goes out to those poor people. How desperate do you have to be to put yourself in the hands of people whose only interest is in your money? And this will usually be the end of a very long journey involving a number of very risky elements, and trust yourself in a small boat to one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world.

And many are fleeing persecution and conflict. And they have every right to seek asylum. It is lawful. So, we are presented with a moral issue that always has political implications, but which in this case is being played out of all proportion. And played with an element of prejudice. The numbers are really tiny, but the language of invasion is used, and talk of the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy being involved. For heaven's sake.

In fact, these asylum seekers to the UK are far fewer in number than are those approaching Germany,

Continued overleaf ....

France, Spain and Greece. The language and actions in their regard are clearly designed to play upon people's fears, and perhaps distract attention from other issues.

Pope Francis, who has such a clear world view and such a deeply Christ centred heart, is constantly appealing for true generosity towards refugees and asylum seekers. It is not always easy, but it is important that we learn to see the world with those eyes and be prepared to speak out at the injustice of it.

*Bishop John*

## 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:

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>5pm</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9am</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>11am</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>4:30pm</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>9:15am</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>7pm</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>9:15am</b>

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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=5nArwoMZvll&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

### 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.

## **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](mailto: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.

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 the Mass intentions for the coming week will be detailed in next week's newsletter.

*Fr Michael and Fr Carl  
prayed for all of us  
at the  
Grotto in Lourdes  
this week.*



### **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](http://www.catholicpic.co.uk) updated throughout the week with news from around the Archdiocese.

## **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.



## **NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES**

The new gift aid envelopes are now available for parishioners who are part of our Gift Aid scheme. The envelopes are normally sent to the church you have chosen but this year, due to the Covid 19 crisis, we are not in a position to do this.

### ***You can get your new envelopes in one of two ways:***

1. Call at the Parish Office and a member of the parish admin team will give you your new set of envelopes

**or**

2. For those parishioners who are unable to call at the office for whatever reason, telephone the team on 0151 422 1772.

You can use the new envelopes immediately. You can drop them in the collection baskets at the back of church at any of the Sunday masses or drop them off at the parish office.

Gift Aid is an essential part of the income for our parish and we thank all parishioners for their support during these difficult times.

## **How to access Mass**



### **St Wilfrid's Widnes:**

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 16<sup>th</sup> August                      The Assumption of Our Lady                      9am      Fr Michael

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

### **Across the Archdiocese:**

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

Resources available include:

- 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'.

# Livesimply...

Let us stand in solidarity with those who do not have homes.

We pray that they will not suffer from the prejudice of others, but will find people who are willing to help, and that they may find a way out of their suffering and be guided to the help that they need.

**Dear Lord**

**With the guidance of your Holy Spirit, please help our hearts to be open to the plight and sufferings of others.**

**Help those who are suffering, so that they may see your light even in the darkest of places.**

**Please aid all who are working to help those who are suffering, both at home and around the world, and help world leaders to make decisions that will alleviate suffering.**

**Amen**

**We pray for. . . . . those who  
have recently died**

Stephen Marsh

Elizabeth White

## **UPDATE ON FR BILL**

Fr Bill is now home from hospital and is feeling much better. Please continue to remember him in your prayers.

## **FOODBANK**

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

Tinned Tomatoes

Small Jars of Coffee

Tinned Meat

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Sponge Puddings

Rice Pudding

Tinned Fish

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.**



## Baptisms

After a break of many months this weekend Baptisms will be celebrated once again in the parish.

We welcome:

Leo William Astles & George Simon Beddows



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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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

*The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool is committed to keeping your personal data secure.*

*Please see our Privacy Notice on our website at [liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/privacy notice](http://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/privacy-notice)*