

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Year C)**

26th October 2025

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Psalm Response

'The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him'.

All Saints and All Souls

We will soon celebrate All Saints Day and commemorate All Souls Day.

On All Saints' Day, we seek the intercession of all the friends of God in heaven. Regardless of who we are or how we're doing, we are made for union with God. Through the Sacrament of Confession, every sinner gets another chance. Think, when was the last time you went and received God's strengthening grace and forgiveness? We should go at least once month. Acknowledging one's reality as a sinner, in need of mercy, is the first step to becoming a saint. Pope Leo XIV has just canonised a diverse group of saints. Maybe look them up and draw some inspiration from their lives?

On All Souls Day, we pray for the dead. When you die, do you want people to pray for you? I do. I am a sinner and I'm not confident of going to heaven. I believe in God's mercy, and I know I need it to get to paradise. So please, please, please, when I die, don't 'celebrate my life' just pray for me, lots. At some point, a pervading sense of 'everyone goes to heaven' has crept into the modern discourse. The Church has never taught this. The Rite of Christian Funerals says: "*The Church through its funeral rites commends the dead to God's merciful love and pleads for the forgiveness of their sins.*" Commending and pleading does not stop with the funeral, it carries on. On All Souls Day, we do these two things. That's what I want when I die, not 'celebration and remembrance' but the commending of my soul to God's mercy and prayers for the forgiveness of my sins. Please pray for your loved ones who have died, using the prayer below:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.
May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

Fr Peter Ross

November – Month of the Holy Souls

November is when we as a Church pray in a special way for the dead, those we have known and loved and those, who in charity, have no one to pray for them. At every Mass the faithful departed are remembered, but during this special month certain opportunities are offered to draw together as a community to pray, remember and support one another in faith.

Saturday 1st/Sunday 2nd November – Feast of All Saints

Monday 3rd November – Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

Holy Mass at 7pm – St. Bede

Saturday 8th November – Mass for all the Faithful Departed, Blessing of Graves

Holy Mass at 10am – St. John Fisher. *At this Mass we pray for all who have died, and everyone will be offered a bottle of holy water to take to graves or places of remembrance, to bless and pray.*

Sunday 9th and Sunday 16th November – Masses for all who have died from our parish in the past 12 months, St. Basil's, 4pm. *At these two Masses, the names of all who have died in our parish community in the past 12 months will be read aloud, to call them to mind, to pray and to thank God for them.*

Pious List – there are envelopes at the back of every church for you to place the names of those who you would like to be included on the parish pious list, with your donation. Please return these to the Parish Office ASAP.

"In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die...they are in peace."

Book of Wisdom

Vision Group Update

Tasks outlined by the Archdiocesan Trustees...

Parishioners are invited to work on the following:

- *Being aware of the mission of the Catholic Church in the Widnes and Cronton Family of Parishes.*
- *What buildings are essential/needed to best support this mission?*
- *Explore the possibilities for civic involvement, grants, donations, legacies to support the mission.*
- *Consider the use/release of assets in the family of parishes to support the mission.*

What are our next steps?

- To gather two new groups of parishioners to work, in conjunction with the Vision Group, as project leaders on the tasks outlined by the Archdiocesan Trustees (see above).
- To set a realistic remit for each group, given the time frame

When will this happen?

October and early November will be the starting point for these two groups. Please continue to support, pray and be involved in these next important steps on our parish journey across the coming months...

Quarant'ore – 6th till 8th November 2025

Quarant'ore is a time of prayer, focusing our minds and hearts upon Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. This year our time of prayer will be on **Thursday 6th November** till **Saturday 8th November** and will take place in **St. John Fisher Church, WA8 3JA**. All are asked to come and spend some time before Jesus.

Thursday 6th Nov

9.30am – Holy Mass
10.15am – 12noon – Adoration
12noon – Holy Rosary
12.30pm – 6.30pm – Adoration
6.30pm – Holy Rosary
7pm – Holy Mass and close of Quarant'ore

Friday 7th Nov

9.30am – Holy Mass
10.15am – 12noon – Adoration
12noon – Holy Rosary
12.30pm – 6.30pm – Adoration
6.30pm – Holy Rosary
7pm – Holy Mass and close of Quarant'ore

Saturday 8th Nov

10am – Holy Mass for all the Faithful Departed and Confessions
11am – 5.30pm – Adoration
5.30pm – Holy Rosary
6pm – Holy Mass and close of Quarant'ore

Can you help?

Flowers – Donations are welcome towards the flowers that will adorn the altar, please mark your envelopes '40 Hours Flowers' and pass your donations into the Parish Office.

Candles – If you would like a candle for 40 hours, the cost of these are £15 for a large candle and £5 for a small candle which can be lit in memory of a loved one or for a specific intention. The name or the intention will be written on the candle, so only one name or intention per candle please. For example, 'The Moran Family'. Please pass your candle donations into the Parish Office asap. Many thanks!

Deanery Mass

Next **Friday, 31st October** we welcome the people and the priests from the deanery to Holy Mass at St. Basil's Church at 12noon. All are encouraged to make a special effort to attend this Mass and pray for the work of building the Kingdom of God in this part of the Archdiocese!

October Talks – Gospel of St. Matthew

We conclude our exploration of St. Matthew's Gospel on **Wednesday 29th October** at **7pm** at the Parish Hall at **St John Fisher Hall**. Refreshments will be served from 6.40pm. For this talk we welcome Maria Hall, who is a Pastoral Liturgist and lives at Arrowsmith House in Brindle. Thank you to all who have attended our October talks, we hope that everyone has found them informative and have given you a deeper insight into the Gospel of St. Matthew. A special thank you to Fr. Peter who has coordinated these talks and offered Benediction each week, it is appreciated.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	26th October	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Harry Taylor
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Carol Randall
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Fr Mark & Fr Peter
Monday	27^h October	Ferial	
No Mass or Service			
Tuesday	28th October	Feast of Ss Simon & Jude	
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Basil	Peter Tennant
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Peter Sunderland
12noon	Funeral Service	St Basil	Kevin George Riccio
Wednesday	29th October	Ferial	
10.00	Funeral Service	St John Fisher	Margaret Condron
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Marie Kennedy
20.00	Benediction	St. John Fisher	
Thursday	30th October	Ferial	
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Ann Findon
Friday	31st October	Ferial	
12noon	Deanery Mass	St Basil	Denise Potter & Ste Mercer
Saturday	1st November	Vigil of the Solemnity of All Saints	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Bernard Kelly
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	James Fay
Sunday	2nd November	Solemnity of All Saints	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Brian Holding
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Joan Mulroy
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Christopher Stanton
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Maureen Kinsey
St Basil:	Archbishop John
St John Fisher:	Refugees and Migrants
St Michael:	Special Intention

Rest in Peace

Erica Norma Shaw, Raymond Samuel Massey,
Margaret Rose Stone & John Potter

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!