



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

18th October 2026

Parish Office:

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

Second Collection: **APF World Missions**

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

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.

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Psalm Response

"Ascribe to the LORD glory and power."

Gospel Acclamation Verse

"Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life."

'Come in'

Members of the clergy, religious and increasingly lay members of the Church, pray, each day, the Divine Office. There are several lines taken from one psalm that 'introduce' the Daily Office, and include the words:

**Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we,
The people who belong to His pasture and the flock which is led by His hand.**

The words, 'Come in,' are words of invitation. We invite God into our lives, into the beginning of each day, to shape our prayer, and all that follows.

As the psalm continues, speaking of us, the Church, the people who 'belong to his pasture', the words are reminiscent of the Good Shepherd. When the Lord comes in, he comes to shepherd, to care and to nourish us, 'the flock that is led by his hand.' The Lord comes to guard and to minister those in his care. It is a powerful example given to us who care for others.

We bow and we kneel before the God who is ever present, ever patient, who awaits the invitation to 'come in'. Our silence and stillness can be our invitation to the Lord to 'come', to enter our day, our concerns, our plans, and whatever else the coming day may bring.

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.

Bereavement Team Meeting

There will be a meeting for the Bereavement Team following Holy Mass on **Tuesday 20th October** at St. Bede's Presbytery. All members of the team are encouraged to attend as we will be planning the following 12 months of support to the bereaved in our parish community.

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 from the back of church. 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.

Young Catholics in Widnes Pilgrimage

On **Monday, 26th October**, around 20 members of our parish young adults' group will journey to London for a day pilgrimage to the sites and shrines of St. Edward the Confessor, St. Thomas More, St. John Fisher, and St. John Southworth. We will be joined on the pilgrimage by His Grace, Archbishop Sherrington. The day will include: a tour of the Palace of Westminster (thanks to Derek Twigg MP), a tour of Westminster Abbey (including prayers at the Shrine of St. Edward), and a tour of Westminster Cathedral (given by Fr. Patrick van der Vorst of Christian Art). It promises to be a fantastic day!

Our next regular event will take place on **Friday, 6th November 2026**, at 18:00 at St. Basil's. As November is the month of prayer for those who have died, we will celebrate a Solemn Requiem Mass (Latin and English) with Gregorian chant. As you arrive, you will be handed a candle which will burn during the Mass for your deceased loved ones. The preacher at this Mass will be Fr. Derek Lloyd. Social and quiz to follow!

Are you interested in becoming a Deacon?

The deacon embodies the spirit of service and compassion in the Church. As a rule, candidates for the diaconate are expected to be mature men, often between the ages of 30 and 65. If they are married, they need to be in a stable sacramental marriage. If you are interested in becoming a Deacon, we invite you to join us at an on-line event for enquirers at 7pm on **Tuesday 20th October 2026**. To book a place please contact: p.rooney@rcaol.org.uk

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

ONLY 3 TICKETS LEFT!

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.

We Depart: 6:00pm outside St. Bede's Church on **Wednesday 11th November** and return approx. 10:30pm. Cost: £25 per person, which includes premium seating and coach travel.

Prayers for the Ordination of Rev. Dan Howarth

As a parish community, we send our warmest congratulations and assurance of prayers to Rev. Dan Howarth as he prepares to take a monumental step in his journey of faith. Dan will be ordained to the priesthood on **Saturday 24th October** at St. Oswald's Church in Padgate, Warrington. Many of our parishioners will remember Dan fondly from his time with us in the Parish of St. Wilfrid, where he served on placement during his seminary training. His dedication and warmth left a lasting impression on our community, and it is a great joy to see him reach this beautiful milestone. We ask everyone to keep Dan closely in their thoughts and prayers during this special time. We pray that the Holy Spirit guides, strengthens, and sustains him as he begins his life as a priest, dedicating himself to the service of the Church and the people of God. Dan, please be assured of the continued support and prayers of your friends here at St. Wilfrid's as you enter into this lifelong ministry.

Catholic Primary Schools in Widnes

We are delighted to announce that on **Friday 23rd October**, all our local Catholic primary schools will gather for a collaborative and inspiring INSET day led by the renowned Jo Boyce and her CJM Music team. This special day of professional development and spiritual reflection will be hosted across both St. Basil's School and St. Basil's Church. The core focus of the day will be exploring how we, as educators and staff, can guide the children in our care toward a deeper, more meaningful understanding of prayer and liturgy. Jo Boyce and her team will share practical insights, engaging music, and valuable resources to help us enrich the daily spiritual life of our school communities. To beautifully crown our time together, the day will culminate with a celebration of the Holy Mass, allowing us to worship together and renew our shared mission. We look forward to welcoming all our staff for this wonderful day of fellowship, growth, and prayer.

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 emphasised that offering a Holy Mass for someone—whether living or deceased—is one of the most powerful and loving acts of intercession possible.

Sacramental Programme Catechists Meeting

There will be a meeting for all Sacramental Programme Catechists following Holy Mass on **Tuesday 27th October** at St. Bede's Presbytery. All catechists are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Parish Liturgy

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
Monday	19th October	Monday Week 29 in Ordinary Time	
09.30	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St Basil	
Tuesday	20th October	Tuesday Week 29 in Ordinary Time	
11.30	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Private Intention
Wednesday	21st October	Wednesday Week 29 in Ordinary Time	
10.00	Y5 and Y6 Mass	St. Michael's RC Primary School	
11.00	Requiem Mass	St. Bede	Lee Patrick Mead
Thursday	22nd October	Thursday Week 29 in Ordinary Time	
No Mass or Service			
Friday	23rd October	Friday Week 29 in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
09.30	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher	Mark Hyland
14.00	Year 7 Mass	Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic College	
Saturday	24th October	Vigil of the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
12.00	Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood	St. Oswald's, Padgate, WA1 3LB	
	Rev. Dan Howarth		
16.30	Holy Mass	St. Basil	Barbara Foulkes
18.00	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher	John Potter
Sunday	25th October	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Anne & Tony Smith
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael	Pauline Noone
11.30	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Carol Ann Randall
16.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Parishioners

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for 7 days for your intention

St. Bede:	Nancy Carter
St. Basil:	Vocations to the Priesthood
St. Basil:	Special Intention
St. John Fisher:	The Skilky Family
St. Michael:	Margaret Leach

Rest in Peace

Paul Barrow
Norman William Cooper
Dave Bernstein

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!