

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Forthcoming collections:

22nd October, APF Home Missions

29th October, S.V.P

15th October 2023

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Responsorial Psalm

R. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

My reflection has to be in for a newsletter printing on Thursday morning, so I am writing this on Wednesday afternoon. A lot can happen between then and Saturday when people read the newsletter, but you just cannot ignore what is happening in the Holy Land, so here is a thought.

In the present appalling situation, you look for signs of hope. In the first days of this war, a Jewish woman living in this country spoke of her retired parents, living close to Gaza, with her father spending time ferrying Palestinians to hospital. And now she does not know where they are. But even in her grief she was able to warn against people who would make opponents out to be less than human.

In a previous period of serious tension, I happened to be at a meeting of European Caritas leaders, all working with the Palestinians, and I asked if any of them were working with Jewish groups who were helping the Palestinians. And they all said: Of course, we are. There are very many Jewish people who are opposed to the way the Israeli Government treats the Palestinians. The very first time I went to the Holy Land, Easter 1976, I was chatting with Jewish coach driver who told me that one of his friends had emigrated to U.S.A. because he could not take any more of his country's treatment of the Palestinians. And he said that the man was not alone.

What Hamas has done is dreadful, but the response must be proportionate, and certainly not treat all Palestinians as if they belong to Hamas.

Both sides want peace with security, but there are ancient prejudices that distort the way they see each other, and they have different visions of what security looks like.

Today's Independent Catholic News reports that Pope Francis has twice rung the parish priest of Gaza. The Pope is constantly calling on both sides to make peace. With all its complexities and historical conflicts this is Holy Spirit territory. May the Holy Spirit guide all their leaders and the many who would be the peacemakers.

May God bless us all.

Bishop John

St Wilfrid's UCM Foundation

invite you to a BOOK SALE, to be held on Sunday 22nd October 2023, after 10.30am Mass in St John Fisher Hall.

All proceeds to UCM charities.

Thank you to all who helped!

A big thank you to the people who turned up last Saturday to tidy up the grounds around St. Bede's church and presbytery; what a difference! As the newsletter is done ahead of time, I am pre-empting thanking those who will turn up this Saturday to help do the same at St. Michael's!

Your reward will be great in heaven!

Deanery Synodal Council

Next Saturday, 21st October the Warrington and Widnes Synodal Council will meet at the Guild Hall to continue their work of living out the Synodal Plan in our area.

St. Wilfrid's Synodal Council Members: Peter McCann, Pauline Rolt, Denise Roberts, Susan Warburton and Fr. Mark.

These are the people representing our parish and so, if you have any questions or queries, please approach them and they will bring your view to the council meeting.

Deanery of Warrington and Widnes Mass

On Friday 27th October at 12 noon there will be a gathering of the priests and people of our deanery to celebrate Mass together. This time the Mass will be held at St. Joseph's Church, Penketh, WA5 2BB. It is a bit further to travel and please ask for a lift from fellow parishioners if you would like to attend, but it is so important that we as a deanery meet to pray together for the work that we are all engaged in to build the Kingdom of God here in this place. Please make the effort and come!

Balances are now due for Walsingham!

The total cost is £255 for an en-suite room and £230 for a standard room. Please deduct the deposit you paid from the total cost. The balance is due by end October. Can you pass in your payments to the parish office please in an envelope marked Walsingham balance and add your name.

If you can please pay by cheque which should be made payable to St Wilfrid's Parish.

If you can't pay by cheque cash will be fine.

If you have any queries, please speak to Susan.

Safeguarding Update

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every single person in this parish community. Our Church community must be a safe place for all who enter, and we must be safe as we go out in the name of the church community. This parish is committed to following 'best practice', yet to do this we must be aware of what to do if we have a safeguarding concern or question. Posters are on each church noticeboard relating to safeguarding procedures.

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Moran, 01514221772 or stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk

St Wilfrid's Safeguarding Representative: Mrs. Pauline Ruth, 01514221772 or safeguarding246@rcaol.org.uk

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officers: Mark, Claire, or Angela, 01515221103 or safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

"Safeguarding is the action taken by the church to promote a safer culture for all in our church communities".

Requiescant in pace

Brenda Thistlewaite,
Martin Wynn, Wendy Downey,
Veronica Walsh, Maria Atherton,
Margaret McDermott.

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Jessie Burke
St Michael	Margaret Mc Dermott
St John Fisher	Pauline Ruth
St Basil	Conflict in the Holy Land

Blessing of Animals

The annual Blessing of Animals will take place at St Benedict's, Warrington, today, 15 October, at 2.00 pm. This short service provides an opportunity to thank God for our animal friends, to remember our beloved pets who have died, and to pray for the many animals that suffer in our world. The service lasts about 25 minutes and is followed by some treats for pets and refreshments for their servants! Please let people know about the service, especially those who have pets. Every year, new people turn up who never go to church but who have heard about the service from parishioners.

Catholic Youth Ministries Internship

Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Youth Service) are looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their internship programme. The scheme lasts for one or two years and gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the Lake District. For more information contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

November – Month of the Holy Souls

November is when we as a Church remember and pray in a special way for those who have died, those we have known and loved, and, in charity, those who have no one to pray for them. At every Mass the faithful departed are remembered, but during this month certain opportunities are offered to draw together as a community to pray, remember and support one another in faith.

Wednesday 1st November – Feast of All Saints

Holy Day of Obligation – Masses; 7am, St. John Fisher, 9.30am, St. Michael, 12 noon, St. Bede and 7pm, St. Basil.

Saturday 4th November – Mass for all the Faithful Departed, St. Bede, 10am.

At this Mass we pray for all who have died, and everyone will be offered a bottle of holy water and a prayer to take to graves or places of remembrance to bless and pray.

Sunday 12th and Sunday 19th November – Masses for all who have died from our parish in the past 12 months, St. Michael's, 4pm.

At these two Masses the names of all who have died in our parish community in the past 12 months will be read aloud, to call them to mind, to pray and to thank God for them.

"In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die...they are in peace."

Book of Wisdom

Pious List envelopes at the back of church for you to place the names of your loved ones so that they can be added to the November Pious List. A donation is welcomed. Return them to the Parish Office asap.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	15th Oct	Twenty Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Leo Taylor (B'day Rem)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
<i>(Welcome Mass for those children who are to be baptised in the coming months and Children's Liturgy of the Word is available.)</i>			
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	John Dowling (10 th Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	David Naughton (LD)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ted Riley (B'day Rem)
Monday	16th Oct	NO MASS	
Tuesday	17th Oct	St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Denise Noone (Get Well)
Wednesday	18th Oct	Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist	
18.30	Exposition and Evening Prayer		
19.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Burke, Shannon & Burke Fam
Thursday	19th Oct	Ferial	
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Tomaz Osinski
11.30	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
12.00	Holy Mass	St Michael	Stephen O'Connor, (3 rd Ann)
Friday	20th Oct	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Winnie Doyle (5 th Ann)
Saturday	21st Oct		
10.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Michael Naughton (L/D)
10.30	Confessions		
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Veronica Blong
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Billy & Pat Wright
Sunday	22nd Oct	Twenty Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tracey McNamara (6 th Ann)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Peter Hartles (80 th B'day)
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Joan Eileen & Joe Skilky (Rem)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Carol Ann Randle (Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners