

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
2nd Collection, CAFOD

8th October 2023

Parish Office:

St Bede's Presbytery
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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. 'The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.'

Thinking About Death

In the Funeral Service, one of the optional prayers at the graveside or in the crematorium says: Lord God, ..., keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown.

For years, every time I prayed that prayer, I said to myself: I really must make a Will.

And in later years added: And appoint attorneys for health and finance. I arrived in Widnes without having done either, and that fact was very much on my mind and distorted my thinking about dying.

The Archbishop at some stage very sensibly asked me about my funeral wishes. As former bishop of Hallam there is a place for me in the crypt of the Cathedral in Sheffield. That question forced me to make a will and appoint Attorneys. Fortunately, I have lots of nieces and nephews and I corralled four of them so that I have backups!

But just having done those two things, which I should have done years ago, radically changed the way in which I am able to think about my own death, without the intrusion of worrying about what chaos I might leave behind.

With our growing awareness of the consequences of dementia, the appointment of Attorneys is so important, for our own sakes as well as the sake of the family, appointing people who know our mind on health issues as well as on financial matters.

And, not least important, on our funeral wishes. For instance, would I want a Requiem Mass at my funeral.

I would!

God bless us all.

+ John

St Michael's Church Volunteers

If anyone is free on **Saturday 14th October** at 10am to help tidy up the grounds at the side of St Michael's Church, please come and lend a hand! Bring a shovel, hoe, or rake to help the job go smoothly! A skip has been ordered; we will attempt to clear anything that needs to be cleared from Church too!

Thank you for your Generosity.

People here in our parish are so generous and this is just a note to say thank you to all those who give so generously each week for the upkeep of our churches and the mission outreach in our community. To those who give each week, thank you, to those who give anonymous donations, thank you, to those who fundraise, thank you! May God bless you!

St Bede's Church: The Next Chapter

At last, after many years, we have reached the stage of appointing an Architect/Surveyor to supervise the restoration of St Bede's. Work will begin at St Bede's in the very near future, and we are busily trying to clear away what needs to be cleared to give the contractors as much help as we can. We are studying the criteria for grants with the local authority, so that the overall cost is kept to a minimum. We are in touch with the Historic Churches Commission and other relevant bodies to ensure that we are not contravening the integral fabric of this sacred space, and we always take professional advice whenever something is restored or moved as we wish to make prudent decisions that honour this historic place of worship. Much work is happening behind the scenes as we try to safeguard St Bede's for future generations.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will all need to be ready to adapt and change; we will have to endure inconveniences and things will not be as they were before. I suggest that we all try to keep focused on the bigger picture and when we see things changing, let us be the voice of positivity and hope and never the voice of complaint that undermines the good that is happening in our midst.

Fr Mark and the Buildings Committee

Balances are now due for Walsingham!

The total cost is £255 for an en-suite room and £230 for a standard room. Please deduct the deposit you paid from the total cost. The balance is due by end October. Can you pass in your payments to the parish office please in an envelope marked Walsingham balance and add your name.

If you can please pay by cheque which should be made payable to St Wilfrid's Parish.

If you can't pay by cheque cash will be fine.

If you have any queries, please speak to Susan.

Safeguarding Update

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every single person in this parish community. Our Church community must be a safe place for all who enter, and we must be safe as we go out in the name of the church community. This parish is committed to following 'best practice', yet to do this we must be aware of what to do if we have a safeguarding concern or question. Posters are on each church noticeboard relating to safeguarding procedures.

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Moran, 01514221772 or stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk

St Wilfrid's Safeguarding Representative: Mrs. Pauline Ruth, 01514221772 or safeguarding246@rcaol.org.uk

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officers: Mark, Claire, or Angela, 01515221103 or safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

"Safeguarding is the action taken by the church to promote a safer culture for all in our church communities".

Requiescant in pace

Brenda Thistlewaite, Kathleen Bold
Martin Wynn, Thomas Osinski,
Wendy Downey, Veronica Walsh

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	William (Les) Dean
St Michael	Brenda Thistlewaite
St John Fisher	Claire Lawson
St Basil	Eileen Brennan

Bene Merenti Award

Pauline Ruth

Invitation

You are all cordially invited to the celebration for

Mrs. Pauline Ruth

as she is awarded the *BENE MERENTI* medal by

Rt. Rev. Thomas Neylon, Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool.

Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 7pm at St. Bede's Church, Widnes

LGBTQ+ Mass

The next gathering for LGBTQ+ Catholics will be on **Sunday 8th October at 2pm** at St. Bede's Church, Appleton Village, WA8 6EL. All are welcome to attend and after Mass there will be refreshments served in the Guild Hall.

Feast of St Wilfrid

Wednesday 12th October is the feast day of our holy patron, St Wilfrid. I encourage you all to attend Mass on this day at St. Michael's Church at 7pm. On his feast day we can implore St. Wilfrid to intercede for our parish community, that it may flourish and attract others to Christ and His Church. We hope you can attend!

Gift of Life

The 'Gift for Life for Zambia' group are planning another trip! We are going to see a Christmas Carol at the Brindley on Saturday November 18. We shall leave St Basils at 1pm for the 2pm performance cost £24.00 if interested please phone Terri on 07368208943 or Angela on 424 8668.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

After perhaps the largest attempt at consultation in history, the first session of the 'Synod on Synodality' begins in Rome this Wednesday, 4 October, and will last for three weeks. The second session will take place in October 2024. In his October prayer intention, Pope Francis says, "without prayer, there will be no Synod". So let us join the Church all over the world in asking the Holy Spirit to bless and guide the Synod gathering. You will find lots of information and resources on the Synod website: www.synod.va/en.html

LISTENING TO EACH OTHER

This week, the Synod on Synodality began in Rome. All the group sessions begin in the same way that our parish meetings began in preparation for our own Archdiocesan Synod – by listening to each other. Each group member has four minutes to share their thoughts on a particular question. Meanwhile, the other members of the group are asked not to speak or interrupt but to listen attentively as each person speaks. We don't often listen to each other like this. We're often thinking about what we might say in reply or interrupt because we have a different point of view. However, if we believe that the Holy Spirit has been given to every person who is baptised, we can miss what the Holy Spirit is saying if we fail to listen to each other. This attentive listening to each other is a hallmark of synodality. *Fr Dave (Dean)*

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	8th Oct	Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Renee Lunt (LD)
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	William Jones (1 st Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tommy Douglas & Margaret Wilson
14.00	LGBTQ+ Mass	St. Bede	Claire Lawson
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Thomas Edward Walsh
Monday	9th Oct	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	McDonnell Family
Tuesday	10th Oct	Ferial	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Brian Bold (LD)
Wednesday	11th Oct	Ferial	
12noon	Memorial Mass	St Bede	David Naughton
19.00	<i>Bene Merenti</i> Award Mass for Pauline Ruth, St. Bede		Ruth Family
Thursday	12th Oct	Feast of St Wilfrid, Parish Patron	
19.00	Feast Day Mass	St Michael	Maureen Helsby (LD) & Benny Lynch (12 th Ann)
<i>(Please note change of Mass time)</i>			
Friday	13^h Oct	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Steff Hosking & Jill Kray
Saturday	14th Oct		
10.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Joan Hargreaves (LD)
10.30	Confessions		
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Bede	John Farrell
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Mary McBride (Birthday)
Sunday	15th Oct	Twenty Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Leo Taylor (B' day Rem)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	John Dowling (10 th Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	David Naughton (LD)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ted Riley (B' day Rem)