

Advent and Christmas 2024

Advent Appeal 2024

Each year we have an Advent appeal for a worthy cause, this year the cause is very close to home. Our own Catholic schools here in Widnes. I have often said that our schools are the pride of our parish, and they are more than that, they are missionary outposts, 'other' churches in our community and often the first point of contact for those who do not know what to do or where to go with a 'church' related matter.

As we all know, things change and the liturgical life and RE curriculum in our schools is constantly being reviewed and changed, as it should be, so that our children receive a wonderful experience of God and His kingdom, that is always fresh and new. This year, I suggest that we offer a gift to the children in our own parish and provide religious resources and experiences that they would not otherwise be able to afford from their own RE school budget.

Some ideas that the schools might choose...

Good News Bibles that are accessible and attractive for all the children.

A crucifix for the chapel at St. Peter and Paul or a moveable altar for Mass in the College.

The cost of buses so that our children can go on retreat.

Resources to make RE lessons come alive.

The headteachers with the RE coordinator would choose what they need in their particular school and report back to the parish community on what they have spent the appeal money on.

If you would like to be part of the Advent Appeal this year, please pass your donation on an envelope marked '**ADVENT APPEAL**' into the Parish Office or into the offertory bags at Mass. The money will then be split between the schools in the parish in the new year. So often we buy things at Christmas for people who don't need anything, perhaps this year we could give this gift of knowledge about Jesus to the smallest people in our parish community.

'What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb, if I were a wise man, I would do my part, but what can I give Him? Give Him my heart!'

Taize Prayer Service 'Waiting the night is far spent'

Monday 9th December at 7pm at St. Basil's Church.

You are invited to join us at our Advent Taizé service. Come to experience the beauty of Meditative Prayer and Peace through Music, Song and Silence.

Advent Carol Concert

Sunday 15th December at 3pm at St. Michael's Church.

As a parish community we will come together to sing and listen as we prepare to welcome the Christ Child into our hearts, homes and community.

Advent Reconciliation Service at St. Basil's

Wednesday 18th December at 7pm at St. Basil's.

Come and hear the words, 'Go in peace, your sins are forgiven'

Mass Times

Christmas Eve

4.30pm – Mass at St. Basil

4.30pm – Mass at St. Bede

6pm – Mass at St. John Fisher

6pm – Mass at St. Michael

Midnight - Mass at St. Bede

Christmas Day

9am – Mass at St. Bede

10.15am - Mass at St. Michael

11am – Mass at St. Bede

Boxing Day

12noon – Mass of St. Stephen, at St. Michael

