

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

31st August 2025

Parish Office will close at 1.30pm on Wednesday.

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

'In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.'

A New School Year: A Fresh Start with God

As summer gives way to the golden days of autumn, the start of a new school year arrives—bringing with it new routines, sharpened pencils, and fresh possibilities. For students, parents, teachers, and parish communities alike, it is a season of new beginnings.

In the Catholic faith, we believe that every new beginning is an opportunity to draw closer to God. Just as God's mercies are *"new every morning"* (Lamentations 3:23), so too can each school year be a time to renew our sense of purpose, deepen our faith, and grow in wisdom—not only academically, but spiritually.

This is a time to pray for the children in our care: that they may be filled with curiosity and courage, and that they may encounter Christ in their classrooms, friendships, and daily challenges. Let us also lift up our teachers and school staff, who guide, mentor, and serve with patience and dedication.

A new school year can stir anxieties as well as excitement. But we are reminded that Christ walks with us always. As St. Paul wrote to the Philippians, *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"* (Philippians 4:13). With God at the centre, we have nothing to fear.

May this new academic year be marked by kindness, perseverance, and the quiet confidence that comes from knowing we are beloved children of God. Let us approach this new chapter with grateful hearts and the courage to become who God is calling us to be.

May God bless our wonderful Catholic Schools in Widnes!

Fr Mark

Thank you, Margaret!

A big thank you to Margaret Hindle who retires this Sunday from her ministry as sacristan at St. Bede. For all her care and diligence – thank you! St. Bede's Church will be opened at **8.15am** each Sunday morning from now by a member of the clergy, so please don't arrive any earlier than that!

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.

CSSA Public Call for Survivor Input

As part of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency's (CSSA) focus on survivor engagement and support, they have created a public survey inviting survivors to contribute their experiences. The purpose of this public call is to gather information from anyone who has had recent contact with a diocese or a Religious Life Group. This includes experiences that are new or ongoing, as well as those connected to non-recent abuse.

Their primary focus is the period from July 2024 onwards, but they do not wish to limit what survivors choose to share. More information regarding this survey can be found here:

Public Calls for Information

Below is the direct link to the survey

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OpJmB_Xy63KLBEXoG2tIVAm_9UYqKjMSFUOTc5TzILTEdTWkUySjhaTIU0QURaOU05SC4u

This process is being conducted with transparency, respect, and in a survivor-centred way. Cooperation will help the CSSA hear from as many voices as possible, enabling them to identify good practice and areas for improvement across the Church. If you have any questions, please contact their Quality Assurance team at: qualityassurance@catholicsafeguarding.org.uk

St. Michael's Church

Following the open meeting of the 4th of August, the Vision Group would like to offer a further opportunity for consultation so that all parishioners can be heard. The final opportunity will be on.

Thursday 4th September at 7pm at St. Bede's Church.

In addition, you can email your views to the Vision Group on m.moran@rcaol.org.uk or send a written response to the parish office 'FAO The Vision Group'. The deadline for responses is **Friday 5th September**. The Vision Group will collate all parishioner contributions and pass them onto Mgr. Philip Inch who will share them with John Sherrington, Archbishop of Liverpool.

Parish Vision Group - (Peter McCann, Fr. Mark Moran, Denise Roberts, Pauline Rolt, Rev. Paul Rooney, Fr. Peter F. Ross, Susan Warburton).

Bereavement Mass

Next Saturday morning, **6th September, 10am at St. Basil's Church**, there will be a Mass for the Bereaved. At this Mass the names so the people who have died in our community over the past couple of months will be read aloud, prayed for and remembered. This is a very important ministry that is offered in our community. Please come and pray with those bereaved families and friends who need the consolation and peace that only Jesus can bring. Confessions will be heard following Holy Mass.

'No one ever told me that grief feels so much like fear'

C.S. Lewis

Welcome Back

This week, our staff and children return to school after their summer break, we hope and pray that they are rested and ready for another year of learning and experiencing new things. This is an appropriate time to thank every member of staff in our schools also our governors who work so hard every single day to ensure our children can learn and develop in a safe and nurturing place. May God bless you all!

Accompaniment – Ministry of Reader

On **Wednesday 10th September at 7pm** at the Parish Hall at St. John Fisher all readers are invited and encouraged to attend a time of prayer, reflection and discussion surrounding your ministry amongst us. This time is so important and will be led by members of the Vision Group. Please make every effort to attend.

Lourdes HCPT, Group 180 - Quiz Night

On **Friday 12th September at 7.30pm** at Widnes Cricket Club there will be a wonderful and fun Quiz Night to raise funds to send children with additional needs to Lourdes with the HCPT Pilgrimage at Easter. It will be a wonderful night and only costs £5 per person to join in! Follow on social media on HCPTGROUP180

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

All are invited to a special Mass of celebration for the work of Mary's Meals on **Sunday 21st September at 3pm**. This 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.

UCM Book Sale

The UCM will be holding a book sale after the 6pm Mass in St John Fisher Hall on **Saturday 6th September**. Tea & Coffee will also be available. Come along and have a chat and buy yourself a book.

New Age Bowls & Curling

New age bowls and curling every **Wednesday** at 1pm at St John Fisher Hall, Moorfield Road, Widnes WA8 3JA. New members very welcome. Please join us.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	31st August	Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tom Lyons
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Joseph Lynch
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
Monday	1st September	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Gus Van Caulwelaert
Tuesday	2nd September	Ferial	
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Basil	Brian Brolly
Wednesday	3rd September	Feast of St Gregory The Great	
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Mass Association Members
Thursday	4th September	Ferial	
10.00	Funeral Service	St Michael	Patricia Lunt
10.00	Holy Mass	St Basil	Kathleen & William Hamilton
	(St. Basil School Welcome Mass)		
Friday	5th September	Ferial	
09.30	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St John Fisher	
Saturday	6th September	Ferial	
10.00	Bereavement Mass and Confessions	St Basil	Holy Souls in Purgatory
		Vigil of the Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Peter Drake
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Tommy Martin & Family
Sunday	7th September	Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Joseph Edward Davies
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	George Grace

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Margaret Smith & Family
St Basil:	Helen Lockley
St John Fisher:	Jean Jacobsen
St Michael:	Brendan Rodgers

Rest in Peace

Beryl Connolly, John Hill,
Peter Sunderland, Helen Lockley,
Brendan Rodgers & Agnes Higgins.

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!