



# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



## Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (Year A)

31<sup>st</sup> May 2026

**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**

"To be praised and highly exalted for ever!"

### **Gospel Acclamation Verse**

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
the God who is and who was and who is to come".

## **Knights of St Columba**

Two weeks ago, the Newsletter featured information about the Knights of St Columba. Last Saturday, two people became members, they were received into the Knights at St John Fisher, during the evening Mass.

The Knights have been a regular part of my ministry for over twenty years now. I was invited to become the chaplain to Council 9, the Council for the south and West Liverpool areas.

Within the history of the Knights, Council 9 holds a place of particular significance - the first Council to be formed outside Scotland.

The support and encouragement I have received from Council 9, and their friendship also extended to my wife, Jan. This is just one example of the support, care and concern Knights have demonstrated, not only for their members and families, but for the wider parish families where they work.

After the first social event Jan attended with me, she commented how clearly, they cared for each other. It is something I have witnessed repeatedly over more than the twenty years contact I have been privileged to enjoy.

**Deacon Paul Whitehead**

## Magnifica Humanitas - a new encyclical from Pope Leo XIV

The Holy Father has released a new letter, 'Magnificent Humanity', on the safeguarding of the human person in the age of artificial intelligence (A.I.). This encyclical is a prophetic commentary on our time, a time of unprecedented technological advancement and uncertainty. One commentator has described the potential of 'Magnificent Humanity' to be, "the most important church document of our lifetime". It is available to read for free on the Vatican Website, but hard copies can, I'm sure, be obtained from the Pauline Bookshop in Liverpool. Here are a few key paragraphs:

1. *"Humanity, created by God in all its grandeur, is today facing a pivotal choice: either to construct a new Tower of Babel or to build the city in which God and humanity dwell together."*
51. *"Among these ideologies, I consider particularly insidious the one that suggests that every person must earn or justify his or her own worth, to the point of attributing greater value to those who are more efficient or effective."*
52. *"No sin, failure, humiliation, or exclusion can diminish the profound value of a human life that God has willed and called into being."*
92. *"Technology is not simply a tool. When it becomes the standard by which everything is judged, it begins to dictate what matters and what can be discarded, reducing creation to an object of exploitation and human beings to mere cogs in a system driven toward ever greater efficiency."*
128. *"For an algorithm, an error is a flaw to be corrected; for a person, however, an error can be a catalyst for profound change. A person's future is not calculable but depends on one's freedom — elevated by the inexhaustible grace of God — and on the relationships cultivated."*
162. *"Just laws and methods of redistribution are certainly necessary for correcting imbalances, including tax systems that lighten the burden on the weakest and ask for more from those with greater resources."*
233. *"No computational system, however sophisticated, can create a heart that gives itself, or a conscience that discerns good from evil. Even when machines excel in efficiency, a human face that asks to be gazed upon remains the center of our history. This human face is the fullness toward which history is moving."*
237. *"Let us remain faithful to the truth! Living amid incessant flows of information, opinions and images, we know how easy it can be to influence decisions and preferences through increasingly sophisticated algorithms. In this context, it is imperative to cultivate hearts that love the truth, prefer what is right despite the most appealing content and pursue wisdom rather than immediate results."*

**May God bless our wonderful Holy Father. Please pray for Pope Leo every day!**

## Young Catholics in Widnes

We meet **this 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.

## Thank you to Archbishop John

It was a pleasure to once again welcome Archbishop John Sherrington to St. Wilfrid's for the Deanery Mass on Friday. As a parish community, we congratulate him, as he celebrates one year of ministry in Liverpool! Please remember to pray for the Archbishop.

## 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

## 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!**



