Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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





Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

5th October 2025

Parish Office: St Bede's Presbytery Appleton Village Widnes Cheshire WA8 6EL

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Psalm Response

'O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.' Administrator:
Deborah Kenna

The 18-35 group needs your help!

As a parish, we are committed to accompanying our 18-35's, an age profile identified as the most neglected of attention in the Church. One the thing our 18-35 group asked for at their initial meeting was a pilgrimage. Thus far, we have held only one pilgrimage, to Pantasaph and Holywell. It was a great success. This time, we're branching out.

In November, I'm hoping to take 10 of them to Walsingham on pilgrimage. While each of the 10 are footing their £148 bill for accommodation and meals, we really need your help to cover the cost of the minibus and driver. A minibus and driver, for three days, is £1400! If 40 of you gave £35, we could pay for the minibus and driver easily. Please help us!

The 18-35 group is an invaluable asset in our parish. In the future, who will serve on the buildings and finance group? Who will co-ordinate funerals? Who will serve on the Vision Group? Who will read at Mass? Who will teach in our schools? Who will serve as ordained priests, deacons and religious? The answer is simple. Our young adults. Let us support them and enable them to encounter Christ and his Blessed Mother in Walsingham.

Only by accompanying them now, can we expect them to step up. We are beginning to see the fruits of such labours. Ollie Stead, a member of the group, has recently become our Youth Representative on the Archdiocesan Synodal Council. We thank him for his important work. Other members of the group serve in other ways too. With further investment and accompaniment, all things are possible.

Please pass any donations into the Parish Office, labelled '18-35 Walsingham'. Please be as generous as you always are. Many thanks.

Father Peter

Update from the Archdiocesan Trustees

The Trustees met last week and after considering the points made in our consultation have agreed to a further 12 months before a final decision has to be made concerning St Michael's Church, (and the implications of whatever decision is made). The Archbishop commended the Parish of St. Wilfrid for the depth and honesty conveyed in the consultation report he received, which enabled him to hear the voice of the parish community.

On Monday evening, (29/09/25), the Vision Group met with Mgr. Philip Inch to consider the consequences of the 12 month deadline.

During this time, the church of St Michael will remain open, subject to conditions (see below). Meanwhile, parishioners are invited to work on the following:

Being aware of the mission of the Catholic Church in the Widnes and the Cronton Family of Parishes what buildings are essential/needed?

Explore the possibilities for grants, donations, legacies, civic involvement, and the use/release of assets in the Family of Parishes.

The Vision Group will meet this coming Tuesday (7/10/25) to plan for the roll-out of the next stage of the process.

In light of the experience of last winter, the Vision Group have decided that the church will be open for the 10:15 Sunday Mass, weekday Mass in the sacristy, and other essential liturgies. All other liturgies, including funerals, will not ordinarily take place in the church during the winter months. Temporary heating will be re-introduced.

Thank you to all who gave of their time and participation thus far. We ask for your continued support, prayer and involvement as we journey forward together.

The Vision Group (Peter McCann, Fr. Mark Moran, Denise Roberts, Pauline Rolt, Dcn. Paul Rooney, Fr. Peter F Ross and Susan Warburton).

Prayers for our Catholic Schools

This coming Wednesday all staff and governors have been invited to Holy Mass at St. Peter and Paul Catholic College. It will be wonderful to be together to pray for the children and young people in our care, for the mission of Catholic Education and to simply be together around the altar of the Lord. Please remember to pray for the children, young people, members of staff and governors, that they may be energised in their vocation of service to the youngest members of our community.

Called to Serve

Thank you to those who expressed an interest in being formed as new Eucharistic Ministers (aka Extraordinary Ministers of Communion). It's fantastic that there was enough interest shown for us to organise a formation session. Thank you! This will be held in the Guild Hall 10.30am until 12.30 on Saturday 18th October 2025. Please let the Parish Office know if you can attend this event for catering and organisational purposes. As an Extraordinary Minister, you are called to serve the community by assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion. There is still time to step forward and join this formation session. Just drop your name and contact details into the Parish Office.

Dcn. Paul

St. Wilfrid's Parish Pilgrimages 2025/2026

Pilgrimage to Knock - October 2025

If you have booked to come onto the coach to the airport, please pass £16pp into the Parish Office with your name and telephone number marked for the intention of **Susan Warburton**. Please do this before **Monday 6th October**. There will be a short meeting on **Monday 6th October** at **7pm** to answer any queries in St. Bede's Church.

Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi - October 2026

We are exploring a parish pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in October 2026. We shall spend 4 nights in Rome staying at the Cardinal Hotel on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis. Then we shall move onto Assisi for two nights. On the pilgrimage we shall visit all the main sites in Rome and Assisi and have a wonderful time together. The costs quoted to date: £1300pp based on two people sharing a room. £1500pp in a single room.

At the moment, we are just seeing if there is any interest for this pilgrimage. If you think you would like to know more, can you pass your name, address and telephone number into the Parish Office for the attention of **Susan Warburton** and we shall go from there!

Pilgrimage to Walsingham - November 2026

Many parishioners have asked about going on pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine in Walsingham again. We are looking at going in November 2026.

The costs quoted to date: £350pp en suite, including your ticket for the Thursford Extravaganza Show. If you are thinking of coming on this pilgrimage can you let your interest, be known to Susan Warburton by passing your name, address and telephone number into the Parish Office asap as we have to book before the beginning of December 2025.

October Talks - Gospel of St. Matthew

We continue our exploration of St. Matthew's Gospel this Wednesday at **7pm** at the Parish Hall at St John Fisher. Refreshments will be served from 6.40pm. This week we welcome **Sr. Moira Meeghan, SSMN**. Sr. Moira is a sister of St. Mary of Namur and works in the Irenaeus Centre. Sr. Moira will focus on the images of Jesus found in Matthew's Gospel. All are welcome to come along and learn more about Jesus!

Widnes Catholic Children's Choir

Widnes Catholic Children's Choir have started their rehearsals again after the summer break at **St John Fisher Church Hall – Monday's 4-5pm.** They are currently looking for lots of new members from Years 2-8 who love singing and want to join our amazing group! There are many exciting concerts and events planned for the coming year both in Widnes and beyond, so if you know of someone who is interested, please follow this link to sign up. http://eepurl.com/i8AkqA

Parish Choir

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or have not been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally, it doesn't matter, you will be most welcome. Due to safeguarding guidance all members of the choir must be over 18. Our next practice is **Tuesday 14**th **October** at **7pm** in **St. John Fisher Church**, followed by **Monday 3**rd **November**.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday 5th October Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time St Bede 09.00 **Parishioners** Holy Mass St Michael Cyril Leslie Fallon 10.15 Holy Mass 11.30 Holy Mass St Bede Sarah Beaney 16.00 Holy Mass St Bede James Cassidy

Monday 6th October Ferial

09.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer

09.30 Holy Mass St Basil John Barrow

Tuesday 7th October Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

09.45 Requiem Mass St Michael William Patrick Ryder

11.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary

12noon Holy Mass St Bede Anne Hurst

Wednesday 8th October Ferial

11.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary

12noon Holy Mass St Bede Tricia Davey

16.00 Widnes School Mass St Peter & Paul High School

Kath Burke & Martin Wynne

Thursday 9th October Feast of St John Henry Newman

11.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary

12noon Holy Mass St Michael Bob Tollet

Friday 10th October Ferial

09.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer

09.30 Holy Mass St John Fisher Teresa Alderton

11.30 Requiem Mass St Michael Joseph Micheal Lynch

Saturday 11th October Vigil of the Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

16.30Holy MassSt BasilParishioners18.00Holy MassSt John FisherBilly Joans

Sunday 12th October Twenty Eighth in Ordinary Time

09.00 Holy Mass St Bede Margaret Kennedy Gerald Martin 10.15 Holy Mass St Michael 11.30 St Bede Maureen & Peter Holy Mass 16.00 St Bede Holy Mass John Hulstrom

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede: Special Intention
St Basil: Refugees & Migrants

St John Fisher: Joan Moran
St Michael: Clair Newman

Rest in Peace

William Hunt, Alfred John Rowland, Peter Tennant & Erica Norma Shaw

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!