

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



First Sunday of Advent (B)

3rd 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:

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

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna



Responsorial Psalm

R. God of Hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved

Stay Awake! Be Ready!

We move seamlessly from the Feast of Christ the King into the First Sunday of Advent, from the cross of Jesus to waiting in hope for His coming in glory! Are we ready? Are we awake? Or are we weary and unable to stir ourselves into action? The season of Advent calls us to reflect upon two certainties, that Jesus will come again *'in glory to judge the living and the dead,'* and that He was born in time in space and became Emmanuel, God with us!

So, Advent gives us a strong message of challenge and comfort.

Challenge – Am I ready? Does my life radiate that Christ is at the centre of my life, my choices, my thinking, my attitude to others – am I open to change, to allow the voice of the Holy Spirit to call me into conversion of heart?

Comfort – We do not do this alone! Jesus came to live amongst us, to share totally in our lives, in our human experience. So, we should never be downhearted or afraid. He is with us! Turn to Him during this holy season of waiting, yet we are waiting in HOPE!

Do not let this season pass you by!

Fr Mark

Thank You

A huge thank you to all the parishioners who have taken collection boxes for the Mary's Meal Advent appeal. A special thank you to the kind lady who made a very generous donation at St John Fisher. Elaine & Nina

Office Hours

During the month of December, the Parish Office will be staffed between the hours of 9.30 till 13.30pm, Monday to Friday. Any emails /phone call received outside of these hours will be responded to ASAP.

Prayers for a new Priest!

Please pray for Rev Hugh Donleavy who was ordained to the Sacred Priesthood on Friday 1st December at 6pm at Sacred Heart Church in Warrington. Fr Hugh will take up his first appointment in Wigan and we wish him well and promise him our prayers at this wonderful time.

Service of Healing

On Thursday 7th December at 1.30pm at St John Fisher Church there will be a Healing Service. Time to reflect and to ponder the healing touch of God. At this service everyone will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Sick and experience the love and support of fellow parishioners.

After the service refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall.

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 the presbytery at St Bede at 7.30pm – 9pm. 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 04th December - Mark 1:1-8 'A voice cries in the wilderness'

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 Advent Appeal 2023

'Trinity Safe Space Charity provides for refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants in the Borough of Halton, catering for their needs by giving them material goods, food, clothing as well as information, care, and support with their physical and mental health'. This year we are appealing again for you to buy an extra Christmas present for someone who really needs it. **All** items must be new, unwrapped and left at the back of Church where they shall be collected and delivered to our brothers and sisters in need.

Items needed...

Men's boxer shorts (underwear) sizes small, medium, large and XL

Men's T-shirts size 34 – 38 chest size

Jeans for men in a variety of sizes and leg length

Winter coats for men and women in a variety of sizes

Warm gloves, hats and scarves for men and women

Socks for men and women size 6 up to size 12

Frying pans, toastie maker, stock pot pans, electric kettles, electric toasters, hand blenders/juicers, chopper, small cafetières.

Toiletries for men and women, (preferably single items rather than sets) e.g., shower gel, deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes

Single duvets or warm blankets

All items need to be at Church before the **Third Sunday of Advent, 17th December**. Please be as generous as you always are in seeing Jesus in the often forgotten in our community.

<p style="text-align: center;">Requiescant in pace</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jennifer Delea, Norah Evans, Pauline Noone, Fr Nicholas Wilde,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May the Angels lead them into Paradise!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sanctuary Lamp</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">St Bede</td> <td>Private Intention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Michael</td> <td>Mary & Michael Glynn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St John Fisher</td> <td>Vocations to the Priesthood</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Basil</td> <td>John & Linz</td> </tr> </table>	St Bede	Private Intention	St Michael	Mary & Michael Glynn	St John Fisher	Vocations to the Priesthood	St Basil	John & Linz
St Bede	Private Intention								
St Michael	Mary & Michael Glynn								
St John Fisher	Vocations to the Priesthood								
St Basil	John & Linz								
<p style="text-align: center;">Recommissioning of all Eucharistic Ministers</p> <p>At all Masses this weekend our Eucharistic Ministers will recommit themselves to their sacred ministry amongst us. Could all ministers ensure they pick up a sheet that contains the rite, (these will be at the back of Church), they will be called forward after the homily and led through the rite by the presiding priest. Our Eucharistic Ministers serve at the altar and to the most vulnerable in our community, we pray for them and thank God for their ministry amongst us!</p>									
<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Advent Dance</p> <p>On Friday 8th December you are invited to our parish dance and social at St Basil's Parish Club. Bingo! Dancing! Fun! Laughter! Tickets are on sale at the parish office and all money raised will go to the restoration fund for all our churches. Doors open at 7.30pm and tickets are £5 each which includes a light buffet. Come and socialise and make new friends with fellow parishioners!</p>									
<p style="text-align: center;">New Volunteers</p> <p>There will be a meeting for all those who have offered their time as new volunteers on Thursday 7th December at 7pm in St. Bede's Presbytery.</p> <p>Any parishioners who are considering becoming a volunteer are welcome to come to this meeting too!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Social Group Meeting</p> <p>There will be a meeting for the social group on Tuesday 5th December at 12.30pm in the presbytery at St. Bede. Please make every effort to attend as we need to ensure everything is ready for the Advent Dance!</p>								
<p style="text-align: center;">Families of Parishes</p> <p>Part of the response to our Archdiocesan Synod is to join with other parishes to share initiatives, personnel, resources and so on. This initiative is called 'Families of Parishes'. If you missed the recent roadshows and would like to know more about 'Families of Parishes', there will be a Zoom meeting this Wednesday, 6 December, at 7.00 pm led by Fr Philip Inch and Fr Matthew Nunes. You are very welcome to join the meeting. Here is the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86421512557?pwd=SVd5cFhtQ0dwUFlzQjhLSlQ5VjJlQT09 Fr Dave Heywood, Dean</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eucharistic Ministers Training</p> <p>There will be training offered to all Eucharistic Ministers in each church during Advent. This will be the 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.</p> <p>St John Fisher Tuesday 12th December at 4pm</p> <p>St Basil Tuesday 12th December at 6pm</p> <p>St Bede Tuesday 12th December at 7pm</p> <p>St Michael Monday 18th December at 7pm</p>								

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	3rd Dec	First Sunday of Advent (Year B)	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Michael Bernard Connally (Ann)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Eleanor Wood (17 th Ann)
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Dorothy Fox (3 rd Ann) Lynne & John Doyle (40 th Wed Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Caroline Edwards (Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Cosgrove (Ann)
Monday	4th Dec	Advent Ferial	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Joan Glynn (10 th Ann)
Tuesday	5th Dec	Memorial of St John Almond, Priest	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Fr James Moore
Wednesday	6th Dec	Advent Ferial	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	James Bebbington (Ann)
Thursday	7th Dec	Memorial of St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12.00	Holy Mass	St Michael	Margaret Jessica Duffy (B'day Rem)
Friday	8th Dec	Immaculate Conception of the Bl Virgin Mary, Solemnity	
09.00	Exposition and Rosary		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Mike Meredith (6 th Ann)
Saturday	9th Dec	Advent Ferial	
10.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Mary Hammond (Ann)
10.30	Confessions		
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Norah & Robert Warren (Rem)
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Tessie Carr (10 th Ann)
Sunday	10th Dec	Second Sunday of Advent (B)	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Peter Kelly
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Lois Davies (10 th Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Wendy Downey (LD)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Martin Wynne (LD)