



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Solemnity of Pentecost (Year A)

24th May 2026

Second Collection Next Week: SVP

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

"Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth".

Gospel Acclamation Verse

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle them in them the fire of your love".

Life's beautiful surprises!

In last week's newsletter, I mentioned Jan and I had made a number of pilgrimages to Lourdes. The combined number of miles, both there and returning, must total a few thousand! We have enjoyed travelling together in the nearly 40 years we have known one another, mostly holidays, with several pilgrimages as well.

In 1982, shortly after Pope John Paul II had visited Britain, I travelled to Italy with the Liverpool Youth. This was several years before Jan and I met. During this time, the group visited a place that had such an impact on me! It was not majestic, like St Petersburg; nor magnetic, such as Jerusalem. This place was characterised by its simplicity, challenge and holiness. This place was Assisi!

I had wanted Jan to visit Assisi, and to experience why I thought there could not be a lovelier place. Thankfully, we have visited Assisi twice together. But the year before we first went to Assisi, we discovered the beautiful town of Avila, a place so much associated with St Teresa. I find it difficult to convey how these places have affected me.

Maybe, you just need to be there, and to open your heart and mind to their beauty and simplicity - visual, spiritual and material.

Both Assisi and Avila have their religious heroes; both Francis and Teresa wanted to draw people closer to Jesus.

Deacon Paul Whitehead

Warrington and Widnes Deanery Mass

Our monthly gathering of the Catholic parish family within the Deanery takes place this month on **Friday 29th May**, 12noon at St. John Fisher Church, WA8 3JA. This Mass fosters community, support collaborative parish work, and offers shared prayer. Please come along if you can. This month we welcome Archbishop John Sherrington to the Mass; he will preside and preach and then meet with the clergy as they have their meeting after the celebration of the Mass.

How our Deanery Parishes & Families of Parishes are made up...

The deanery is split into local parish clusters

Widnes and Cronton Family: Includes St Wilfrid's Parish (comprising St John Fisher, St Bede, St Basil, and St Michael) and Holy Family in Cronton.

West Warrington Family: Includes St Joseph's Church in Penketh, Sacred Heart & St Alban, and St Paul of the Cross.

East Warrington Family: Includes Blessed James Bell Parish (St Benedict's, St Mary's, and St Oswald's), St Peter & St Michael in Woolston, and St Stephen First Martyr in Orford.

18-35 Group

We meet next on **Sunday, 31st May, from 18:00 till late at St. Basil** to celebrate Trinity Sunday with a Mass in English and Latin. The priest offering the Mass will be Canon Sean Riley from the Archdiocese. Afterwards, we will try our hand at '**Basil's Bingo**' (Prize Bingo) with some frankly fabulous and some absolutely awful prizes up for grabs.

I'm also pleased to announce the date of our next pilgrimage day. On **August 8th**, we will journey to Arrowsmith House in Gregson Lane, to celebrate Mass in the room where St. Edmund Arrowsmith celebrated his last Mass before capture and execution, and to take part in a day on liturgy led by Maria Hall, a qualified liturgist and church musician.

The day will conclude with a tour of St. Mary's Church in Leyland, a church considered to be exceptional in terms of modern design, by Fr. Joe Bibby (former Parish Priest of St. Wilfrid). It promises to be an excellent day! Please continue to pray for this group.

Enrol a Loved One in St. Wilfrid's Mass Association

Our beautiful Mass Association cards are a meaningful way to remember a deceased loved one or celebrate a special occasion like a birthday or anniversary. For a £10 offering, the person enrolled will be included in a monthly Mass for one full year. To participate, simply fill out the enrolment slip found at the back of our churches and return it in the provided envelope to the Parish Office or a member of the clergy team. The Mass Association Cards are also available from the Parish Office during office hours.

Safeguarding Team

'Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults are the responsibility of every single person in our community.'

Safeguarding Lead for the Parish of St. Wilfrid's – Fr. Mark Moran

Safeguarding Reps – Pauline Ruth, Carol Murray and Pauline Rolt

Date for your Diary – Lourdes at Home Day

Bringing Lourdes to Widnes!

For many, a pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine in Lourdes is impossible due to cost, time, or infirmity. Yet, the call of Lourdes still rings in our hearts. Once again, we are bringing the spirit of Lourdes directly to our community!

Please mark your diaries and join us for this special day of prayer, fellowship, and healing.

Date: Wednesday 22nd July

Location: St. John Fisher Church, WA8 3JA.

Schedule of the Day:

- 7:00am – Mass of St. Bernadette
- 12noon – Service for the Anointing of the Sick
- 1:00 pm – Lunch in the Parish Hall
- 7:00pm – Rosary and Torchlight Procession

Sick & Housebound Parishioners

We want to help you be with us! You will receive a letter from Fr. Mark, in a few weeks offering to arrange transport to the 12:00noon Anointing Service and the 1:00pm lunch. Please reply to the letter to let us know if you need a ride.

Our Lady of Lourdes – Pray for us!

St. Bernadette – Pray for us!

Vision Group

On Monday 1st June after the 9.30am Mass at St. Basil's the Vision Group will meet in the Arrowsmith Room to spend time reflecting upon the vision, mission and outreach in our parish community. Please pray for the members of the Vision Team and if you ever have an issue or question for the group, please speak to them, they are duty bound to bring it to the attention of the whole group.

Vision Group – Peter McCann, Susan Warburton, Pauline Rolt, Denise Roberts, Dcn. Paul Whitehead, Dcn. Paul Rooney, Fr. Peter and Fr. Mark

Ecumenical News

It was a joy to once again welcome Rev. Michelle Goodwin to St. Wilfrid's for First Vespers of the Ascension. We thank her for reading during the service. It is always a cause for joy when Christians gather! St. Wilfrid's parishioners have also been invited to **Choral Evensong at St. Mary's Church, Hale Village, L24 4AY on 31st May at 18:30** to mark Trinity Sunday.

Members of the Clergy Team will be participating in the service alongside Rev. Michelle. *"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."* (John 17:21).

Book Sale

The UCM will be holding a book sale in **St John Fisher Hall, on Saturday 30th May, after 6pm** Mass. Tea & Coffee will be available. All Welcome.

Parish Liturgy

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Sunday | 24th May | Solemnity of Pentecost | |
| 09.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Celia McMullen |
| 10.15 | Holy Mass | St Michael | John Percival |
| 11.30 | Holy Mass | St Bede | SVP |
| 16.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Ruth Bibby |
| Monday | 25th May | Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church | |
| No Service or Mass | | | |
| Tuesday | 26th May | Memorial of St Philip Neri | |
| 11.30 | Funeral Service | St Basil | Anastasia Deus |
| 11.30 | Exposition and Rosary | | |
| 12noon | Holy Mass | St Bede | Doreen Taylor |
| Wednesday | 27th May | Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury | |
| 09.00 | Exposition and Morning Prayer | | |
| 09.30 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Vera Braddon |
| 12.30 | Funeral Service | St Bede | Frank Ames |
| Thursday | 28th May | Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest | |
| 11.45 | Funeral Service | St Michael | James Ware |
| Friday | 29th May | Friday Week 8 in Ordinary Times | |
| 12noon | Deanery Mass | St John Fisher | Elizabeth Evans Jimmy Murray Helen McCutchen-Kay |
| Saturday | 30th May | Vigil of Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity | |
| 16.30 | Holy Mass | St Basil | Mary Fallon |
| 18.00 | Holy Mass | St John Fisher | John & Maureen Hyland |
| Sunday | 31st May | Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity | |
| 09.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Parishioners |
| 10.15 | Holy Mass | St Michael | Hubert Fairhurst |
| 11.30 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Paul Finnegan |
| 16.00 | Holy Mass | St Bede | Pat & Alec Ayers |
| 18.30 | Evening Prayer | St Mary's, Hale Village | |

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intention.

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|------------------------|-------------------|
| St Bede: | Michael Richards |
| St Basil: | Thanksgiving |
| St John Fisher: | Pope Leo |
| St Michael: | Special Intention |

Rest in Peace

Patrick Riley, Margaret Barber,
James 'Brian' Glover, Mary Kerr, Ann Barrow,
Julia McAuley & Robert Hatton.

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

