



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



12th April 2026

Sunday of Divine Mercy (Year A)

Second Collection – Oblates of St. Joseph

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.

E: stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk

W: stwilfridswidnes.uk

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna

Psalm Response

“Give praise to the LORD, for he is good, his good, his mercy endures forever”

Gospel Acclamation Verse

“You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed”

Keeping the Easter Joy Alive: From Doubt to Belief

The celebration of Easter does not end on Easter Sunday—it is meant to live on in our hearts. The risen Jesus Christ invites us not just to remember His Resurrection, but to *live* in its joy every day.

In the Gospel, we meet Thomas the Apostle—often called “Doubting Thomas.” He struggled to believe what the others had seen. He wanted proof. And yet, when Jesus appeared to him, He did not reject Thomas’ doubt; He met him in it. But He also called him higher: “*Do not be unbelieving, but believe.*”

How often do we find ourselves like Thomas? We may believe in theory, but in moments of fear, suffering, or uncertainty, doubt creeps in. We question God’s presence, His plan, or His love.

Easter is God’s answer to that doubt.

The Resurrection proclaims that death does not have the final word, that sin is conquered, and that hope is never in vain. To “keep the Easter joy going” means choosing, each day, to trust this truth—even when we cannot see clearly.

Jesus says to Thomas, and to us: “*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.*” This is our call. Not a blind faith, but a faith rooted in love, strengthened by grace, and lived out in daily trust.

So let us not remain in doubt. Let us move forward in faith, holding onto the joy of Easter—a joy that no darkness can overcome.

Fr. Mark, Parish Priest

SVP – St Wilfrid’s Parish – Widnes

On behalf of the two conferences in the parish, i.e. St Basil and St Bede we are very grateful for your generous donations during the past year (6 April 2025 to 5 April 2026), which amounted to £5,600. During this period with your donations, we were able to help a number of parishioners and others who requested help. We were able to send six children to Summer Camp and to distribute Food Vouchers at Christmas to some families who were in need.

It is at this time of year, just before the tax year starts (6 April 2026) that we talk about Gift Aid. HMRC allows you to Gift Aid any donations you make to the SVP charity or any other charity providing that you pay tax. This results in the charity getting a further 25% of the sum donated, it works like this, if you donate £ 1.00 then a further 25p is added to your donation making a total of £ 1.25 for the charity.

At present, the only way we can achieve this, is by using the SVP donation envelope. If you pay tax please fill your details on the internal slip of the envelope, we send the slips to our National Office in Bradford and their Finance Department claims the Gift Aid on our behalf, and that portion of Gift Aid is returned to us, giving us extra money to spend within the parish.

Again, we thank you for your kind and generous donations.

Blessing of the Icon of St Peregrine and Service of the Sacrament of the Sick

On **Friday 24th April** at **7pm** at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, L25 2RW, Archbishop Sherrington will bless a newly commissioned icon of St Peregrine, the patron saint of those with cancer and life limiting conditions.

All are welcome who have been affected by cancer or a desire to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. During this Easter season come and discover how God walks with you through silent journeys of illness and treatment.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Holy Family Parish, Cronton invite you to a day of Divine Mercy on **Sunday 12th April**. Starting at 1.30 with Rosary, followed by, 2.30 – 3pm Exposition and Divine Devotions, 3.30pm Stations of the Cross and Holy Mass at 4pm. Confessions available throughout the day.

Post Code for Sat Nav is WA8 5DW. Arriva number 7 bus stops outside.

Vocations Weekend for Women - Discerning God's Call in your Life

15th - 17th May

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s and 30s). The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to live alongside the religious community and to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org To register: <https://bit.ly/Vocation2026>

Welcome to the Oblates of St. Joseph

This weekend we welcome Fr. Peter and Fr. Stephen to St. Wilfrid's parish as they make an appeal for their work. The Oblates of Saint Joseph is a Catholic religious institute founded on 14 March 1878 by St. Joseph Marello and dedicated to Saint Joseph. The principal apostolate of the Oblates of St. Joseph is to work with youth and the poor.

However, Joseph Marello's initial plan was to have the Oblates serve in whatever capacity the local bishop deemed necessary, so long as it was consistent with the spirituality and life of the Oblates. Presently, the Oblates serve in many different capacities, depending upon the needs of the bishops where they serve. Common apostolates include education and catechesis of youth, parish ministry, serving the poor and underprivileged, and orphanages.

Fr. Stephen and Fr. Peter will tell us of their work and make an appeal for help. Please be as generous as you can be.

Easter Thanks!

So many people work tirelessly to ensure that our Lenten and Easter services are truly special. The effort that takes place behind the scenes is immense, and what we do would not be possible without the selfless dedication of so many. Sacristans, flower arrangers, musicians, welcomers, altar servers, readers, Eucharistic Ministers, collectors... the list goes on—thank you! Your time, energy, and vision are deeply appreciated and never taken for granted. The whole parish is truly grateful. May God bless you all!

Easter Parish Dance

The Easter Parish Dance will take place on **Friday 17th April** at 7:30pm in St. Basil's Parish Centre. Tickets are just £5 each, which includes a buffet and some first-class entertainment. Please do come along and enjoy a wonderful evening with your parish family! Tickets are available from the Parish Office.

Liturgy Meeting

There will be a Liturgy Meeting at St. Bede's Presbytery at **7.30pm** on **Tuesday 14th April**, can all members of the Liturgy Group make every effort to attend as we review Lent and Easter and plan the next season!

Continuing along the Path of Synodality

Pope Leo has invited us to continue to embrace the journey of synodality recognising that 'our relationships do not respond to the logic of power but to that of love.' As we journey through Eastertime towards the great feast of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we have an opportunity to reflect on the document that came from the final session of the Synod on Synodality called by Pope Francis that Pope Leo is now urging us to embrace at every level in the life of the Church.

Tuesday evenings, 7pm to 8.30pm, 21, 28 April, 5, 12, 19 May.

To join the zoom meeting use the weblink below, enter the meeting details or use the QR code:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8998355285?pwd=VBT0x3xbJiWrU8x00sbiuCGmnO97Xn.1>

Meeting ID: 899 8355 5285 Passcode: 981267

Two Cathedrals March

On **Sunday 24th May 2026 at 3pm** there will be the Annual March between our two Cathedrals in Liverpool. If you would like to walk with our Archbishop and other people of faith on the Feast of Pentecost, please assemble at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King and walk in faith!

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	12th April	Low Sunday	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Michael & Winnie Burns
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	The Hignett Family
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	The Bonnon Family
Monday	13th April	Monday week two of Easter	
09.00	Exposition & Morning Prayer	St Basil	
09.30	Service of the Word with Holy Communion		
Tuesday	14th April	Tuesday week two of Easter	
12noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Thomas James Jackson
Wednesday	15th April	Wednesday week two of Easter	
11.30	Exposition & Holy Rosary	St Bede	
12.00	Service of the Word with Holy Communion		
Thursday	16th April	Thursday week two of Easter	
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Linda Mary Dunne
Friday	17th April	Friday week two of Easter	
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Joan O'Brien
Saturday	18th April	Vigil of Third Sunday of Easter	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Kenneth & Margaret Bate
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Stephanie Edge
Sunday	20th April	Third Sunday of Easter	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Robert (Bob) Sherman
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Stephen O'Connor
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Celia & Tony O'Dowd

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intention.

St Bede:	Edith & Matthew Fairhurst
St Basil:	Jesus Shoulder Pain
St John Fisher:	Special Intention
St Michael:	Marie (Cynthia) Carlile

Rest in Peace

Joyce O'Connor, Joan Ainscough
& Marie (Cynthia) Carlile

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!