

# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

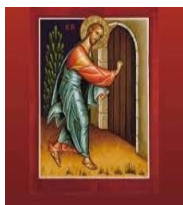
25<sup>th</sup> December/1<sup>st</sup> January 2022/23

**CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR**

Year A

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

Rev 3:20



## Clergy Team

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Parish Website: [stwilfridswidnes.uk](http://stwilfridswidnes.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  
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Office Manager

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator

Deb Kenna

## My Road to the Priesthood

It's amazing the tricks life plays on us. When I arrived in Lisbon two years before, I was content to spend my six years of formation in this farthest south-western corner of Europe. But it was not to be! With the closing of the college in Lisbon I found myself transported 1,500 miles back to where I started from and ending about 40 miles drive from my family home in Bootle at St Joseph's College, the Diocesan Seminary at Upholland.

Arriving that first day at St Joseph's I was surprised to meet up with 5 out of the 12 of my former companions from Lisbon. In my now 3<sup>rd</sup> year of formation there were 20 students of whom 4 were Liverpool students: Bill Redmond, David Melly, Nick Wild and myself. The college in those days was divided into Junior House and Seminarians, both completely separate except when we came together in chapel for Mass or other services. The college routine followed very much the same routine as the college in Lisbon. Lectures in the morning and study in the afternoon. Every Thursday afternoon was set aside for pastoral work in some of the parishes in Wigan or Skelmersdale.

In 1974 I began my Deaconate year, ordained on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June in the college chapel by Bishop Joseph Gray. Normally college ordinations would take place at the Cathedral but that year there were heavy falls of snow which made it impossible to get there. My first official celebration as a deacon was to assist at the nuptial wedding of my eldest sister Bridget. The saddest moment of my diaconate came a few months later when I assisted at the Requiem of my brother Michael who had died from Leukaemia.

1975 was the year of my ordination to the priesthood. This took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool. The Archbishop Rt Rev George Andrew Beck was to have celebrated the Ordinations, but he took ill the night before and his Auxiliary, Augustin Harris, celebrated the Ordinations in his place. The Cathedral was full that morning with all our invited guests. 4 of us were ordained Priests and 5 ordained Deacons. What a great day! A great priest friend had offered to organise a reception for my family and guests at St Silvester's in Liverpool. A great time was had by all!

My first Mass was celebrated in my home parish of St Richard's in Bootle the following morning. A week later I received My first appointment at St Theresa's Clock Face. St Helens not a stone's throw from where I am now.

Fr. Bill

# Christmas Thanks and Blessings!

It is right that at Christmas we thank you all for your constancy and faith in our community here at St. Wilfrid, we are blessed with such a wonderful parish, and we should never forget those who work so hard to ensure that we are a beacon of the love and forgiveness of Jesus in Widnes!

To all our wonderful volunteers who give their time and expertise so generously, thank you, we would be at a loss without you!

To Syl and Deb in the Parish Office, who support the parish clergy so well and are at the service of the whole community, your presence and skill is so appreciated, thank you!

May the Infant Jesus teach us all something as we approach the great feast of Christmas, it is in the small, in the powerless, in the forgotten that God is found. May we all be renewed and energised to serve one another and to remind those who have forgotten that He Is with Us!

May the Infant King of Bethlehem bless you all!

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



## Office Hours

Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Office Closed
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Office Closed
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am - 1.30pm
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am - 1.30pm
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am - 1.30pm
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Office Closed
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am - 4.30pm
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am - 4.30am
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am - 2.30pm
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Office Closed

# Mass Times – 25<sup>th</sup> December - 1<sup>st</sup> January

<p>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December <b>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</b></p> <p>9am – St. Basil – William Adrian Glynn (Remembrance)</p> <p>10am – St. Bede – Kevin Dolan (Lately Dead)</p> <p>10am – St. Michael – Kathleen and William O’ Brien (Birthday Remembrance)</p> <p>10am – St. John Fisher – Winifred Flanagan (Anniversary)</p>
<p>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr</p> <p>10.00 Holy Mass (St Basil) – Eileen Glover (Lately Dead) Mass for all Altar Servers</p>
<p>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist</p> <p>11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (St Bede)</p> <p>11.40am Holy Rosary (St Bede)</p> <p>12 Noon Holy Mass (St Bede) – Aurora Escosio (Remembrance)</p>
<p>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of the Holy Innocents</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NO MASS</b></p>
<p>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Saint Thomas of Canterbury (Becket) Bishop &amp; Martyr</p> <p>11.30am Exposition the Blessed Sacrament (St Michael)</p> <p>11.40am Holy Rosary (St. Michael)</p> <p>12 Noon Holy Mass (St. Michael) – For the intentions of the parishioners of St Wilfrid’s</p>
<p>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of the Holy Family</p> <p>09.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (St. John Fisher)</p> <p>09.10am Morning Prayer (St. John Fisher)</p> <p>09.30am Holy Mass (St. John Fisher) – Sean Karalius</p>
<p>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December</p> <p>10.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) – Paul Dennett – (Birthday Remembrance)</p> <p>10.30am Confessions and Rosary (St Bede)</p> <p>17.00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) – Pat &amp; Albert Allen (Remembrance)</p> <p>17.00pm Holy Mass (St Basil) – Jean &amp; Domingo Bernad</p>
<p>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God</p> <p>9.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) – Ann &amp; Hugh Brennan (Anniversary)</p> <p>9.30am Holy Mass (St Michael) – Maureen Allen</p> <p>10.30am Holy Mass (St John Fisher) – Billy Jones (Lately Dead)</p> <p>11.15am Holy Mass (St Bede) – Maria &amp; Frank Hurst (Anniversary)</p> <p>16:00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) – Jean Keily – (Lately Dead)</p>

<p><b>Sanctuary Lamp</b></p> <p><i>The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.</i></p>	
<b>St Bede:</b>	Jessie Burke
<b>St Michael:</b>	Anthony Fallon
<b>St Basil:</b>	Agnes & Tom Turner
<b>St John Fisher:</b>	Deceased Members of Davies, Glynn & Warburton Families

<p><b>Please pray for those who have recently died...</b></p> <p><b>Margaret Brennan, Honora Evans</b>  <b>Beryl Jones, Trevor Garner, Matthew Fairhurst,</b>  <b>Jean Walters, Brian Mercer, and Katherine Edge</b></p> <p><b><i>May they rest in peace and rise in glory!</i></b></p>
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# Mass Times – 1<sup>st</sup> January - 8<sup>th</sup> January

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January - Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

9.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) – *Ann & Hugh Brennan (Anniversary)*  
 9.30am Holy Mass (St Michael) – *Maureen Allen*  
 10.30am Holy Mass (St John Fisher) – *Billy Jones (Lately Dead)*  
 11.15am Holy Mass (St Bede) – *Maria & Frank Hurst (Anniversary)*  
 16:00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) – *Jean Keily – (Lately Dead)*

## Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

9.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer (St. Basil)  
 9.30am Holy Mass (St Basil) – *Winifred Golson (7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)*

## Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (St Bede)  
 11.40am Holy Rosary (St Bede)  
 12 Noon Holy Mass (St Bede) – *Roy Nelson Jnr (Anniversary)*

## Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

18.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Evening Prayer (St Bede)  
 7.00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) – *Brian Johnson (Lately Dead)*

## Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January

11.30am Exposition the Blessed Sacrament (St Michael)  
 11.40am Holy Rosary (St. Michael)  
 12 Noon Holy Mass (St. Michael) – *Kay Fanning*  
 19.00pm **Vigil Mass – Feast of the Epiphany** (St Basil) – *Mary Hewitt*

## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord– Holy Day of Obligation

09.30am Holy Mass (St. John Fisher) – *Deceased members of Kaloski Family*  
 12 noon Holy Mass (St Bede) -*Neil Shaw (Lately Dead)*  
 12.noon Holy Mass (St Michael) -*Bernard (Mike) Connolly*

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January

10.00am Holy Mass (St Bede) – *Michael & Winifred Butler*  
 10.30am Confessions and Rosary (St Bede)  
 17.00pm Holy Mass (St Bede) – *Michael O’Grady & Patrick Hyland (Birthday Remembrance)*  
 17.00pm Holy Mass (St Basil) – *Brendan Downey*

## Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January – 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)*

### Sanctuary Lamp

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

**St Bede:** Those who feel forgotten  
**St Basil:** Those who feel overwhelmed  
**St John Fisher:** Those who feel sad  
**St Michael:** Those who feel frightened