

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

3rd August 2025

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Psalm Response

'O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation.'

Lourdes at Home

I think everyone who took part in our 'Lourdes at Home' day, last Tuesday took something from it.

Whether it was standing with St. Bernadette at Mass as the day began, breathing in that message, '*Come to me all you who are heavy laden and I will give you rest*'. Or feeling the healing touch of Christ at the Service of Anointing and acknowledging that we all need to be healed for we are all broken in some way. The rosary and the torchlight procession reminded us of all that Jesus is the light of the world; and it is His light that we are all called to follow. In some way each heart was touched by God through the intercession of Mary.

Mary is simply a signpost to Jesus; she seeks nothing for herself, no glory, no praise – she simply directs all hearts to her Son, Jesus.

May we as a parish community continue to trust and hope in Jesus, that in the uncertainty, in the brokenness, in the waiting, we will all be united by our faith in Jesus who comes to give rest, light and peace.

Thank you to the Liturgy Group and the Social Group who arranged the day for us and to the sacristans at St. John Fisher who worked so hard to ensure church was welcoming and prayerful. We also thank the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) who brought our sick and housebound parishioners to the Service of Anointing and Frances Atherton and the singers who led the people in praising our God. And to all who just 'stepped in' to help when help was needed – God bless you all!

We are truly blessed! May Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette continue to pray for us!

Fr. Mark

St. Michael's Church

Following the announcement last weekend of the open meeting on the **4th of August** at **St Basil's Parish Centre** at **7pm**, regarding St. Michael's Church, the Vision Group met with Mgr. Philip Inch (Episcopal Vicar of Pastoral Organisation and Synod Implementation). Mgr. Philip gave us more information regarding the content of this open meeting.

Mgr. Philip told us that Martin Miller (Chief Operating Officer at the Archdiocese) will provide an overview of the archdiocesan finances and provide an explanation of the decision of the trustees in relation to the heating system. Also, Kirk Williams (Senior Surveyor) will take us through the quinquennial inspection (the five yearly reports on the condition of the building) and the wider issues regarding St. Michael's Church.

The meeting will be chaired by Mgr. Philip on behalf of the archdiocese. This will be followed by an opportunity for questions and clarifications regarding the information shared, to ensure all voices are heard. We urge all parishioners of St. Wilfrid's to attend and take part in this meeting.

Following the open meeting of the 4th of August, the Vision Group would like to offer further opportunities of consultation so that all parishioners can be heard. The following meetings have been arranged:

- **Sunday 17th August after 10:15am Mass**
at St. Michael's Church.
- **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.

The Vision Group.

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

Holy Day of Obligation – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The holy day is Friday 15th August, Mass times are.

Thursday 14th August

7pm at St. Basil (Vigil Mass for the Feast)

Friday 15th August

9am at St. John Fisher

12noon at St. Michael

Thank you

Widnes Foodbank wrote to say thank you for the recent donations to Widnes Foodbank from the parishioners of St Wilfrid's Parish. As donations have dropped considerably in the current financial climate, we are very grateful for these contributions. It is only due to the goodwill of people like you that Foodbank can work as well as it does.

The donations, totaling 278 kg of food, equate to 662 meals, which is a great help.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Enquiry/Enrolment Evening

Are you interested in finding out more about becoming a Catholic?

Are you a Catholic who has been baptised but never received the sacraments of Eucharist (Holy Communion), Reconciliation (Confession), or Confirmation?

Are you a baptised Christian who would like to explore converting to the Catholic faith?

If any of the above applies to you why not come along to meet our RCIA Team for a chat to see what our parish RCIA process is all about.

To find out more or, to enroll for our new group which will be starting in September, please come along on:

Wednesday August 13th, 7pm – 8pm in Parish Guild Hall (near St Bede's church)

We look forward to seeing you there.

RCIA Team

Gift of Life for Zambia Trip to Southport

Our trip to Southport last year was such a success that we are repeating it this year with an added coffee stop at Lady Green Garden Centre in Ince Blundell on the way. Then we are off to Southport for lunch, sightseeing, shopping or a walk along the seafront. Whatever takes your fancy! The coach leaves St. Basils at 9.30am on Wednesday 10th September and returns at approximately 6-6.30pm. The cost is £20. Please put your money in an envelope marked with your name and phone number and pass it to either Monica (424 8194) or Angela (424 8668), call them for further information.

Fr. Joe Bibby – Ruby Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood

Fr. Joe has kindly invited St. Wilfrid's parishioners to his jubilee on **Saturday 27th September** at St. Mary's Church in Leyland. After Mass we have been invited to share the buffet reception in the community Centre. If people would like to go, we could organise a coach to get us to and bring us home from Leyland. Fr. Joe obviously needs to know how many people will be attending from Widnes.

So, if you would like to attend this wonderful event, please pass your name and telephone number with £10pp to cover the cost of the coach into the Parish Office asap. Please mark your envelope '**Fr. Joe's Jubilee**'.

We shall depart St. Bede's at **10.15am** and we should return to Widnes around **4.30pm**.

Ad multos annos Fr. Joe!

Parish Office

Please remember that the Parish Office opening hours for the month of August are:

Monday to Friday – 9am – 1.30pm

Please try and direct your needs and queries during these hours.

Parish Liturgy

Saturday	2nd August	Vigil of the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
14.00	Wedding Service	St Michael Andrew Roberts & Emma Hartley
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil Deceased Members of Bonnon Family
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher Bill Cullerton
Sunday	3rd August	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede Terence Morton
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael Patrica & Peter Rouski
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede Parishioners
Monday	4th August	Memorial of St. John Vianney
12noon	Requiem Mass	St. John Fisher Henry Doyle
Tuesday	5th August	Ferial
11.45	Requiem Mass	St. Basil Moira Kelly
Wednesday	6th August	Feast Transfiguration of the Lord
10.00	Requiem Mass	St. Basil Thomas Melvin
12noon	Holy Mass	St. Michael Cecilia Mc Mullen
Thursday	7th August	Ferial
11.00	Requiem Mass	St. John Fisher Edward Tague
Friday	8th August	Memorial of St. Dominic
No Mass or Service today.		
Saturday	9th August	Vigil of the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
14.00	Wedding Service	St Michael Graeme Moore & Louise Carman
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil Peter and Winifred Rouski
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher Angela Milloy
Sunday	10th August	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede Lois Davies
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede Sheila Quinn

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Patricia and Peter Rouski
St Basil:	Joseph and Mary Freeman
St John Fisher:	Eddie Tague
St Michael:	Peter and Winifred Rouski

Rest in Peace

Thomas Melvin, Nora Newall, Raymond Dainton,
James Dowling, Michael (Robin) Whitfield,
Sonny Buckland, Barbara Thistlewaithe
& Jean Jacobsen

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!