

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



**Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Year C) – Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

14th September 2025

**Second Collection this week is for
Catholic Education Service.
Next week the Second Collection will be for
Evangelii Gaudium.**

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

Parish Clergy:

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

T: 0151 422 1772
E: stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk
W: stwilfridswidnes.uk

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna

Psalm Response

'Never forget the deeds of the Lord.'

Our Church in Widnes

A parish working together thrives on shared faith, communication, active participation and mutual support to build a vibrant, unified community focused on serving both spiritual and social needs. For a parish to function as 'one', members need to cultivate a spirit of togetherness rooted in their shared beliefs and mission. This includes welcoming all parishioners, fostering open communication, and encouraging involvement in parish life, from liturgical ministries to social outreach.

The current challenges presented to us regarding the future of St Michael's church in the parish of St Wilfrid have put these things into sharp focus, but it seems that we are in a strong position.

What we know is that there are heating and building quality issues with St. Michael's church that have precipitated a necessary engagement with the Archdiocese to inform their decision making regarding its future.

In response, and not on a timescale of our making, the parish Vision Group organised open meetings for parishioners in St. Basil's club, St. Michael's church and St Bede's church to capture the feeling and comments of parishioners. We also invited comments by e-mail.

Every written comment received will be submitted (with names redacted) to the Archdiocese this coming Monday 15th September. These will be accompanied by a factual summary overview of the comments received and a covering statement reflecting the overall sentiments of parishioners, while also stressing the uniqueness of St. Michael's church for Widnes in several important aspects identified by parishioners, as well as its parish functions for the wider Widnes, possibilities for growth and its historic, cultural and architectural importance.

Resulting from the parish consultations, this submission drafted by the Vision Group will ask for more time to discern the future of St. Michael's church to ensure that wise, well informed and sustainable outcomes are taken by the Archdiocese for this church.

Thank you to everyone that has engaged so positively with this consultation. We will make the submission available to view for parishioners. More details to follow.

Vision Group for the parish of St. Wilfrid

Mass of Thanksgiving – Archbishop Malcolm

On **Friday 3rd October at 7pm** at the **Metropolitan Cathedral**, we will celebrate Holy Mass in thanksgiving for Archbishop Malcolm's ministry as Metropolitan Archbishop of Liverpool. This will be followed by a drink's reception in the Cathedral Crypt. We are all invited to attend.

If you would like to attend this Mass, there will a coach leaving St. Bede's Church at 6pm and returning at 10pm. If you would like a place on the coach please pass your name, telephone number and £10pp and we shall reserve you a place.

Parish Choral Offering

We are delighted to inform you that at **6.30pm on Friday 26th September** at St Basil's Church our Metropolitan Cathedral Choir will be singing a selection of Choral Classics. Our special guests that evening will be Widnes Catholic Children's Choir.

Tickets are £2.50 and will be on sale at all Masses this weekend. After this, tickets can be purchased from the Parish Office. Please come to what will be a very enjoyable evening. Refreshments will be available.

Mass of Celebration – Mary's Meals – Sunday 21st September

All are invited to a special Mass of celebration for the work of Mary's Meals **on Sunday 21st September at 3pm**. This is a global charity providing school meals to children in some of the world's poorest communities, and a charity that is supported here in the Parish of St. Wilfrid.

Archbishop John Sherrington will preside at the Mass at St Teresa's Catholic Church, Church Road, Upholland, Wigan, WN8 0PY. Light refreshments will be served in the church hall after Mass.

Widnes Food Bank

Thank you to everyone who supported us during the summer! This time of year, is a busy time for us all at Widnes Foodbank. It's a time for us to reflect on the support we receive from our community and give thanks. Compassion, care and dignity are at the heart of everything we do. We will always be there for anyone who needs our support.

If you can donate food, our current most needed items are below.

Soup, Custard, Tinned Fruit, Jam, UHT Juice, Coffee Sweets and Treats.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Widnes Catholic Children's Choir

Widnes Catholic Children's Choir have started their rehearsals again after the summer break at **St John Fisher Church Hall – Monday's 4-5pm**. They are currently looking for lots of new members from Years 2-8 who love singing and want to join our amazing group!

There are many exciting concerts and events planned for the coming year both in Widnes and beyond, so if you know of someone who is interested, please follow this link to sign up.

<http://eepurl.com/i8AkqA>

What is it that you believe?

This is concisely stated in the Creed. The Creed is the statement of what we believe. We state this, standing up, at every Sunday at Mass. It's a truly amazing public witness of our faith.

Want to know more about this important statement of our Christian belief?

Come to a fascinating talk by Fr. Mark Drew, entitled: "**The Nicene Creed**. Where does it come from, what does it mean, and why does it matter?" at **6.30pm on Thursday 18th September** in St John Fisher Hall.

Called to Serve

Thank you to those who expressed an interest in being formed as new Eucharistic Ministers (aka Extraordinary Ministers of Communion). It's fantastic that there was enough interest shown for us to organise a formation session. Thank you! This will be held in the Guild Hall **10.30am until 12.30 on Saturday 18th October 2025**. Please let the Parish Office know if you can attend this event for catering and organisational purposes.

As a Extraordinary Minister, you are called to serve the community by assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion. There is still time to step forward and join this formation session. Just drop your name and contact details into the Parish Office.

Dcn. Paul

Parish Choir

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or haven't been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally, it doesn't matter, you will be most welcome. Due to safeguarding guidance all members of the choir must be over 18. Our next practice **Monday 22nd September, at 7pm in St. John Fisher Church**.

Mass Intentions

Every effort to respond to requests for Masses to be said on a specific date and in a specific church is made. Yet, please understand that Requiem Masses and availability of the priests often make these requests impossible.

The Mass requested will be celebrated at the nearest opportunity to the date requested. Your understanding is sought on this issue. Mass requests should be made as early as possible and passed into the Parish Office.

Trinity Safe Space charity

Thank you very much for your continued donations of clothes and trainers for Trinity Safe Space charity. As fast as we get them in, they are given out! Could the person who gave us 2 iPhones in a brown envelope earlier in the year please get in touch with me as they are pin protected.

We now need a few largish suitcases and hold all type bags if anyone could donate those, as well as all the other things like bikes, phones, clothes, trainers, toiletries etc. Pauline Ruth 07395084772. Thank You.

Pauline Ruth

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	14th September	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Elizabeth Morris
			Anastasia Bryan
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Kathleen Glackin
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
Monday	15th September	Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	
09.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Mary Donoghue
Tuesday	16th September	Memorial of Ss Cornelius & Cyprian	
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Monica O’Mahoney
Wednesday	17th September	Ferial	
10.30	Requiem Mass	St Michael	John Hill
Thursday	18th September	Ferial	
14.00	School Mass	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour	
Friday	19th September	Ferial	
NO MASS OR SERVICE			
Saturday	20th September	Vigil of the Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Parishioners
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Marie Cullerton
Sunday	21st September	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Burke
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Diane Corwell
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Richard
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Nic Cook

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Elizabeth & Anastasia
St Basil:	Bereaved Families
St John Fisher:	Special Intention
St Michael:	Patricia Mary King

Rest in Peace

Denise Brown, Agnes Eunice Higgins,
Peter Thomas Sunderland,
Jennifer Mary Settle & Terence Brendon Karalius

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!