

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

30th August 2020

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Divine Office Week 2

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

Rev 3:20



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

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

Somebody has sent me a video of part of a speech given by John Hume, the Northern Ireland peace maker and Nobel Peace Prize winner who died recently. Here is what he said:

“All conflict is about the same thing, no matter where it is, it is about DIFFERENCE, whether the difference is your religion or your race or your nationality, and the message that we have got to get across, and that we have learned in our part of the world, is that difference is an accident of birth. None of us chose to be born, and we certainly did not choose to be born into any particular community.

There's not two people in this hall who are the same. There's not two people in the whole world who are the same. Difference is of the essence of humanity, and, therefore, respect for difference should be very, very, normal and very common.

But it is a first and deepest principle of real peace.”

Continued overleaf...

'Respect for difference' is the phrase that is at the heart of what he was saying, speaking from the experience of communities where difference had been used to excuse all sorts of excesses and violence for so many years. And where people had played up those differences to support their own vested interests.

Respect for difference is not only a prerequisite for making peace, but also for keeping peace. More than that, it opens us to a wonderful richness of life as we go about seeing the world and our relationships through other people's perspectives and learning of their customs and traditions. And we learn that beneath all diversity, even the apparently most extreme, there are human beings with the same hopes and aspirations and needs as ourselves. But just think of the areas of life today where people are suffering because they are different and because others either don't or don't want to respect the difference. Fear of difference can be very deep in us human beings.... but facing difference and rejoicing in it is one of the things that makes life wonderful.

John Hume was a politician whose politics were steeped in his Catholic faith.

Bishop John

Fr Michael Testimonial

When a priest leaves a parish, it is usual for us to have the opportunity to express our gratitude and have a farewell celebration. "**Fr Michael Testimonial**" envelopes will be available at the back of St Bede's and St Michael's churches which can either be placed on the collection, handed in to the Parish Office, or through the letter box of any of the presbyteries. Alternatively, you can use your own envelopes, but please ensure you write "Fr Michael Testimonial" on the outside.

Due to the restrictions on the numbers of people allowed to gather we will not be able to have our usual farewell Mass and buffet at the moment, but hopefully we will be able to do something before Christmas.

Fr Michael's new address is:

37, Tithebarn Road, Knowsley Village, Prescot, L34 0EU.

We pray for those who have died

Marie Marshall

Margaret Naylor



Baptisms

We welcome:

Diego Edward Eugene Roberts

Theodore Alan Jeffrey Roberts

Harper Lily Doyle



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.

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.

NEW CHURCHES RE-OPENING FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

We are hoping to open more of our churches in the Autumn, namely St Basil's and St John Fisher. In order to open we will need some extra volunteers (under 70 years of age). If you are prepared to put your name on a rota for stewarding and cleaning at either of these churches please let the office know, on 0151 422 1772. Without sufficient volunteers, these churches will not be able to open.

When we have confirmed dates, we will ask you to come to the church for a little training session.

We continue to need more volunteer stewards for St Michael's, if you are able to help please contact the office.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass 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.

Mary Nesbitt *LD*

Christine Brennan

James Higginson

Roger Pile

Winifred Hignett *LD*

George Stevenson Ann.

Owen Harrington Ann.

Thomas Wainwright

Parishioners

John Kearns B/day remb.

Residents of all of our care homes

Malcolm Holden

Rose Ruth

Jeffrey Howard

John Thomas Higginson (Lately dead)

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.



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.

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 30th August 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 9am

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 Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time](#) (also available as an audio download).
- [Readings for the Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time.](#)
- [Resources for the Sundays of Creation Time.](#)
- [School of Prayer: an exploration of imaginative contemplation.](#)
- [Feedback from a meeting regarding baptisms and first communions.](#)

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



Synod 2020 Update

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/Thrs from 9am to 11.00am**.

Thank you to anyone who can make a donation.



Thank you to anyone who can make a donation.

Season of Creation: World Day of Prayer



Pope Francis has established 1 September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, encouraging the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home.

The day is inspired by Pope Francis' landmark encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared Earth.

He calls us all to celebrate this opportune moment to "reaffirm [our] personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation, as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live.

How to respond to the World Day of Prayer

Individually: There are many ways to respond to Pope Francis' call to care for the gift of God's creation – why not take some time out of your day on 1 September to walk in your local park or take a few moments to thank God for the flowers growing in your garden?

You can join us in [a novena to Saint Francis of Assisi](#), starting from today. Or you could pray it in the nine days leading up to Saint Francis' feast at the end of the Season of Creation. These beautiful prayers are based on Saint Francis' Canticle of the Sun and guide us to care for the earth and our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.