



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Times (Year A)

2nd August 2026

Parish Office:

Monday to Friday: 9:30-16:30

(unless stated in newsletter)

Parish Clergy: 0151 422 1772

Rev. Father Mark Moran (Parish Priest, Moderator).

Rev. Father Peter F. Ross (Parochial Vicar).

Rev. Deacon Paul Rooney.

Rev. Deacon Paul Whitehead.

St Bede's Presbytery

Appleton Village

Widnes

Cheshire

WA8 6EL

T: 0151 422 1772

E: stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk

W: stwilfridswidnes.uk

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna

Psalm Response

"You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord."

Gospel Acclamation Verse

**"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word
that comes from the mouth of God."**

Hearts Touched by Grace

The Liverpool Archdiocesan pilgrimage to the sanctuary of Lourdes brought us face-to-face with the profound beauty of faith, healing, and community. Walking in the footsteps of St. Bernadette, our pilgrims experienced a powerful renewal of spirit that continues to resonate back home in our parish. One of the most moving sights of the pilgrimage was the overwhelming presence of young volunteers. The sanctuary grounds alive with their vibrant energy, radiant joy, and tireless enthusiasm.

These young people spent their days pushing wheelchairs, guiding the sick, and offering words of encouragement. They served without a single complaint, bridging generational gaps through pure compassion and living kindness. Their selfless service provided a beautiful witness to the living Gospel, showing us that the future of our Church is bright and deeply rooted in love.

Spending time in Lourdes allowed us to dive deeper into the story of St. Bernadette Soubirous. Bernadette's humble strength and unwavering faith in the face of fierce mockery and doubt serve as a powerful lesson for us today. Her quiet obedience shows that God elevates the lowly. She inspires our parish community to seek holiness not in grand gestures, but in hidden, everyday acts of fidelity and trust.

We return to our parish transformed by this spiritual renewal, ready to answer the call of the Grotto by living out our daily lives with deeper love, compassion, and service to one another.

Fr. Mark

Mission Red Box -Thank you and Appeal

Fr Joseph and Fr Noah wish to thank the parish for the welcome and generous response to the Red Box appeal last weekend. If you did not get chance to collect a Red Box or direct debit form, please speak to your Missio volunteer or Parish Priest. Please keep the work of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries in your prayers. To find out more visit: www.missio.org.uk

Gift of Life for Zambia: Trip to Bakewell

Bakewell is a picturesque market town in the heart of the Derbyshire Peak District. The Bakewell Monday Market features over 100 stalls selling local produce and crafts. Stroll through the historic town or enjoy a scenic riverside walk. The coach leaves St. Basils at 9.30am and returns at approximately 6.30pm. The cost is £23. Please put your money in an envelope marked with your name and telephone number and pass it to either Monica (424 8194) or Angela (424 8668) or call them for further information. All profits to Gift of Life for Zambia. Date of the trip – **Monday 7th September 2026.**

Evening Prayer with the Apostolic Nuncio

All are invited to assemble as our archdiocesan family at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on **Sunday 13 September at 3pm** for the culmination of the Apostolic Nuncio's visit to the archdiocese. This date coincides with the 175th anniversary of the establishment of the Metropolitan Chapter of Liverpool. The celebration will take the form of Evening Prayer sung in the Cathedral. There will be a drinks reception following in the Cathedral crypt.

Safeguarding this Summer

The summer months are a time of joy and relaxation for many people. However, they can also bring increased risks and challenges. Factors such as hot weather, financial pressures, changes in routine, and reduced access to regular support networks (such as schools) can all have an impact on people's wellbeing and vulnerability.

If you are concerned about a child or a vulnerable adult, please contact the police. Non urgent concerns, contact either social services or the archdiocesan safeguarding team;

Mark Robson – 01515221013 or 07585761965

Claire Newton – 01515221043 or 07384643237

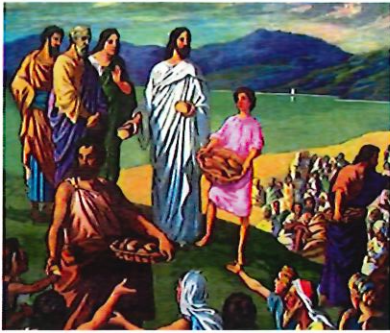
St. Wilfrid's Parish Safeguarding Lead – Fr. Mark – 01514221772

St. Wilfrid's Parish Safeguarding Reps – Pauline Ruth, Carol Murray & Pauline Rolt - 01514221772

Contact your MP to oppose Assisted Suicide

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill returns to the House of Commons for its Second Reading on 11 September. Those wishing to express their opposition are encouraged to contact their MP using the online resources provided by CBCEW in association with Right to Life UK. For more information and resources, visit: cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide
righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote

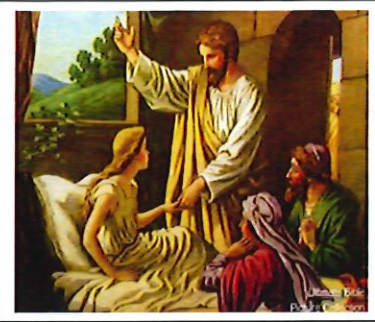
August's Four Scripture Reflections: Trust in God



Jesus feeds the five thousand



Jesus walks on waters of the lake



Jesus heals the Canaanite's daughter



Peter's confession of faith

"Trust frees, fear paralyses"

Pope Francis

The four gospel passages of August from Matthew's gospel, lead us to think about trusting in God.

Jesus demonstrates trusting in God's abundance and providence through his miracle of feeding the five thousand who came to hear him in the wilderness. God provides more than enough for humanity.

The second gospel passage about Peter stepping off the boat onto stormy water and begins to sink as soon as he takes his eyes off Jesus. This is the ultimate New Testament passage about trusting amidst fear and the dangers of letting anxiety eclipse faith.

The third passage shows the radical trust and perseverance in God's mercy, which the Canaanite woman shows when coming to Jesus to ask him to heal her sick daughter amidst derision and opposition from others.

The fourth passage of Peter's Confession of Faith in Jesus shows us that he builds his Church on the trust which Peter showed in recognising his true identity as the Messiah.

Personal Reflection

Our world can feel too fast and uncertain at times. Jesus is inviting us through these Gospel passages to take a different posture. In Proverbs 3:5-6 we are reminded "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and not lean on your own understanding: in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight".

Choosing trust does not mean our lives will be free from storms. Instead, it means we are promised an unshakable anchor. "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." King David Psalm 56:3

This week, let us reflect honestly on our lives: is it a family concern, a health worry, or a financial burden that is bothering us? Let us intentionally hand it over to Our Lord. His heart is good and his love is eternal. Keep your focus on him and step back and know that his love and kindness are with us to help and guide.

Prayer of trust in Our Lord.

Lord, when my path feels unclear, quiet my anxious thoughts and anchor my heart in your perfect unchanging love. Amen

Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love and the future to God's providence"
Saint Augustine of Hippo.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	2nd August	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Times
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede Elaine Davies
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael Alfred Rimmer
16.00	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher Parishioners
Monday	3rd August	Monday Week 18 in Ordinary Time
09.00	Exposition & Morning Prayer	
09.30	Holy Mass	St. Basil Brian Egan
Tuesday	4th August	Memorial of St John Vianney
11.30	Exposition & Rosary	
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede Kathleen Black
Wednesday	5th August	Wednesday Week 18 in Ordinary Time
11am	Funeral Service	St Bede Julia Gibbs
Thursday	6th August	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
No Mass or Service		
Friday	7th August	Friday Week 18 in Ordinary Time
09.00	Exposition & Morning Prayer	
09.30	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher Mass Association Members
Saturday	8th August	Vigil of Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Times
16.30	Holy Mass	St. Basil Peter & Winifred Rouski
Sunday	9th August	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Times
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede James Penny
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael Martin Rouski
16.00	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher Parishioners

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for 7 days for your intention.

St. Bede:	Peter Woodward
St. Basil:	Joseph and Mary Freeman
St. John Fisher:	Patricia and Peter Rouski
St. Michael:	Joan Higginson

Rest in Peace

Angela Kelly, Anthony Hill, Thomas Simpson,
Alex Standen, Margaret Reardon,
Thomas Glynn & Barry Cunningham

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Parish Office

During August, please note that the parish office will be open from 9.30am – 2pm, Monday to Friday. Please call during these hours. Thank you.