



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

11th October 2026

Parish Office:

Monday to Friday: 9:30-16:30
(unless stated in newsletter)

Second collection next weekend
is for: **APF World Missions**

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

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

Rev. Deacon Paul Rooney.

Rev. Deacon Paul Whitehead.

Psalm Response

**"In the LORD'S own house shall I dwell for
length of days unending."**

Gospel Acclamation Verse

**"May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
so that we may know the hope to which he has called us."**

'May the madness of war cease.'

From the various incidents of sectarian assaults in this country, to the vehemence between Russia and Ukraine, and between the US and Iran, war and violence seem to have deep roots in our world!

Pope Leo XIV called on the Church earlier this year to prayer; to pray daily for peace. Establishing peace takes time, so our prayer needs to be constant, as we deepen our trust in the power of God. The Pope begins, *'Lord Jesus, You conquered death without weapons or violence.'* We are called to be bearers of peace, whose hearts are not hardened, not closed to the life and example of the Prince of Peace, and not discouraged by setbacks.

The Pope prays that God sends forth the Spirit, 'the breath that gives life and reconciles,' the Holy Spirit who renews and brings hope. He continues to pray that we are inspired, *'to trust in Mary.'* The Church has called Abraham, *'our father in faith,'* so in a more profound way Mary is our *'mother in faith.'* She has both brought the *'light of the world,'* to birth, so also, she has witnessed the life of Jesus ebbing away - yet was sustained in believing in the God of life.

In the concluding lines of this prayer, Pope Leo uses some telling and powerful words, words that some people may find controversial. His words form the title of this article - *'May the madness of war cease.'* War follows political decisions. We are called to pray for politicians to work and sustain peace. Leo XIV asks to pray for, *'those who still know how to bring forth, protect and love life.'*

Dcn. Paul Whitehead

The Gospel of Mark - A Series of Talks

For the third year running, St. Wilfrid's Parish is pleased to offer a series of four accessible talks on the Sunday Gospel for the ensuing liturgical year (2026/27), the Gospel of Mark. As always, these talks, taking place on **Wednesdays** at **19:00** at the Parish Hall at St. John Fisher, are aimed at 'anyone and everyone', with the four speakers bringing their own wisdom and experiences to the table. Each session concludes with benediction at 20:00. Fr. Martin Fyles, scripture scholar and assistant priest in Chorley, will provide the initial session on the Gospel, enabling the other speakers to delve into their topics wholeheartedly.

21st October 2026 - Fr. Martin Fyles: Introduction to the Gospel of Mark.

28th October 2026 - Fr. Mark Drew: The Suffering Servant.

4th November 2026 - Sr. Bridget Folkard SSMN: The Kingdom of God.

9th November 2026 - Kate Wilkinson: Evangelisation and Mission.

November – Month of the Holy Souls

During November, we remember and pray for our deceased family members and friends. To include your loved ones in our prayers, please pick up an envelope at church this weekend. Write their names on the envelope, place their names and your offering inside, and return it to the Parish Office. All names will be placed before the altar in every church and remembered in prayer throughout the month.

'The souls of the virtuos are in the hands of God, no torment shall ever touch them, in the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, but they are in peace.'

Our Lady's Primary School

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School, Clinton View, WA8 8JN are hosting two Reception 2027 prospective parent sessions on:

Tuesday 13th October 15.30 to 17.30 and **Tuesday 20th October** 15.30 to 17.30

These are both drop-in sessions and parents are welcome to come at any time between the times stated, to look around our school and meet staff.

Widnes Food Bank Harvest Appeal

Widnes food bank continues to provide food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship. We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge Thank You to St Wilfrid's parishioners for your continued support of Widnes Foodbank. Suggested items most needed are: Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Spaghetti, Jam, Tinned Fruit Long Grain Rice, Deodorant Washing Up Liquid and Coffee. Many Thanks.

Mass Intentions and Blessed Sacrament Candles

Mass Cards require an offering of at least £5 per Mass plus the cost of the card itself, while a Mass Association Card is available for a £10 offering. You can also sponsor a Blessed Sacrament candle to burn for seven days for a £10 offering. St. Basil's Church has two candles available each week, and all our other churches have one candle available. Throughout history, the saints have emphasized that offering a Holy Mass for someone—whether living or deceased—is one of the most powerful and loving acts of intercession possible.

Preparing for Hospital?

If you or a loved one is scheduled to go into hospital for surgery, medical tests, or treatment for a serious illness, please consider asking one of the priests to administer the **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** before your admission.

Due to the busy schedules of local clergy and the high demand on healthcare staff, a priest may not always be readily available or allowed immediate access to administer the sacrament once you are on the ward. By receiving this beautiful sacrament of healing, comfort, and the forgiveness of sins in advance, you can enter the hospital already strengthened by the grace and peace of the Holy Spirit.

The sacrament is not just for those at the very end of life; it is a source of spiritual support for anyone facing a significant health challenge or major procedure.

How to Arrange the Sacrament:

1. Speak to a priest directly after Mass.
2. Contact the Parish Office during normal working hours to schedule a convenient time at the church or via a home visit.

*Please note: If you do experience an emergency admission, please notify the ward staff immediately and ask them to contact the hospital's **Catholic Chaplain**.*

Fr. Mark and Fr. Peter

Rome and Assisi Pilgrims

Pilgrims must be ready to depart from St. Bede's Church at **5:45am** this Monday morning for our upcoming journey to Rome and Assisi. Please double-check that you have both your passport and flight tickets with you before leaving home. To make boarding as smooth as possible, the coach will be parked by Appleton Village, which provides easier and more direct access from the main car park. Safe travels, and please know that we will be keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers throughout the pilgrimage!

'You'll never walk alone' – Show in Manchester

Join us for a wonderful evening of music, laughter, and friendship! We are heading to Manchester for the latest musical show performed by the fantastic St. Dunstan's Amateur Operatic Society. This is a cabaret-style musical show (not a play) where we will be seated around tables, and a bar will be open for refreshments throughout the evening.

- Departure: 6:00pm outside St. Bede's Church on Wednesday 11th November.
- Return: Approx. 10:30pm
- Cost: £25 per person (includes premium seating and coach travel)

Tickets always sell out quickly. To secure your place, please submit your name and telephone number, plus £25pp, to the Parish Office marked for the attention of Susan Warburton.

***'When you walk through a storm, hold your head up high and
don't be afraid of the dark!'***

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	11th October	Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Francis McLoughlin
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael	Mass Association Members
11.30	Holy Mass	St. Bede	George Grace
16.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Cliff Edwards
Monday	12th October	Monday Week 28 in Ordinary Time	
09.30	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St Basil	
Tuesday	13th October	Tuesday Week 28 in Ordinary Time	
12.00	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St. Bede	
Wednesday	14th October	Wednesday Week 28 in Ordinary Time	
No Mass or Service			
Thursday	15th October	Memorial of St Teresa of Jesus of Avila	
12.00	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St. Michael	
Friday	16th October	Friday Week 28 in Ordinary Time	
09.30	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St. John Fisher	
Saturday	17th October	Vigil of the Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
16.30	Holy Mass	St. Basil	Paul Field
18.00	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher	Parishioners
<i>(Widnes Catholic Children's Choir will be singing at 18.00 Mass)</i>			
Sunday	18th October	Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	John O'Brien
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael	Margaret Leach
11.30	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Anthony Hill
16.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Norah Phillips

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for 7 days for your intention

St. Bede:	Marie Shropshire
St. Basil:	Special Intention
St. Basil:	The Ross Family
St. John Fisher:	Teresa Topping
St. Michael:	Margaret Rowlands

Rest in Peace

Lee Patrick Meade &
Robbie Ross

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!