

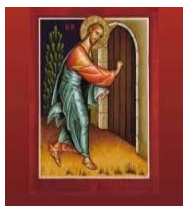
Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

4th December 2022 Second Sunday of Advent

Year A

“Listen!
I am standing
at the door
knocking.”

Rev 3:20



Clergy Team

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

Email: stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk
Parish Website: [stwilfridswidnes.org.uk](http://www.stwilfridswidnes.org.uk)
Facebook: Parish of St Wilfrid Widnes
<https://www.facebook.com/stwilfridswidnes>
<http://www.wednesdayword.org/>

St Wilfrid's Parish Office
St Bede's Presbytery
Appleton Village
Widnes, WA8 6EL
0151 422 1772

Office Manager
Sylvia Cawley
Administrator
Deb Kenna

My road to the Priesthood

When I was 17, I had my first serious conversation with one of the curates in the parish, Fr Brian Foley about my desire to try my vocation to the priesthood. He was very supportive and full of encouragement. Sadly, all thoughts of a vocation had to be put aside when my mother broke the sad news to us that my father had been diagnosed with a serious illness. Eighteen months later in April 1962 he passed away very peaceful in his sleep. In December that same year my older brother Michael got married which left me now 19, as the man of the house, the breadwinner. Throughout the next 4 years my desire to test my vocation became ever stronger through days of recollection and weekend retreats.

Finally in September 1966 with the help of Fr Brian and a supporting letter I decided to apply to a college for late vocations run by Jesuit Fathers in Osterley, Middlesex. It provided a two-year course for mature men like me who lacked the necessary academic qualifications to enter seminars. It was a nerve wracking few days waiting for a reply especially as the collage had already begun the new autumn term. When the letter arrived, I remember taking a deep breath saying to myself 'your will be done'. When I read the words 'your application has been successful' I cried with excitement! YES. Step one.

Fr Bill

Sunday Mass Times

At present, the clergy team struggle to cover the Masses if one of them are away or answer a call from another parish to supply when a priest needs a break. We do not have the time to speak to parishioners (or parishioners to us!) after Mass as we are dashing from one church to the other. After consultation with the Liturgy Team a way forward was devised with minimal change. From the weekend of the **10th/11th December**, the new weekend timetable will be as follows.

Saturday (Vigil Mass)

5pm – St. Bede

5pm – St. Basil

Sunday

9am – St. Bede

9.30am – St. Michael

10.30am – St. John Fisher

11.15pm – St. Bede

12.30pm - Baptisms

4pm – St. Bede

We hope you understand this need for adaptation!

The Clergy Team

Congratulations St. Michael's RC Primary School

St. Michaels RC Primary School was awarded two awards at the recent 'Educate Awards' at Liverpool Cathedral on 18th November.

They won 'Mental Health and Wellbeing Award' and Sue Mc Mullen was crowned as the Business Manager of the Year!

We have so much to be proud of in our Catholic Schools here in Widnes! Congratulations!



SECOND CANDLE SIGNIFIES PEACE

"BETHLEHEM CANDLE"

The second candle, also purple, represents peace. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.



St. Joseph's, Penketh, WA5 2BB – Coffee, Cake, and Carols

Thursday 15th December at 1pm

Tickets are £5 and available from Tracy on 07756887114

All Welcome!

Weekday Mass Schedule from Friday 9th December

Monday

9.30am – St. Basil

Tuesday

12 noon – St. Bede

Wednesday

7pm – St. Bede

Thursday

12 noon – St. Michael

Friday

9.30am – St. John Fisher

Saturday

10am – St. Bede (with confessions)

After an assessment of the numbers attending, need and availability, it is felt that the following schedule will fit the needs of the community at this time. This can and will change as we change and move as a community.

Thank you as ever to the sacristans and those who work so hard in all of our churches to keep them as places of prayer in our community.

USED STAMPS

Fr Bill has asked that we put all our used stamps in the boxes provided at back of church.

Thank You

LGBTQ+ Catholic Mass

There will be Mass to support LGBTQ+ Catholics at 2pm at All Saints Church, Anfield on Sunday 11th December. All are welcome to attend, and refreshments will be served after Mass.

CHRISTMAS



St Basil's Catholic Primary School, Hough Green Road are holding Bingo for older people on Friday 16th December at 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

Advent Dates for Your Diary!

Please make a note of the following dates in your diary...

Thursday 8th December – Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Archbishop Malcolm Mc Mahon, O.P. will join us for Mass at 7pm at St. Michael's Church to conclude our Novena of Prayer and preside at the Mass to celebrate this wonderful of Our Blessed Lady.

Monday 12th December – Advent Reconciliation Service

We shall gather to be reconciled to God and to one another through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We shall reflect and ponder on our lives and see our need of God's mercy and forgiveness in our lives.

St. Basil's Church at 7pm.

Come and hear the words, "Go in peace, you are forgiven"

Sunday 18th December – Advent Carol Service

Come and sing to the coming King with the children of our parish and with joy as we sing 'Gloria' to Jesus! Candles, Carols, Mince Pies, Mulled Wine...what more could you want to get into the Christmas Spirit!

St. Michael's Church at 4pm.

Come and celebrate the holy season of Advent!

CHRISTMAS



St Wilfrid's UCM invite you to join them on Monday 12th December at St John Fisher Hall.

There will be a raffle & refreshments

Proceeds to UCM charities

Please come and join in the fun.

Everyone is welcome

Mass Times

St Bede's Church is open for private prayer Mon-Fri 10am-13:00pm

Sunday 4th December – Second Sunday of Advent

09.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) – Mike Dunning
 10.00am Holy Mass (St Michael) – Eleanor Wood (16th Anniversary)
 10.00am Holy Mass (St John Fisher) – John Dowling (9th Anniversary)
 11.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) – Parishioners
 16:00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) – Michael Glynn (Anniversary)

Monday 5th December

12.30pm (St Bede) – Funeral Service – Shirley Corby
 7pm St John Fisher (Novena 6) – Fr. Raymond Anyanwu CSSp
 Mary, as she Listens (Margaret Jessica Duffy – Birthday Remembrance)

Tuesday 6th December

11.30am (St Bede) – Funeral Service – Anthony Collins
 7pm St Bede's (Novena 7) – Fr Mark Drew
 Mary, at the foot of the Cross (Billy Norris – 2nd Anniversary)

Wednesday 7th December

7pm - St Bede's (Novena 8) – Fr Michael McCormick
 Mary, as she waits (Kenneth Stafford)

Thursday 8th December

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

10.30am – (St Michael) – Requiem – Anne Pedder
 11.00am – (St Bede) – Requiem – Brian Barlow
 7pm - St Michael's – Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, OP (James O'Brien Snr. Anniversary & James O'Brien Jnr-Lately Dead)

Friday 9th December

09.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (*St. John Fisher*)
 09.10am Morning Prayer (*St. John Fisher*)
 09.30am Holy Mass (*St. John Fisher*) – Dorothy Fox 2nd Anniversary & Mike Meredith Birthday & Anniversary Remembrance)

Saturday 10th December

10.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) - John James (Lately Dead)
 10.30am Confessions and Rosary (St Bede)
 17.00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) - Christina Kenny
 17.00pm Holy Mass (St Basil) – Frances & John Fearon

Sunday 11th December – Second Sunday of Advent

9.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) – Winnie Burns (Birthday Remembrance)
 9.30am Holy Mass (St Michael) – Michelle Spencer (42nd Birthday Remembrance)
 10.30am Holy Mass (St John Fisher) – Lois Davies (Anniversary)
 11.15am Holy Mass (St Bede) – Caroline Edwards (Anniversary)
 16:00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) – Parishioners

Sanctuary Lamp

St Bede: Billy Norris
St Basil: Poor and Homeless
St John Fisher: The Parish Clergy Team
St Michael: Vocations to the Priesthood

Please pray for those who have recently died...

Gladys Owens, Sheila Clare,
 Linda Doran, Marion Tobin, and Leo Taylor
May they rest in peace and rise in glory!