

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

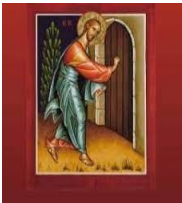
8th January 2023

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Year A

"Listen!
I am standing
at the door
knocking."

Rev 3:20



Clergy Team

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Fr. Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
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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

Reflection

As a diocesan Bishop, you meet with the Pope once every five years, for fifteen to twenty minutes.

I was appointed by John Paul II, but Benedict was elected before I retired. In fact, Francis also was elected before I retired, though I only met him once and quite briefly. John Paul and Benedict were very different characters. And people found Benedict, as Pope, much warmer and easier to relate to. He was at ease with himself and gave you his full attention. And most courteous. I suspect that was why his state visit to Britain was such a success. His speech in Westminster Hall was just what was needed, especially by people of all Churches involved in public life. And it was received rapturously by the listeners.

His theological language could be heavy going. But Pope Francis in his own writings seems to quote Benedict more than he quotes anybody else and you realise that Benedict, in spite of the language, was really down to earth and had some wonderful things to say... but it needed a Francis to highlight them.

For such an obviously good and holy man, however much his theology was in the present, his choice of hats and shoes and other apparel could appear to be rooted in bygone ages. A fascinating side to his character and one which gave others permission to follow down the same road, not always with the happiest of outcomes!

Only a Pope with a wonderful sense of Church and of its history, and a very humble man at that, could decide that for the good of the Church he needed to retire, no longer having the strength to carry out his onerous duties. Especially after his predecessor who struggled on and on in spite of debilitating Parkinson's Disease.

And the great gift his retirement gave to the Church was Pope Francis. May Benedict rest in peace and may Francis be given all the different strengths he needs in leading the Church in these bewildering times.

+ John

Thank you

The Clergy Team would like to thank you all for your good wishes, cards and gifts which have been offered over Christmas! The generosity of this parish community is overwhelming, and they are an affirmation to us, as your priests as we endeavour to serve the whole community.

May God continue to bless the Parish of St. Wilfrid!

+ John, Fr. Bill, Fr. Thomas, Fr. Philip, and Fr. Mark



Sylvia & Deb would also like to say a big thank you for all your kind wishes and gifts.

Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict

Archbishop Malcolm will celebrate Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Tuesday 10th January at 7 p.m.

St. Wilfrid's Advent Appeal 2022

Thank you, does not seem enough. The response to the Advent Appeal was overwhelming. All the items that have been donated have now been collected by the 'Trinity Safe Space Charity' who will distribute your generous gifts to those who need them so much!

Mass Intentions

If you wish to have a Mass offered for a specific date and in a particular Church within the parish, please put that request in as soon as possible; we are always working months ahead!

Please use the 'Mass Intention' sheets that are at the back of every Church and return it with your offering to the Parish Office.

We will try our best to have the Mass offered for you on the day requested.

Fr Thomas away

From this weekend, I am away in Leuven for the whole of January and then again, for the final three weeks of February to undertake examinations and attend fresh lectures once the examination period is complete. All of this is part of the further studies in canon law that I have been asked to undertake by the Archbishop.

Please pray for me as I promise to pray for you, and now that you know where I am, any rumours of my mysterious disappearance can be quashed straight away!

God bless
Fr Thomas

Please remember in your prayers Archbishop Emeritus Patrick Kelly, who is recovering in hospital after a fall.

Widnes Food Bank

Every item generously donated to our Food Bank will help save a life. This month we are asking if you could especially donate the following:

Top Three Items: - Rice, Desserts & Coffee

Pasta Sauce, Tinned potatoes, custard, Rice Pudding, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste

Without the support from our donators, we would not be able to continue the good work that Widnes foodbank does to combat food poverty within our community. Thank you!

Opening Hours for **receiving donations** at the former St Bede's Club are:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am – 11.30am

Closed. Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday

USED STAMPS

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

Office Hours - this week!

Monday 9 th	9.30am – 4.30pm
Tuesday 10 th	9.30am – 4.30pm
Wednesday 11 th	9.30am – 2.00pm
Thursday 12 th	9.30am – 4.30pm
Friday 13 th	9.30am – 4.30pm

Mass Times

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

Sunday 8th January – Feast of The Baptism of the Lord

9.00am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Parishioners
9.30am Holy Mass (*St Michael*) – Mary Rimmer (Anniversary)
10.30am Holy Mass (*St John Fisher*) – Madaline Dwyer (Anniversary)
11.15am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Ronald & Stuart O'Toole (Birthday Remembrance)
16:00pm Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Maureen Bergin (Lately Dead)

Monday 9th January

9.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer (*St. Basil*)
9.30am Holy Mass (*St Basil*) –McDonnell Family
10.30am Requiem Mass – St Bede – Jean Walters
12 Noon Requiem Mass – St John Fisher – Honor Evans

Tuesday 10th January

11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (*St Bede*)
11.40am Holy Rosary (*St Bede*)
12 Noon Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Wayne Beaulieu (Lately Dead)

Wednesday 11th January

10.30am Requiem Mass – St Bede – Brian Mercer
19.00pm Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Eithne Molloy (Lately Dead)

Thursday 12th January

11.30am Exposition the Blessed Sacrament (*St Michael*)
11.40am Holy Rosary (*St. Michael*)
12 Noon Holy Mass (*St. Michael*) – Private Intention

Friday 13th January

09.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (*St. John Fisher*)
09.10am Morning Prayer (*St. John Fisher*)
09.30am Holy Mass (*St. John Fisher*) – Special Intention
11.00am – Requiem Mass – St Basil – Trevor Garner
12 noon – Requiem Mass – St Bede – Margaret Brennan

Saturday 14th January

10.00am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Jimmy Reynard
10.30am Confessions and Rosary (*St Bede*)
17.00pm Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Julie Sant & J. O'Brien (Birthday Remembrance)
17.00pm Holy Mass (*St Basil*) – Carmel Carolan (Lately Dead)

Sunday 15th January

9.00am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Monica O'Mahoney (3rd Anniversary)
9.30am Holy Mass (*St Michael*) – James O'Brien (24th Anniversary)
10.30am Holy Mass (*St John Fisher*) – Joan Wilcox (Birthday Remembrance)
11.15am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Parishioners
16:00pm Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Bridget Donaghy (91st Birthday Remembrance)

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede: **Baby George O'Grady**
St Basil: **Special Intention**
St John Fisher: **Widnes Food Bank**
St Michael: **Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI**

Please pray for those who have recently died...

**Katherine Edge, George Grace, Elizabeth Russell,
Mary Hampton, Mary Kelleher, Teresa Mitchell,
Marilyn Whitfield, Anthony Comiskey,
Ellen (Eileen) Cooke, Peter Jones, Marie Hankey,
Bridget Martin, Baby George O'Grady, Brian McGeiver,
Kevin Conway & Julie Atherton**
May they rest in peace & rise in glory