

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



PENTECOST SUNDAY

(YEAR A)

27th May 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:

Fr Mark Moran (PP, Moderator)	0151 513 0024
Fr Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 2738
Fr Philip Carr (Priest in residence)	0151 424 4021

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna



Responsorial Psalm

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth

Reflection

I am not sure where this reflection will go, but ever since I arrived in Widnes, I have been struck by the way in which the community has a relatively short memory. I am sure that it will be the same everywhere. I notice it in relation to the funerals of elderly people. Not infrequently, I will discover after a funeral that this person in their heyday had been a dynamo in one of the Widnes parishes, known and respected for their significant contribution to the life of the parish. But their funeral found no mention of that, just the passing of another old person in the now large parish of the whole of Widnes. But this large parish is built on the lives of those people.

It came home to me last week in a more personal way. It was the funeral of a ninety-three-year-old man. When I arrived in Widnes, his wife was already bedridden, and I took her Communion most Sundays for the perhaps four years until she went to the Lord. He was her wonderful carer. Then there was a relatively short period when he was still able to get to Mass, until I was then taking him Holy Communion each Sunday. It added up to about seven years of meeting each Sunday. We chatted about all sorts of things. He was a keen fisherman. I knew nothing about it. I know a lot more now. He painted. I have one of his pictures. When I mentioned at St Michael's that he had died, a man told me that he had taught him to paint when he was a boy at school. He was not a teacher, just a parishioner who helped in all sorts of ways around the school. And helped around the parish club. And sat in the same back row place at first Mass every Sunday.

He taught me about Rugby League - I played Union. He was Everton, I Liverpool. But the serious moment of the visit was Holy Communion. Even when he could hardly breathe and every movement was a struggle, he insisted on standing to receive. He was an inspiration.

His story, with variations, is the story of so many of our elderly parishioners. But once they become old, they melt into the background. We owe them so much. Their stories are precious. They themselves are precious. We must treasure them.

+John

Fr Thomas Away

I will be away in Leuven for much of June, to sit several examinations as part of my further studies in Canon Law. I am currently trying (and failing) to recap what was taught in lectures over four months ago, but supported by your prayers, I hope to rise to the challenge and return to the parish at the beginning of July.

Private Prayer

St Bede's Church is open for private prayer Monday to Friday from 10.00am until 13.00pm, except for funerals.

You are encouraged to come in and spend some time in prayer for your own needs, the needs of the Church and the world.

Deanery Mass

Next Thursday, (1st June) we welcome our brother priests from the Warrington and Widnes Deanery to the 12 noon Mass at St Michael's. This will be followed by a meeting of the clergy to discuss matters arising in the Deanery at large. If you can, please do come along to Mass, so that we may pray in solidarity and build up the Church of God in this place.

St. Helens Singers Concert in aid of Mary's Meals

Saturday 24th June at 7.30pm

Penketh Methodist Church, Chapel Road, WA5 7NB

Adults - £8, Children - £4

Family of Four - £18

Tickets available from 07974 189 132 or

Mass & Confessions on Saturday

This Saturday, 3rd June, Mass and Confessions will be at St Michael's Church, Mass at 10.00am Confessions 10.30 to 11.30am
On the First Saturday of July, it will be at St Basil's, and on first Saturday of August will be at St John Fisher, on all other Saturdays it will be at St Bede's as usual.

Office Hours

Due to staff holidays the Parish Office opening times from

Monday 22nd May to 5th June

will be

09:30am to 13:00pm.

World Youth Day Appeal

"World Youth Day is a celebration of young people from all corners of the world. Those who come on this great pilgrimage, come to experience the love of God in their lives. The World Youth Day pilgrimage was originally started by St. Pope John Paul II. It was he who was there present at the very first of these pilgrimages. This year's World youth Day (or WYD for short) will be in Lisbon. I have been on pilgrimages like this before, but nothing as grand as this one. It is great to embark on a spiritual journey with those within your own age group. It gives us a strong sense of belonging and comradeship. The highlight of the entire pilgrimage is when we get to meet the Pope. This will be a great experience for me and for many others, since this will be the first time, I will have ever met the Pope in person. This fills me with excitement. Whenever I come back from pilgrimages, such as this, I feel a great sense of spiritual renewal".

Requiescant in pace

Paul Roberts, Edward Duffy,
Paul Roberts, Kathleen Morley.
Dorothy Ruane, Jacqueline Follows.

May the Angels lead them into paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Matthew Fairhurst
St Michael	Special Intention
St John Fisher	Sick & Housebound
St Basil	Diane Corwell

Social Media

Our pastoral outreach touches thousands of people every year, but there is potential to reach many more through an active social media presence, preaching the unchanging Gospel of Christ in a constantly evolving digital frontier.

This work is perhaps better suited to the skillset of some of our younger parishioners... so we are calling upon our young adults to volunteer their time and talents to form a 'Social Media Group.' If you are interested in helping, please speak with Fr Thomas or pass your contact details into the parish office.

Making your wishes known...

The only certainty we have in this life is that one day we shall die!

Can we please urge you all to make it very clear to your family/next of kin what you wish to happen when that time comes. Please let them know that you would want a Requiem Mass, and if it is possible, which church in the parish you would prefer. We are finding instances of practicing Catholics receiving a service either in Church or at the Crematorium when a Requiem Mass would be properly appropriate.

Please do not rely on 'oh well they will know' or they 'will be guided by the funeral directors' – please be very clear to those who will sort out your arrangements when the time comes. Write it down and be sure you receive a Requiem Mass when it is time to meet the Lord. The Clergy Team

Catechesis for Adults

Christ is Risen!

Please come and join the Neo-Catechumenate Community each Monday & Thursday evening 7.30pm for next 5 weeks.

St John Fisher Community Hall
55 Moorfield Road WA8 3JA

Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

On the 7th June we shall begin a Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Mass of the day will be at 7pm and will follow the rota of the daily church timetable. The Novena will culminate on the Feast of the Sacred Heart on Friday 16th June. Please make a note in your diary and try and attend this novena of prayer.

Social Group News

Knock – 23rd – 26th April 2024

We are looking to make a booking to go as a parish to Our Lady's Shrine in Knock. We shall be flying from Liverpool and will stay for 3 nights, and as well as having time in the Shrine, we shall have time in Croagh Patrick, Westport and Ballintubber Abbey. We shall have a board basis of Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.

At this stage we need to know if there is any interest before we make a booking. The approximate cost would be £550, based on two people sharing a room. Single supplement is £95, though these are limited.

If you might be interested in this pilgrimage, please pass your name into the parish office with the envelope marked 'KNOCK – SUSAN WARBURTON'. This does not bind you to go!

Fr. Mark and the Social Committee

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	28th May	Pentecost Sunday	
9.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Smyth, Anniversary
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael	Bridget Hickey, 20 th Anniversary
10.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Felix Kaloski, 30 th Anniversary
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Finlan
4.00pm	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
Monday	29th May	Memorial of Our Lady, Mother of the Church	
9.00am	Exposition	St Basil	
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Basil	Lil Hardman, Lately Dead
Tuesday	30th May	<u>NO MASS</u>	
Wednesday	31st May	Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
10:00am	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Rita O'Neil
12:00 Noon	Deanery Mass	St Michael	(See additional Information)
7pm	Mass	St Bede	Marie Dowling, 21 st Anniversary
Thursday	1st June	Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest	
10:30am	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Edward Andrews
12 Noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Judy Gale & Terry Lloyd, Lately Dead Catherine Morley, Ann France Lately Dead Margaret Bate
Friday	2nd June	Ferial	
9.00am	Exposition	St John Fisher	
9.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	John & Maureen Hyland
11:30am	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Irene Clarke
Saturday	3rd June	Memorial of St Charles Lwanga and Companions	
10:00am	Holy Mass	St Michael	Jean Glover
10:30am	Confessions	St Michael	
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Doris Cox, 23 rd Anniversary
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	St Basil	The Clemson Family
Sunday	4th June	Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	
9.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Martha Teague & Deceased Family Members
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael	Rita & Thomas Fagan
10.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Denise Potter, Anniversary
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede	James O'Keefe, 70 th Birthday Remembrance
4.00pm	Holy Mass	St Bede	James Francis O'Brien, Birthday Remembrance