



# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



**8<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

## **Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Catholic Education**

**Parish Office:**  
St Bede's Presbytery  
Appleton Village  
Widnes  
Cheshire  
WA8 6EL

#### **Parish Clergy:**

Rev Fr. Mark Moran (PP, Moderator) 0151 513 0024  
Rev Fr. Peter Ross 0151 422 1772  
Rev Deacon Paul Rooney 0151 422 1772

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**Office Manager:**  
Sylvia Cawley  
**Administrator**  
Deborah Kenna

#### **Psalm Response**

**'My soul, give praise to the Lord'.**

#### **Lay Ministry in Widnes...we're rather good at it...but we can always do better!**

Before I arrived here, Father Mark took time to impress upon me the great extent to which parishioners participate in the life of our community. On one occasion in particular, he said to me; "we just couldn't do it without them". Well, after one week among you as your new assistant priest, I must wholeheartedly agree with him. We all know that this parish would grind to a halt without the good people who work so hard to minister God's love here in Widnes. Just imagine Saint Wilfrid's without lay cooperation. It is unimaginable!

Last Tuesday evening saw the beginning of a new chapter in the ministerial life of our parish, with the service of commissioning for our new lay leaders. What a joyful occasion it was, and thanks must go to Rev. Paul who prepared for and presided at the special service. Our new lay leaders have been 'called out' of the community and sent on a special mission among us. They have been chosen, formed, empowered and blest to participate in Jesus' saving work of redemption in a special way. We thank them for their commitment, and we pray for them in this developed phase of their baptismal journey.

Needless to say, we're rather good at 'lay-ministry' in Widnes. Equally, we can always do better! Please, we need more people to exercise the important lay responsibility of Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. Formation and training will be provided, so there's nothing to fear. Just let us know if you are interested. To adapt the words of President John F. Kennedy; "ask not what your *parish* can do for you, ask what you can do for your *parish*". Most importantly, what can you do to serve God? Distributing the most holy body and blood of our Saviour is indeed a humble act of service but it is also a profound and joyful privilege! Take my word for it. How blessed we are in this vibrant parish of Saint Wilfrid. I am already proud to call Widnes my home.

Holy Wilfrid - pray for us!

**Fr Peter**

## St. Wilfrid's Parish Dance

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm - St. Basil's Parish Centre

In October we celebrate the feast of our parish patron, St. Wilfrid and we are going to have a parish dance to celebrate who and what we are as a parish community. There will be entertainment, buffet, dancing, stand up bingo, raffles and lots of fun times together! Come along and share an evening with your parish family! Tickets will be available shortly. Tickets are £5 each and will be available at all Masses shortly.

## Deanery Synodal Council

On the 21<sup>st</sup> September the members of the DSC will meet together once more at St. Bede's Guild Hall as we continue to walk together as a deanery. The central responsibility of the DSC is to keep synodality at the centre of all that we are, to discover and explore the plea of Pope Francis to become a church who truly listens to God, to one another and is open to the inspiration and the promptings of the Holy Spirit. St. Wilfrid's Parish Representatives on the DSC are Susan Warburton, Denise Roberts, Peter McCann and Pauline Rolt.

Clergy Representatives are Fr. Peter, Dcn. Paul and Fr. Mark.

Please keep the members of our parish who serve on the council in your prayers, it is not always an easy job, but crucial to the future of our community.

## R.C.I.A. - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

**Would you like to become a Roman Catholic?**

**Would you like to know more about your faith and have the time to talk to others about big questions?** The RCIA programme is a discerning programme for adults who wish to learn more, and after a time of prayer and contemplation, may wish to become Roman Catholics. The programme runs from late September till May and requires a weekly commitment. If you would like to know more, please leave your contact details at the Parish Office and Pauline Rolt will contact you.

## Handypeople Needed!

So, often we need small jobs done around our churches and presbyteries and halls; and often because we are not able to do the job, we have to contact the archdiocese and they send a tradesperson out to fix the problem and we are rightfully charged for this. Yet, the cost is often great for what is a small job, with call out fees etc. Could you help?

*Small electrical jobs, like changing fuses and starting up the heating systems? Dripping taps and leaking loos? Drilling holes and fixing gaps?* These small jobs add up to high costs for the parish.

If you are 'handy' with small jobs and would be willing to help from time to time, could you pass your name and telephone number and what handy skills you have, and we will contact you if the need arises.

Thank you so much, this will be a great help to the whole parish community!

## Could you be a Deacon? Diaconate Information Evenings

The Archbishop will be hosting two Diaconate Information Evenings during the next few months: on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at Bishop Eton in Liverpool and on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at St John's in Wigan. Each evening will begin at 7.30pm, with refreshments available from 7.00pm and will end by 9.00pm. The evenings are open to anyone who would like to find out more about the diaconate, especially men who are wondering if they may be called to this ministry. Wives and supporting priests and deacons are also very welcome. For more information email Deacon Paul Rooney, [p.rooney@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:p.rooney@rcaol.org.uk).

## Parish Liturgy

Please check where Holy Mass is each day as everything is subject to change!

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Albert Timperley
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Bridget Catherine Loftus
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	George Grace
16.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Parishioners
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> September</b>		
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Marie Elizabeth Golson
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Memorial of St Ambrose Barlow</b>	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12 noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	John & Margaret Colford
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> September</b>		
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12 noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Anastasia Bryan
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> September</b>		
<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Requiem Mass</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>	<b>Marie Bold</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Memorial of St John Chrysostom</b>	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Patricia & James King
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Lil Nelson
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Marie Cullerton
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	George Sadler Snr
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tomasz Osinski
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Marie Comer

**Ladies and Gentlemen, please be careful, not everyone is as trustworthy as we would hope them to be, watch your handbags at Mass and be vigilant in Church. We pray for them!**

### Sanctuary Lamp

*The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.*

<b>St Bede</b>	Special Intention
<b>St Basil</b>	Marie Elizabeth Golson
<b>St John Fisher</b>	Clergy Team
<b>St Michael</b>	Joseph Davies

### Requiescant in pace

John Buckley, Thomas McDermott,  
Michael Hindley & John Mitchell

**May the Angels lead them into Paradis**

## **St Bede's Restoration Project - Good News**

At our project presentation in May the Buildings and Finance group explained how much the project was going to cost, and how we intended to cover those costs. One of the sources was fundraising, by applying to organisations who offer grants for the sort of work we are undertaking.

In late May an opportunity arose to apply for a grant, thanks to our Architect and the Archdiocesan Building Surveyors department. There was a very short time in which to meet the deadline. Applying for a grant of any sort can be challenging, as a great deal of detail is required. The grant team from the Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation ( <https://www.albertgubayfoundation.org/> ) visited St Bede's to see the proposed works and asked many questions to determine how much to award if our bid was successful.

We are pleased to announce that the bid was successful, and a grant was awarded. We are delighted to share with you that we have been given the full amount we had asked for, in total the grant is £462,891 towards our costs. This is an extremely generous amount.

In addition to AGCF we have several people to thank for their support in making this happen including you the people of our parish for your ongoing support and encouragement.

Please say a prayer of thanks to AGCF for their remarkable generosity.

Fr. Mark and Building and Finance Group

## **St. Michael's Church Heating**

Recently a heating engineer came to St. Michael's Church to service the heating system. The outcome of that visit was that the entire heating system at St. Michael's Church has been condemned and can no longer be used. We immediately contacted the Surveyors Department, and we are currently exploring different options for the heating of the church. We are going to work/consult and be advised by the Archdiocesan Trustees and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Organisation Committee in discerning the way forward. We will keep you informed as we learn more about the situation.

The Vision Group

## **CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day**

For CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day, all welcome to hear the latest from Archdiocesan Coordinator Ged Edwards on Wednesday 11 September in St Wilfrid's Guild Hall, Appleton Village, Widnes WA8 6EL from 1.30- 2.30pm starting with tea and coffee at 1.15pm. CAFOD with our donations and prayers is following the Lord's example among those who need it most, like Daniel the Carpenter in war-torn DR Congo who, with resources, tools and training, can now feed his family for good.

## **Archdiocese of Liverpool Adoremus - Saturday 21 September**

A day of Eucharistic Pilgrimage for the Archdiocese to The Metropolitan Cathedral will be taking place on Saturday 21 September at 9am until 6pm. In advance of the Jubilee Year 2025, and in celebration of this Year of Prayer, we will be celebrating Mass, offering confessions, a time of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and a Eucharistic Procession with plenty of time for prayer and reflection. Some posters for celebrations in Liverpool and the Isle of Man are attached, along with a timetable of workshops. You can book your space on the workshops here: <https://bit.ly/3M4B87C>

## **St. Basil's and All Saints**

The Anglican parish of All Saints have decided after much prayer and conversation to withdraw from the 'shared church' agreement, after nearly 40 years. There will be a final service there on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> of September at 10am to which you are all invited. We pray for this community as they face this time of transition and change.

Attendance at this service does not fulfil your Sunday obligation.