

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

*Incorporating the churches of St Bede, St Michael,
St John Fisher and St Basil*



Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Second Collection: SVP

10th December 2023

Parish Office:

St Bede's Presbytery
Appleton Village
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 6EL

T: 0151 422 1772

E: stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk

W: stwilfridswidnes.uk

Parish Clergy:

Rev Fr Mark Moran (PP, Moderator)	0151 513 0024
Rev Fr Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
Rev Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Rt Rev Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 2738
Rev Deacon Paul Rooney	0151 422 1772

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna



Responsorial Psalm

R. 'Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.'

A candle to represent faith...

The second candle on the Advent wreath represents faith, it calls our minds to the journey that Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem for they had faith in the message of an angel and a dream. In faith, they moved, in faith, they followed, in faith, they dared to believe in the promise of God.

In faith, we light a small purple candle in church, to represent the faith that we have on our Advent journey. A candle that burns to dispel the darkness of doubt and error. We can look around and see so much that would cause us to lose faith, we can hear so much that can make us think, 'what is the point?' Yet, we dare to follow, we dare to move, we dare to listen to that whisper, to see the spark in the darkness that calls us to see Jesus in our everyday.

The Advent season is meant to call us out of our comfort zone, to wake us up from our sleep and listen and follow Him with new ears and eyes. As the light grows week by week on our Advent wreath so should our awareness grow of Him in our lives.

'All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.'

St Francis of Assisi

Fr Mark

Advent Scripture Group

Come along and share with fellow parishioners, what the scriptures mean to you. No one gathering is a scripture scholar, we will simply read the scriptures together and see what they are saying to us in our daily lives. We will meet in St Bede's Presbytery from 7.30pm – 9.00pm. It is often in small groups that we learn something new and wonderful about our faith and help one another hear the scriptures in a new way!

Monday 11th December – John 1:6- 8, 19-28 'Who are you?'

Monday 18th December – Luke 1:26-38 I am the handmaid of the Lord'

St Wilfrid's Parish Advent Carol Concert

Sunday 17th December

St Michael's Church at 3pm

Next Sunday the children from some of our primary schools and our high school, will come to join our Parish Choir and the Knights Choir to sing to the coming of the Infant King!

A joyous parish tradition!

Last year the number of parishioners who attended the concert was extremely low, so if the numbers do not increase this year, it is time to let this tradition go. This in my view would be a terrible shame, but I suppose we must read the signs of the times and if people do not come then our response is made. As the saying goes: 'vote with your feet/presence'!

Fr Mark

Christmas Card/Invitations

Next weekend there will be bundles of 20 Christmas Cards that contain a message from our parish and an invitation to join us over Christmas in Church. This is a way of reaching out to our community to welcome all to be with us this Christmas to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

So how can I help?

- Please take a bundle of cards and deliver them to houses in your road. These should be given to people who you assume **DO NOT** come to Church or have stopped coming for some reason. Do not deliver them to people who come to church, they know that they are welcome!
- Feel free to address the envelope or sign your name in the card, this will make the card seem more personal.
- Then, we have a responsibility and a challenge, because once we have sent the cards inviting them, they might come! So, they might sit in 'your' seat, they might not stand and sit when they should, they might talk or make noise – that is the challenge! To make them welcome, to offer kindness instead of a judgment, a smile instead of a grimace!

In small ways we signal and point to Jesus, Emmanuel, 'God with us!'

Requiescant in pace

Norah Evans, Mary Bonnon
& Richard Beesley

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Private Intention
St Michael	Vocations to the Priesthood
St John Fisher	In Thanksgiving
St Basil	Peace in the Holy Land

Proposed Mass Schedule

As we start to prepare for a change in the parish, the Clergy Team and the Parish Vision Group have given lots of time, thought, and energy in considering the best way forward to serve the whole parish. The first consideration must be our liturgical life, the praise of God is our primary duty and joy. So, this is the considered and agreed proposal from both the Clergy Team and the Vision Group. We envisage this timetable will begin after Easter, so that it can be embedded before the new priest arrives.

Two Priest Model

Saturday

10.00am	Mass and Confession (First Saturday of the month)	
4.30pm	Vigil Mass	St Basil
6.00pm	Vigil Mass	St John Fisher

Sunday

9.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede
12.30pm	Baptisms	
4.00pm	Holy Mass	St Bede

One Priest Model (*This is when one of the priests is away and we are unable to get to supply*)

Saturday

10.00am	Mass and Confession (First Saturday of the month)	
4.30pm	Vigil Mass	St Basil
6.00pm	Vigil Mass	St John Fisher

Sunday

9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede
12.30pm	Baptisms	

Eucharistic Ministers Training

There will be training offered to all Eucharistic Ministers in each church during Advent. This will be an opportunity to streamline practice across the parish and to answer any questions that ministers may have. Please make every effort to attend in the Church you minister at. This training is for new volunteers and current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

St John Fisher

Tuesday 12th December at 4.00pm

St Basil

Tuesday 12th December at 6.00pm

St Bede

Tuesday 12th December at 7.00pm

St Michael

Monday 18th December at 7.00pm

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	10th Dec	Second Sunday of Advent (B)	
9.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Peter Kelly
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
10.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Lois Davies (10 th Ann)
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Wendy Downey (LD)
4.00pm	Holy Mass	St Bede	Martin Wynne (LD)
Monday	11th Dec	Advent Ferial	
9.00am	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Basil	John Fearon (Rem)
10.00am	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Pauline Noone
Tuesday	12th Dec	Advent Ferial	
11.30am	Exposition and Rosary		
12.00pm	Holy Mass	St Bede	Frances Fearon
Wednesday	13th Dec	Memorial of St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	
11.30am	Exposition and Rosary		
12.00pm	Holy Mass	St Bede	Winnie Burns (B'day Rem)
Thursday	14th Dec	Memorial of St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor	
11.30am	Exposition and Rosary		
12.00pm	Holy Mass	St Michael	Michelle Spencer (Adams) (43 rd B'day Rem)
Friday	15th Dec	Advent Ferial	
9.00am	Exposition and Rosary		
9.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Martin Keogh (2 nd Ann)
Saturday	16th Dec	Advent Ferial	
10.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Marie Cullerton (3 rd Ann)
10.30am	Confessions		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Kevin McCarthy (Ann)
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Ann Behan (10 th Ann)
Sunday	17th Dec	Third Sunday of Advent (B)	
9.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Successful Operation
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael	Joan Wilcox (5 th Ann)
10.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Angela Milloy (B'day Rem)
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede	James Goss (B'day Rem)
4.00pm	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners