

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

20th December 2020

27th December 2020

Fourth Sunday in Advent (B)

Feast of the Holy Family (B)

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

Rev 3:20



Fr Carl Mugan (PP)	0151 424 6641
Fr Tom Neylon (PP)	0151 424 2738
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021
Fr Mark Moran	0151 513 0024
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854

NEW PARISH WEBSITE ADDRESS:

stwilfridswidnes.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

**The Parish Office will close
at 5pm on 23rd December
and re-open on
Monday 4th January 2020**

Please email:

stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk

**Office Manager
Heather Harrison**

**Parish Administrators
Susan Warburton
Shelagh Hindley**

**Pastoral Associate
Jessy Mottram-Noé**

Reflection – 4th Sunday Advent

Have you ever had one of those unexpected visitors to your home? Maybe just someone visiting to see how you are or to check that all is okay. Or one of those visitors who's impact changes things in your life?

Imagine a visit from a messenger from God asking a life changing question, a question that will turn your whole world upside down. Mary was posed with such a dilemma, her calling from God was amazing, beautiful and unimaginable, but the reality would be different. Her marriage plans would be in a mess, her relationship with Joseph would never be the same again, her reputation in the community would be put into jeopardy.

Mary's world would be messy. I wonder if there are times when we feel like Mary. Perhaps today feels exactly like that. Sometimes our lives can feel chaotic and messy. Our relationships may not be how we want them to be. Perhaps there are financial stresses or unemployment anxiety in our lives. Maybe we feel trapped by the day to day of life.

Continued....

Sometimes life seem such a stark contrast to the hopes and dreams we once held and we may wonder where God's 'favour' has gone in our lives.

But, of course, something else was happening in Mary's life...

Yes, her life was messy, but in all of that a miracle was happening, the miracle of a child, Jesus. So, in her mess a miracle was unfolding according to God's plan.

I wonder if we recognise the miracles in the messy parts of our lives? Maybe in realising God working in our lives we may get a glimpse of a miracle emerging. I'm a believer that miracles grow in our lives, just as a baby in the womb.

Isn't that what Mary had to do? The miracle was in the mess. But God's plan for her was bigger than any disruption to her life, any difficulty she had to face. In this season of Advent and as we rapidly approach the miracle of Christmas let's place our mess into the hands of God, who will certainly do great things for us.

Fr Carl

TICKETS for MASS on CHRISTMAS EVE and CHRISTMAS DAY

We have had a great response for our tickets for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

ALL tickets are taken for Christmas Eve.

We have the following tickets still available:

St Basil's 8:30 am - plenty

St Bede's 9am – very limited

St John Fisher 10am - < 20

St Michael's 10:30am – plenty

St Bede's 11:15 – very limited

If you or anyone you know would like a ticket, please ring the Parish office which will be open until 5pm on 23rd December, or call in to collect them.

Please remember that you will need a ticket to attend the Mass.

MASS DURING THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE

It is understandable that there is anxiety around attending, or rather not attending Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day this year. Please remember that the obligation has been lifted during these difficult times of the pandemic, yet our faith is not just an obligation and our attending Mass is a time of communion with God and one another. So, if you cannot attend on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day please think about attending Mass during the full octave of Christmas. Mass is offered at all the churches in the parish during this time so that all can have the opportunity to come and pray before the crib and celebrate Mass together.

Please note that this year the cribs in **ALL** the churches will remain in place till the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on **Tuesday 2nd February**.

We pray for those who are sick

Fr Malcolm Prince

Michael McKown

Emma Pender

If you know of someone who is sick & would appreciate their name being placed on the list, please contact the Parish Office on 422 1772. The name of the sick person will appear for 6 weeks, this can be renewed by contacting the Parish Office. ***We can only place names in the Newsletter with the written consent of the sick person.***

CAFOD Advent Prayer and Reflection

Are you looking for a chance to enjoy some quiet time... some prayer and reflection...in your own home? (Read below to find out all the details)

Every Sunday - from 29 November to 6 January, 6pm-6:30pm

[CAFOD Advent Prayer - A Journey to The Manger](#)

Join us for some simple and peaceful prayer and reflection as we share our journey of Advent together. We will gather around a candle and be gently led in a time of prayer. No need for a computer camera or microphone or worrying about what to say. Just register then click the link on Sundays through Advent and on Epiphany, the 6th of January. The prayer will start at 6pm and run for less than half an hour. All are welcome to join us on this journey.

[Register](#) to the series

We pray for those who have died

Josephine Cleary, James Bebbington, Ann-Marie Watts, Dorothy Fox,

Mary Callerton, Joseph Tiernan, John Moran, Therese Jennett,

Kevin Byrom, Frances Broome, Winnie Marston

We pray for those whose funerals took place this week.....

Gail McDowell, John McLoughlin



Working in Solidarity... Sharing Christmas Blessings and Thanks

In this unprecedented year of pandemic, and all that it has challenged us with, Christmas wishes and thanks have been sent through to all here at St Wilfrid's....



Medaille Trust Christmas Gifts



The generosity of parishioners in response to this appeal has been phenomenal. Many beautifully wrapped gifts have been forwarded to Medaille for distribution to the residents at Christmas. Thank you, they are great appreciated.

A message from Fran D'Arcy at Nugent:



'Thank you to all the parishioners of St Wilfrid's for your support and generous donations to our charity shop again this year, all are very much appreciated by everyone at Nugent. Sending our thanks and best wishes to you all for 2021 xx

And from Colette and Siobhan, CAFOD in Liverpool Community Participation Co-ordinators



'This photo was taken by Siobhan in Southport this week, when she saw it, she felt the hope and love of God's promise... we certainly wish that for all of you this Christmas and in to 2021.'



USED POSTAGE STAMPS

Fr Bill is collecting used postage stamps. Please save your stamps from your Christmas cards; make sure you leave a good border around the stamps. Please put them in an envelope and post through the presbytery door. Thank you

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>

Masses for the Christmas season are:

4th Sunday of Advent – Fr Bill will celebrate Mass

Children's Reflection– Fr Mark and children of the parish

Christmas Mass – Concelebrated by the Priests of the parish

This Mass will remain for the Octave of Christmas.

Across the Archdiocese:

New resources now available include:

- [Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Advent](#) (also available as an audio download).
- [Week 15 in the series of 'Armchair Retreats' with Fr Denis Blackledge SJ.](#)

Other resources for Christmas:

- Bishop Peter Brignall has created - [At the Manger: Family Crib Services for the Eight Day of Christmas.](#)
- Teresa Brown from Northampton Diocese has created a [YouTube video on the Annunciation: From Gabriel to Mary](#) with her own music and various artists' portrayal of the event.

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

The O Antiphons

As we look for creative ways of visibly expressing our Christianity this Advent, we are providing an image of the O Antiphons from 17 – 23 December, one each day, which could be displayed on windows or as decorations on a tree.

Each O Antiphon image has the scripture verse with in and the reverse can be used for prayer intentions. There are two versions: one can be coloured/decorated and the other is ready coloured, both of which can be printed and cut out.

They are on the [Liverpool South Pastoral Area Website](#) and an O Antiphon prayer/graphic will be posted each day from 17 – 23 December which is available for all to share on Facebook pages/social media/websites.

Care for Creation

Living Laudato Si' - Your Parish and Your Planet, Zoom Retreat, 22-25 January 2021. (See attachment)

MASS INTENTIONS

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

The following Masses cover the period to Sunday 3rd January and will be said by the Priests during this time.

Joseph Maurice Brandreth L.D.	Arthur Hewitt Ann.
Hugh Brennan	Residents of our Care Homes
Tom Baker	Emma Grady 10 th Ann.
James Goss B'day rem.	Tony McNamara
Norah Warren 3 rd Ann.	Adèle Topping L.D.
Mary Purcell	Ethel Keelzy L.D.
Tony & Mary Rudder Spzdy recovery	Elaine Ruth L.D.
Ben Stevens Moran Ann.	Iris Gzraghty L.D.
Anthony Martin L.D.	Barry Loftus L.D.
William Glynn Rem.	Michelle Davies L.D.
People of the Parish	Mary Rimmer 2 nd Ann.
Peter Shaw L.D.	Doris (Dot) Brennan L.D.
Bernard Kelly B'day rem.	
Irene Thompson 1 st Ann.	
Charlie Thompson 6 th Ann.	
Thomas & Margaret McCann & family	
Neville John Conroy L.D.	
Kathrine Olivia Donohue L.D.	
Emma Pender Sick	
Tom Ellard L.D.	
Patricia Ann Moran L.D.	
Ann Patricia Jones L.D.	

THIS WEEKEND**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)**

Saturday 19 th December	11-1pm	St Bede's	Extended Confession
	5:00pm	St Michael's	Mass
Sunday 20 th December	9:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	10:00am	St John Fisher	Mass
	11:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	4:30pm	St Basil's	Mass

WEEKDAYS**DIVINE OFFICE WEEK 4**

Monday 21 st December	9:15am	St Michael's	Mass	
Tuesday 22 nd December	11:30am	St Bede's	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	12 noon	St Bede's	Mass	
Wednesday 23 rd December	7:00pm	St Michael's	Mass	
Thursday 24 th December Christmas Eve VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY	8:00pm	St Basil's	Mass	Children of the World
	8:00pm	St Bede's	Mass	World Peace
	8:00pm	St John Fisher	Mass	Refugees th'out the World
	8:00pm	St Michael's	Mass	Christian's in the Holy Land
Friday 25 th December Christmas Day SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	8:30am	St Basil's	Mass	Relief of World Poverty
	9:00am	St Bede's	Mass	For the Homeless
	10:00am	St John Fisher	Mass	Those in hospitals & care homes
	10:30am	St Michael's	Mass	Prisoners & their families
	11:15am	St Bede's	Mass	For the lonely at Christmas

NEXT WEEKEND**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (B)**

Saturday 26 th December ST STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR	12 noon	St Bede's	Mass
Sunday 27 th December THE HOLY FAMILY	9:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	10:00am	St John Fisher	Mass
	11:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	4:30pm	St Basil's	Mass

WEEKDAYS**DIVINE OFFICE WEEK 1**

Monday 28 th December THE HOLY INNOCENTS	10:00am	St Bede's	Mass
Tuesday 29th December ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY	10:00am	St Basil's	Mass
Wednesday 30th December	7:00pm	St Michael's	Mass
Thursday 31st December	10:00am	St John Fisher	Mass
Friday 1 st January MARY MOTHER OF GOD	12 noon	St Michael's	Mass

NEXT WEEKEND**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS (B)**

Saturday 2 nd January ST BASIL THE GREAT & ST GREGORY NAZIANZEN	11-12	St Bede's	Confession
	5:00pm	St Michael's	Mass
Sunday 3 rd January	9:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	10:00am	St John Fisher	Mass
	11:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	4:30pm	St Basil's	Mass

**A Newsletter will be sent on
Monday 4th January with Mass
times for the forthcoming
week.**