

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

23rd August 2020

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Divine Office Week 1

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

Rev 3:20



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

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

Looking back to the start of March it seems so long ago when Archbishop Malcolm visited the parish and we had a wonderful Mass and celebration to mark our parish's Livesimply Award and to note the occasion of me being appointed as a Canon - I still don't know what a Canon does! Only a few weeks later we were in lockdown and then Archbishop Malcolm was on the telephone asking me to move to a new parish.

My four years in the parish has been a great adventure. There have been some challenges and in honesty, some tough times but far, far more, it has been a time of friendship, blessings, sharing, journeying and celebrating together - I do wonder if I have packed 10 years' worth of experiences into the 4 short years I have been here. St Wilfrid's is a community that has and continues to be willing to try and test new ways of being a parish and church and I have certainly learnt so much during my time with you.

Continued overleaf....

Working with the team of priests and the wider teams leading and serving the parish has been a unique joy. To those of you who have allowed me to accompany you in your difficulties, joys, sorrows, faith and celebrations I thank you for that privilege.

It is a strange and difficult time to leave with the effects of the Corona virus measures still remaining with us which has made saying goodbye a bit of a challenge - I am sure some people will come back to church and then say 'Where's Fr Michael?' having not heard the news of my move. It does seem sad not to be able to speak to people at the end of Mass or have a special farewell gathering and party, however remembering that people have sacrificed saying goodbye to a loved one dying, missed out at accompanying new born grandchildren, and not been able to visit older friends and relatives in our care homes; it does not seem so important.

Looking back to our celebration in March for Livesimply and on becoming a Canon with hindsight that was enough of a party! I certainly felt surrounded and supported by a wonderful parish community. Ollie, my dog, has also been very happy here and enjoyed his new found Internet fame by invading our YouTube Masses - although he has gate crashed several Masses and a funeral before! He would like to say thank you too for all the biscuits and treats and he knows some people will miss him more than his owner!

So, I am moving on this week but I know I will take with me positive and happy memories. I look forward to the joys and challenges of my new parish and hope I will not be a stranger here.



Fr Michael

We pray for. those who have recently died

Angela Flaherty

John Thomas Higginson

Baptisms

We welcome:

Adelaide Rose Mullally-Mitchell

Ayda Doran

CHURCH IS OPEN 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 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 that the church will be open half an hour before 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 IN THE CHURCH CAR PARK

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.
- Holy Communion will be given out at the end of Mass.
 - 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 may have to stop offering public worship at very short notice following Archdiocesan and Government advice.

MASS INTENTIONS

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

The following Masses were said by the Priests in private last week.

Anthony Barton LD
Stephen Marsh (Latey dead)
Parishioners
Marie Elizabeth Golson
Patricia Rose LD
Henry Barton LD
Gerald Nicholls LD
Mary Duffy LD
Stephen Marsh LD
Margaret McCann & Dec. family members
Margaret Corwell LD
John Thomas Martin LD
Winifred Hignett LD
Residents of all of our care homes
Sam & Elsie Clemson
Eileen Martin Golden Wedding Ann.
Thomas, Constance & Teresa Carolan
Brian Clare LD

Daily Mass will be said by the Priests in private this week and they will fulfil the Mass intentions as follows during this week.

Christina Lewis LD
Elizabeth Mary White (Latey dead)
Thomas Rolt Ann
John Thomas Higginson (Latey dead)
Parishioners
Margaret Mary Mulroy Ann.
John Dennis Behan LD
Mary (Flo) Reid LD
Eileen Myler LD
George, Mary and Gerard Dann
Elizabeth Mary White
David Vincent Smith LD
Edna Cook LD
Patricia Mary Knight B/day rem
Residents of all our care homes
Elizabeth Geraghty B/day rem
Angela Flaherty LD
Peter Murty
James Meaden LD
Anne Hall

Church Collections

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.

Alternatively...

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. 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.

Or you can put your donation through the letterbox at the parish office at any time.

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



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 on of the priests will light a candle for you. If you send in your details by e-mail, a candle will be lit at Our Lady's altar.



Walsingham Trip

Unfortunately, this year's trip has been cancelled but we are able to transfer coach, accommodation and show booking to next year. Dates to be confirmed.

You can transfer your deposit to secure a place for next year, however if you want to receive a refund please contact the parish office.

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 23rd August 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 9am Fr Carl

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:

- [Reflection for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time](#) (also available as an audio download).
- [Readings for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time.](#)
- [School of Prayer: an exploration of Lectio Divina.](#)

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

A massive **THANK YOU** to all our stewards at

St Bede's and St Michael's.

Without your extensive support,

preparing, directing and cleaning

we would not be able to open our churches for

public worship.

Your continued help is much appreciated by the clergy and parishioners.



Wednesday Word

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

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

FOODBANK

Widnes Foodbank gratefully receives donations of any food items.

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/Thrs. from 9am to 11.00am**.

Thank you to anyone who can make a donation.



UPDATE ON FR BILL

Fr Bill has had some good news. The results of his recent scan indicate that his cancer (non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma) has reduced significantly. Therefore, he will not be having any more chemotherapy but will be having a much milder treatment.

He sounds very positive and is very grateful to parishioners for all the prayers and cards. His plan is to be back in the parish as soon as the doctors feel he is strong enough.

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.

St Wilfrid's working in solidarity with Nugent

This week a lovely thank you card was received from the team at Nugent thanking us all for our support of their work especially through our donations to their charity shop.... See below



Soon we'll be able to take in donations once again at the Parish Office, so hang on to your recyclable goodies as they really do make a difference to the work of Nugent. **Thank You!**