

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

21st January 2024

Parish Office:

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Parish Clergy:

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Rt Rev Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 2738
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Responsorial Psalm 'Lord, make me know your ways'

Project Zimbabwe

Did you know that the first postage stamp in the world was issued here in Great Britain in 1840. It was the brainchild of Sir Rowland Hill. The Penny Black, which featured the profile of Queen Victoria was followed shortly afterwards by the 'Two Penny Blue' and the 'Penny Red'. All are highly sought after by collectors (Philatelists) and some, depending on their condition, could cost a thousand to a thousand five hundred.

All the above is an opportunity for me to thank all of you who have supported my appeal for used stamps over the past few years. Your recycled used postage stamp that otherwise would have gone into land fill, play an important role in the life of various charities and projects. The stamps are sold on to generate some of those vital funds that charities rely on.

This year your used stamps are going to help 'Project Zimbabwe' that is run by Br. Benjamin from the parish of Bishop Eton in Woolton who looks after young children who have lost their parents to AIDS and are being brought up by an older sibling. None of these young children can attend school because they don't have a birth certificate and so are denied access to education.

'Project Zimbabwe' will give that opportunity.

So can I encourage you to continue to bring your used postage stamps when you come to church and put them in the box in the church porch.

Thank you.

Fr Bill

Service for Christian Unity

Sunday 21st January at 6.30pm.

Holy Family Church, Hall Lane, Cronton, WA8 5DP

This is the first event that has been organised working as our 'Family of Parishes'. Please make an extra effort to attend and pray together for Christian Unity.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2024

We now invite all our young people of Year 8 age upwards who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the summer, to book onto the diocesan system at:

www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk before 15 March 2024.

We will be in touch, later in the spring to share the arrangements as we prepare for this joyous day in the life of our parish.

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of Thy love.
Send forth Thy Spirit and they shall be created and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth!*

Warrington and Widnes Deanery Mass

On Friday 26th January at 12 noon, you are all encouraged to attend the monthly Deanery Mass. This is an opportunity to come together with parishioners from across the deanery to celebrate Holy Mass together.

St. Peter's RC Church, Weir Lane, Woolston, Warrington, WA1 4QQ

Please make every effort to attend!

Mary's Meals – Thank you!

A massive thank you to all who used their boxes to collect spare change to support Mary's Meals during Advent. The response was overwhelming!

As soon as we have the final amount, we shall notify everyone, but a massive thank you to everyone on behalf of the children who you will feed and educate through your kindness.

Prayer for Christian Unity

Lord Jesus Christ may our eyes not look away but be wide open to the world around us.

As we travel through life, may we stop and reach out, bind up the wounded and in so doing experience your presence in them.

Give us a renewed commitment to journey with you towards unity.

Amen

Requiescant in pace

Fr Jonathan Cotton, Colin Parry,
Winifred May Dooley, Elizabeth (Lily) Smith,
Margaret (Pat) Walker, Damian Joseph Percival,
Joseph Hudson,
Hilda Mary Ogburn & Anita C'ailceta

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Nancy Prendergast
St Michael	Peace in the Holy Land
St John Fisher	Fr. Jonathan Cotton, OSB
St Basil	Valerie Melvin

Congratulations St. Basil's RC Primary School

Last Wednesday the children from St. Basil's RC Primary School, as part of their 'Year of Peace' welcomed visitors, including Archbishop Malcolm Mc Mahon, to their school to take part in their thinking, working, and praying for peace! It was a wondrous day!

Archbishop Malcolm said, *'it is a joy to be with you all and to see the energy and enthusiasm of all the children is so wonderful to see.'*

The whole school community are investing so much energy and time into this initiative and it is a joy for them to share the fruits of their prayer and reflection with the visitors to our school.

'Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord!'

Well done, St. Basil's and thank you Archbishop Malcolm for being with us!

Eucharistic Ministers Retreat

Each Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist are expected to attend a retreat or be given specific training every few years to give them the time and the space to reflect upon their wonderful ministry. We have approached the Irenaeus Ministry in Crosby and they have agreed to lead a day just for St. Wilfrid's Parish Ministers.

Saturday 24th February
Leaving St. Bede at 9.15am and return at 4.30pm
Irenaeus Centre, Waterloo, Crosby

To book yourself onto the retreat, please pass your name and telephone number into the Parish Office. This should be a priority for all ministers, so please attend if at all possible.

A coach will be provided to take you to the Irenaeus Centre and then bring you back to Widnes.

Thank You

St Gerard's School would like to pass on their thanks to all parishioners for their kind donations to their school and social supermarket appeal that was in last week's newsletter.

St Gerard's say all donations have been really appreciated and much needed.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	21st January	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ted & Margaret Riley
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Therese Ambrose (Ann)
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Parishioners
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Marjorie Higginson (B'day Rem)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Nancy Prendergast (Ann)
Monday	22nd January	No Mass at St. Basil's this week.	
12noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Denis Thompson
Tuesday	23rd January		
12noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Thomas O'Malley
Wednesday	24th January	Memorial St. Francis de Sales	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Eileen Roberts (Ann)
Thursday	25th January	Conversion of St. Paul	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Ursula Burke (LD)
Friday	26th January	SS. Timothy and Titus	
12noon	Warrington and Widnes Deanery Mass		
	St Peter's Church, Weir Lane Woolston, Warrington WA1 4QQ		
	Geraldine Mars		
	Rose Dundon		
	Paddy Ruth		
	Margaret Mc Dermott		
Saturday	27th January		
10.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Kathleen Murray (Good Health)
10.30	Confessions		
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Veronica Walsh
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Mickey Bass (LD)
Sunday	28th January	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Denis O'Keefe (70 th B'day Rem)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Family & Friends of The Rimmer Family
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Irene Glynn & Margaret Platt (Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tommy McCarthy (Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners