

# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



## First Sunday of Lent

### Next Sunday – Youth to Lourdes Collection

18<sup>th</sup> February 2024

#### Parish Office:

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

T: 0151 422 1772

E: [stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stwilfridswidnes@rcaol.org.uk)

W: [stwilfridswidnes.uk](http://stwilfridswidnes.uk)

#### Parish Clergy:

Rev Fr Mark Moran (PP, Moderator)	0151 513 0024
Rev Fr Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
Rev Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Rt Rev Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 2738
Rev Deacon Paul Rooney	0151 422 1772

#### Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

#### Administrator:

Deborah Kenna



### Responsorial Psalm

**'Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant'**

### Pray for Peace

I am having to write this reflection on Monday this week, rather than Thursday, and in the present volatile situation where Netanyahu seems to be pressing ahead with attacks on the terribly overcrowded city of Rafah, anything can happen between now and Thursday.

I remember being amazed to hear a peace-making Palestinian say on BBC that the great majority of Palestinians would not know about the Holocaust, six million Jewish men, women and children killed by the Nazis. But then it is now almost eighty years since that happened and memories are short, even about such horrors, unless they are deliberately kept alive.

The Holocaust was the deliberate attempt to exterminate a whole people. The present situation cannot be assessed without that being taken account of and any way towards peace must also take it into consideration.

One of the present signs of hope is to hear the voices of religious Judaism speaking of the present as a contradiction of their three-thousand-year-old religion's moral standards. It must take courage to say that in this intense moment.

It was the United Nations in 1947 who proposed that Palestine be divided into two independent States, one Palestinian Arab and one Jewish, with Jerusalem internationalised.

It is worth remembering that the Zionist proposal was for a Jewish state that would cover most of Palestine. The so-called two state solution is the one that most political leaders in the world, and Pope Francis, continue to call for. The Palestinians have a right to statehood.

But Prime Minister Netanyahu has recently and very deliberately ruled out the two-state solution. It will take the wisdom of Solomon to find a way out of this dreadful present into a peaceful future, but as Christians we believe that nothing is impossible with God.

Come Holy Spirit...

**Bishop John**

### **Lourdes 2024**

If you would like to join the Liverpool Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes this year, there will be a meeting on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** at 7.30pm in St. Bede's Church. Come along if you would like to find out more!

**19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 - Hotel Padoue**

**7 nights' accommodation, full board, direct flights from Liverpool, John Lennon Airport.**

St. Wilfrid's Group Leaders this year: Deacon Paul Rooney, Ged Glover and Denise Roberts.

Cost £999 per person based on two people sharing, £250 single room supplement.

### **Sacramental Programme Parents Meetings**

There will be parents meeting for all who wish to enroll their children onto this year's Sacramental Programme.

#### **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

St. Gerard's School – 9.15am in School

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour School – 9.10am in School

St. John Fisher School – 2.30pm in St. John Fisher Church

St. Basil's School – 2.30pm in St. Basil's Church

#### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

St. Bede's School and Children from non-Catholic Schools, either 2.30pm or 6pm in St. Bede's Church.

St. Michael's School – 2.30pm in St. Michael's Church

It is essential that all children are enrolled onto the programme at these meetings.

### **LGBTQ+ Mass**

The next gathering for Holy Mass for those who are, and those who are supporting members of the LGBTQ+ community will take place at;

**All Saints' Church, Oakfield Road, L4 2QG on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm**

This is a wonderful opportunity to gather to support one another in journeying towards Christ within the Roman Catholic Church. All are welcome! Further information from: Canon Stephen Maloney.

### **Presentation – Widnes, 9 years on!**

We have been approached by the Archdiocese to share the story of the Widnes model of parish, sharing the story of St. Wilfrid's coming into being and how it has been over the past 9 years.

This sharing will be offered to the clergy and the faithful during February at two events and we shall share truthfully the joys and the challenges to help other places find their model of working in their situation. Please pray for the members of the DSC who will present to all who wish to know more.

### **Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Retreat**

Could all ministers please arrive promptly at St. Bede's in time for the coach which will depart at 9.15am, 24<sup>th</sup>Feb. You will arrive back at St. Bede at 4.30pm. You will need to bring a packed lunch. Please pray for our ministers as they take time away to contemplate their ministry amongst us.

### **A Lily for Easter**

There are envelopes at the back of all churches, with a list inside for you to place the names you wish to be remembered at Easter and for your donation. The envelopes should be returned to the Parish Office.

### Requiescant in pace

Christine Wilson, Marion Byrne,  
Thomas Rolt, John Joseph O'Brien,  
George David Billington, Ryan O'Malley  
Winefride Treacy & Linda Rubin

**May the Angels lead them into Paradise!**

### Sanctuary Lamp

*The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.*

<b>St Bede</b>	Kim Enright
<b>St Michael</b>	Special Intention
<b>St John Fisher</b>	O'Malley Family
<b>St Basil</b>	Christine Wilson

### St. Michael's Presbytery

Just to let you know... sadly the planned use of St. Michael's Presbytery by Sr. Maria and Sr. Celia has changed, and they will no longer be using the presbytery for the base of their ministry. We wish both sisters well in their future ventures!

### Rite of Election - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

This Sunday at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, those adults who are to be baptised or those seeking full reception into the Roman Catholic Church this Easter, will gather with the Archbishop for the Rite of Election. This is a great event in the life of the Church!

The candidates from St. Wilfrid's Parish have been meeting weekly since September and after much discernment and accompaniment four people have decided to take this next wonderful step.

**Catechumens**      Abbie Georgia Tinsley  
                                 Hannah Daley  
                                 Beverley Daley

**Candidate**      Julie Eileen Newport

We pray for these people at this final time of preparation.

### Lenten Journey

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Early Riser Mass at St. John Fisher at 7am**

*Come and hear His voice in the stillness of the morning, calling you into holiness and healing.*

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Scripture Group, 12.30pm at St. Bede's Presbytery**

*This week we shall ponder the Transfiguration of Jesus*

### Sacristans Meeting

Could all sacristans please meet with me on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February** after the 12noon Mass at St. Michael's to discuss the forthcoming Mass time revision and to answer any queries that you may have. If any of the sacristans need a lift to St. Michael's church, please ask another sacristan to give you a lift. Fr. Mark

### Report from the Archdiocesan Synodal Council

In your newsletter this week you will find a copy of the ASC report, I ask you all to take the time to read this synopsis of the day in November when 120 delegates met from across the Archdiocese to implement the pastoral plan for the whole Church in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. Thank you to Pauline Rolt and Denise Roberts who attended as two of the reps from the Warrington and Widnes Deanery.

St. Wilfrid's Reps on the Deanery Synodal Council: Peter McCann, Susan Warburton, Pauline Rolt, Denise Roberts, Dcn. Paul Rooney and the Priest Rep is Fr. Mark.

## Parish Liturgy

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Special Intention
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Sister Kibre D.C (LD)
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	George & Leah Sadler
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Anne Clarke (11 <sup>th</sup> Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Elizabeth Doris Syze & George Roberts
<b>Monday</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Joyce Mannion
<b>12.45</b>	<b>Funeral Service</b>	<b>St Bede</b>	<b>Marie Fitzpatrick</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>	
<b>12noon</b>	<b>Requiem Mass</b>	<b>St Bede</b>	<b>Eileen Doan</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>	
07.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Fr Tony (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary)
<b>11.00</b>	<b>Requiem Mass</b>	<b>St Bede</b>	<b>Peter Glynn</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<b>Feast of the See of St Peter the Apostle</b>	
<b>NO MASS</b>			
<b>Friday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Tony Barker (Anniversary)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Weekday of Lent</b>	
10.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Sheila Swift ( LD)
10.30	Confessions		
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Eric Pollard (LD)
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Valerie Melvin
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Thomas Scraggs (LD)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Fr Peter Fox (3 <sup>rd</sup> Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Dennis O'Driscoll (LD) (Cork)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Thomas Bowles (3 <sup>rd</sup> Ann)

