

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

19th December 2021

4th Sunday of Advent - Year (C)

**“Listen!
I am standing
at the door
knocking.”**

Rev 3:20



Fr Mark Moran (PP)	0151 513 0024
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Fr Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
Fr Thomas Skeats O.P.	0151 424 2738

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<https://www.facebook.com/stwilfridswidnes>

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Wednesday Word - <http://wednesdayword.org/parish/index.htm>

Catholic Pictorial - <http://www.catholicpic.co.uk/>

Please note the parish GMAIL address is no longer active.

MASKS

Reminder – Can everyone please wear masks in Church and when entering the Parish Office.

Reflection

One of the perks of being a bishop, even a retired one, is the occasional arrival of a book that some publisher or author hopes you will talk about in the diocese, or even recommend to people widely.

The latest arrived this Monday and is the work of Mgr Roderick Strange, a priest of Shrewsbury Diocese who was Rector of the Beda College in Rome for many years. He has a very attractive style and you do not have to struggle to understand what he is saying.

Timothy Radcliffe, the former Master General of the Dominicans, puts it beautifully: 'Roderick Strange invites us to join him in the adventure of the liturgical year. He faces the challenges of belief with an engaging honesty and a wisdom enriched by his love of the gospel, his knowledge of the human heart and his gift of friendship.'

I would recommend it at any time of the year, but he has a section on Advent, Christmas and Epiphany which makes it particularly helpful at this time of the year. So if you have any leftover book tokens from last Christmas or from a birthday, this is a book you will go back to time and again.

It is called 'Journey into Light', with the subtitle 'The Challenge and Enchantment of Catholic Christianity'.

For those who struggle with their faith, Mgr Strange faces the difficulties and problems honestly and without avoiding the very real issues. At the same time, it is a book rich in hope. I am thoroughly enjoying it.

The publishers want me to add: Hodder and Stoughton, £16.99.!

Bishop John

Walsingham Pilgrimage

Although we have only just returned from our Walsingham Pilgrimage, which was enjoyed by all, we do have to start thinking about next year.

The reason is, that if we are to go next year, probably November, and take in the Thursford show then the tickets go on sale in **December this year**. We need to know how many people may be interested in going next year before purchasing tickets. If you think you would like to go, please let the parish office know ASAP or if you wish to drop a note through letterbox, please put it for the attention of Susan Warburton.

Eucharistic Ministers To The Sick

Following on from last week's meeting could I ask that ministers who hope to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound in the new year let us know who they wish to go out with. Be mindful that this other person does not have to be a Eucharistic Minister but does need to have gone through the DBS procedure. Please drop both your names addresses and contact numbers through the office letterbox or e mail them to stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.co.uk as we are in the process of preparing rotas.

Thank you.

Fr. Mark

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Has your situation changed? Are you sick and housebound and unable to get to Mass? Would you like to receive Holy Communion at home from the hands of a Eucharistic Minister? Please contact the parish office with all the persons details and we shall do our very best to visit when we are allowed. Fr. Mark

Advent Carol Service

As you will all know, we shall be having our Advent Carol Service on **Sunday 19th December at 4pm at St. Michael's Church.**

As children from St. Gerard's, St. Bede's Infant and Junior Schools, also SS Peter and Paul RC College will be attending, it would be great to see as many Altar Servers there as possible.

Although we don't do that much during the service, it is an opportunity to see if we could recruit future servers with our attendance.

Please do not forget your albs



Please note any items for the newsletter must be **emailed** to the parish office no later than 12 noon on Wednesday if they are to be included in that week's newsletter.

Thank You

Fourth Week of Advent - Peace

God, our Father, pour your peace into our hearts, that we may bring your peace to the world.

May peace and goodwill reign in our parish, our community, our land and our world. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen



Altar Servers Mass - Boxing Day - Sunday 26th December 2021

As Boxing Day this year falls on a Sunday, our annual Mass for Altar Servers will take place at the **10am Mass at St. Michaels Church**, so all Altar Servers are asked to attend this Mass instead of the Mass they serve at usually.

Please do not forget your albs.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Our churches always look beautiful, thanks to the hard work of so many people, yet like our homes we want our church to look extra special around the Feast of Christmas! If you would like to donate some money towards the cost of Christmas flowers then please pop them through the door at any of the presbyteries marked, **Christmas Flowers**.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



Advent Carol Service

Sunday 19th December at 4pm

St. Michael's Church, WA8 8TF

'Come and join together with fellow parishioners and

children from some of our schools to sing to the coming

Christ Child'

Refreshments will be served after the service.

CAFOD

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives.

You can donate on the CAFOD website: [cafod.org.uk/Afghanistan Appeal](http://cafod.org.uk/Afghanistan%20Appeal) and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AT ST MICHAEL'S

If you see any anti-social behaviour around the grounds of St Michael's Church or Presbytery, then please ring **101** and register the trespass on our property.

DO NOT APPROACH THEM YOURSELVES OR ENGAGE WITH THEM.

If you see actual damage or climbing over walls the ring **999** and tell the police the situation.

Thank You

An Appeal for used postage stamps

Fr Bill is collecting used postage stamps and would appreciate if you would bring any stamps, you have and leave in boxes provided in church porch.

A Gift for Christmas...

Do you feel like being brave?

What a wonderful gift to receive!

It would be wonderful to see our churches full at Christmas, how about inviting someone to come with you to Mass over the Christmas period, doesn't have to be on Christmas Day? Some people have stopped coming to Mass and drifted away from their faith and sometimes they need to be reminded that they are always welcome here.

Take a deep breath and dare to invite them to come home for Christmas!



As in previous years (pre pandemic) you are welcome to see in the New Year in St John Fisher Hall. Open from 8pm, there will be a quiz, music, and dancing, provided by parishioners. No admission fee but bring your own food and drink.

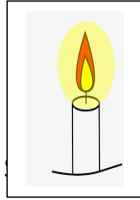
Recitation of the Holy Rosary



All are welcome to come and join the rosary on...

Saturday morning after the 10am Mass at St. Bede's and at 1pm at St. Michael's.

'O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee'.



This week the sanctuary lamp burns for:

St Bede: Teresa Carolan
 St Michael: Joseph Davies
 St Michael: John Davies
 St John Fisher: Connor Hill

Please Note: St Bede is only open for private prayer this week – Mon/Tue/Wed 10.00am to 13.30pm

Sunday 19 th Dec	<i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	9.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Michael</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St John Fisher</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>)	SVP - Intentions for Deceased Joan Wilcox Audrey Chatterton Carol Randle – Anniversary Parishioners of the Parish
Monday 20 th Dec	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>	9.00am 9.10am 9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Morning Prayer Holy Mass (<i>St Basil</i>)	Tom Baker - Anniversary
Tuesday 21 st Dec	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>	11.00am 11.30am 11.40am 12 Noon 1.15pm	Funeral (<i>St John Fisher</i>) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Rosary Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>) Funeral Service (<i>St Bede</i>)	Service - James Kilgannon Thomas Constance & Teresa Carolan Josie Phillips
Wednesday 22 nd Dec	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>	6.30pm 6.40pm 7.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Evening Prayer Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>)	Bernard Kelly – Birthday Remembrance
Thursday 23 rd Dec	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>	10.00am 11.30am 11.40am 12 Noon	Requiem (<i>St. Michael</i>) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Rosary Holy Mass (<i>St. Michael</i>)	Requiem Mass- Paul Antrobus William Adrian Gylmn
Friday 24 th Dec	<i>Vigil of the Nativity</i>	6.00pm 6.00pm 6.00pm 8.00pm Midnight	Holy Mass (<i>St John Fisher</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Basil</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St. Michael</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>)	Refugees & Migrant's Homeless Deceased Parishioners Parishioners Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life
Saturday 25 th Dec	<i>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</i>	9.00am 10.00am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St. Michael</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St John Fisher</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede</i>)	Prisoner's Deceased Priests of the Parish Missionary Priests All who are hungry and thirsty