

# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



**Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King (B)**  
**Second Collection: Animate Youth**

**26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Parish Office:**

St Bede's Presbytery  
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**Parish Clergy:**

Fr Mark Moran (PP, Moderator) 0151 513 0024

Fr Thomas Clarke 0151 424 6641

Fr Bill Murphy 0151 495 1854

Bishop John Rawsthorne 0151 424 2738

**Office Manager:**

Sylvia Cawley

**Administrator:**

Deborah Kenna



## **Responsorial Psalm**

**R. 'The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.'**

### **Perseverance to the End**

Last week, with the help of St John Henry Newman, and in anticipation of the impending clergy moves, I reflected on the reality of change and how this is part and parcel of the great Christian adventure, not least in the life of our own Parish of St Wilfrid.

So perhaps this week, we should focus on that essential tool in our spiritual armoury, which we deploy in the face of such all-encompassing change... namely: perseverance.

At times, this perseverance comes at a heavy price, as we mourn that which came before and look ahead with uncertainty in our hearts. Equally, there can be moments of great excitement, looking to the future as an opportunity for spiritual renewal, just like the saints of old, who teach us a valuable lesson in what it means to persevere to the end, come what may!

Wherever we fall on this barometer, whether we are ablaze with joyful hope, or living in trepidation, our lived experience is both legitimised and cherished in our friendship with the Lord.

"There are wounds of the spirit which never close and are intended in God's mercy to bring us nearer to Him. Such wounds then may almost be taken as a pledge[..] a ground for a humble trust, that God will give us the great gift of perseverance to the end. This is how I comfort myself in my own great bereavements."

Saint John Henry, Cardinal Newman CO

Letters and Diaries: Fellow of Trinity, Jan. 1876 - Dec 1878

**Fr Thomas**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Widnes Floral Art Group</b></p> <p>A festive floral demonstration on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. Farnworth Methodist Church Hall Widnes WA8 9JX. Tickets £12 (£6 Members)</p> <p>Refreshments included.</p> <p>Pay on door or call 01514252265 or 0151420 7687</p> | <p><b>Office Hours</b></p> <p>During the month of December, the Parish Office will be staffed between the hours of 9:30 till 13:30pm, Monday to Friday. Any emails /phone call received outside of these hours will be responded to ASAP.</p> | <p><b>Asylum Link</b></p> <p>Merseyside invites you to our fundraising concert to be held at 7.00 pm on Friday, 1st December in St Anne's Church, Overbury Street, L7 3HJ.</p> <p>Performers will include ALM Choir &amp; Musicians, Mullarkey, Scottish and Irish Pipers, Liverpool Ukelele Club.</p> |
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### **Parish Vision Group**

The parish vision group which is made up of the St Wilfrid members of the Deanery Synodal Council are continuing to meet to discuss the way forward for our parish. They are tasked with planning and reflecting in the light of the Synodal process as to how we can be the Church Community that we are called to be. In the light of the changes, we face in the future this group is crucial, and is embedding good practice to ensure that we remain a vibrant community of faith, rooted in and following Jesus Christ and open to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

### **Sacramental Programme 2024**

The Sacramental Programme is in the process of being finalised for the coming year, this will include dates for parents' meetings, dates of preparation for the children and the dates of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. The programme is offered to children in Year 4 primarily as Year 4 is the sacramental year. Yet if children have missed out and are still in primary education, they can be included onto the programme. Please be aware that all the letters and information come via the school though the preparation programme is still parish led.

There will be a meeting for all **catechists** on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm** (after the 12noon Mass) at St. Bede's. If all catechists could make every effort to attend. This is just to touch base and to see who is available on what day!

**Fr. Mark**

### **St Wilfrid's Advent Appeal 2023**

*'Trinity Safe Space Charity provides for refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants in the Borough of Halton, catering for their needs by giving them material goods, food, clothing as well as information, care, and support with their physical and mental health'*. This year we are appealing again for you to buy an extra Christmas present for someone who really needs it. **All** items must be new, unwrapped and left at the back of Church where they shall be collected and delivered to our brothers and sisters in need.

**Items needed...**

**Men's boxer shorts (underwear) sizes small, medium, large and XL**

**Men's T-shirts size 34 – 38 chest size**

**Jeans for men in a variety of sizes and leg length**

**Winter coats for men and women in a variety of sizes**

**Warm gloves, hats and scarves for men and women**

**Socks for men and women size 6 up to size 12**

**Frying pans, toastie maker, stock pot pans, electric kettles, electric toasters, hand blenders/juicers, chopper, small cafetières.**

**Toiletries for men and women, (preferably single items rather than sets) e.g., shower gel, deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes**

**Single duvets or warm blankets**

All items need to be at Church before the **Third Sunday of Advent, 17<sup>th</sup> December**. Please be as generous as you always are in seeing Jesus in the often forgotten in our community.

|  |  |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
|--|--|----------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Requiescant in pace</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Watt<br/>John McGillicuddy<br/>Pauline Noone</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May the Angels lead them into Paradise!</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sanctuary Lamp</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>St Bede</b></td> <td>John Naughton</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>St Michael</b></td> <td>Joan Moran</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>St John Fisher</b></td> <td>Stephan Cawley</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>St Basil</b></td> <td>Brenda Thistlewaite</td> </tr> </table>   | <b>St Bede</b> | John Naughton | <b>St Michael</b> | Joan Moran | <b>St John Fisher</b> | Stephan Cawley | <b>St Basil</b> | Brenda Thistlewaite |
| <b>St Bede</b>   | John Naughton  |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <b>St Michael</b>  | Joan Moran   |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <b>St John Fisher</b>  | Stephan Cawley   |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <b>St Basil</b>  | Brenda Thistlewaite  |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Recommissioning of all Eucharistic Ministers</b></p> <p>At all Masses next weekend our Eucharistic Ministers will recommit themselves to their sacred ministry amongst us. Could all ministers ensure they pick up a sheet that contains the rite, (these will be at the back of Church), they will be called forward after the homily and led through the rite by the presiding priest. Our Eucharistic Ministers serve at the altar and to the most vulnerable in our community, we pray for them and thank God for their ministry amongst us!</p>   |  |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Parish Advent Dance</b></p> <p>On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December you are invited to our parish dance and social at St Basil's Parish Club. Bingo! Dancing! Fun! Laughter! Tickets are on sale at the parish office and all money raised will go to the restoration fund for all our churches. Doors open at 7.30pm and tickets are £5 each which includes a light buffet. Come and socialise and make new friends with fellow parishioners!</p>  |  |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Animate Youth</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>'All young people must feel they are cared for by the Church. Therefore, may the entire Church on a worldwide level be more and more committed to young people.'</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Pope Saint John Paul II</p> <p>Youth Sunday is a day for the world to recognise and celebrate young people in our local church communities, whether that be through school, at home, or of course in church. The collection today will go directly to the support the work of Youth Ministry here in the Archdiocese. Please be as generous as you always are in these difficult times.</p> |  |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social Group Meeting</b></p> <p>There will be a meeting for the social group on <b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm</b> in the presbytery at St. Bede. Please make every effort to attend as we need to ensure everything is ready for the Advent Dance!</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer for Priests</b></p> <p>'Most gracious Heavenly Father, we thank you for our faithful priests whose spiritual fatherhood and example of fidelity, self-sacrifice and devotion is so vital to the faith of your people. Give them valiant faith in the face of confusion and conflict, hope in times of trouble and sorrow and steadfast love for you, their families, and for all your people throughout the world. May the light of your truth shine through their lives and their good works. Assist all spiritual fathers, that through your Grace they may steadily grow in holiness and in knowledge and understanding of your Truth. May they generously impart this knowledge to those who rely on them. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.'</p> <p>Please remember to pray for your priests.</p> |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The St Marie's Heritage Group</b></p> <p>Christmas Carol Concert at St Marie's Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. We are delighted to welcome back the wonderful Parish Choir of St Wilfrid who will be leading us in a Christmas singalong. There will be mince pies, mulled wine, hot drinks, and biscuits. It's free to attend but please book in advance. To reserve your place, please call (01928) 592 405 or email <a href="mailto:heritage@haltonsthelensvca.org.uk">heritage@haltonsthelensvca.org.uk</a></p>  |  |                |               |                   |            |                       |                |                 |                     |

## Parish Liturgy

|                  |                               |   |  |
|------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>26<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>    | <b>Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King</b> |  |
| 09.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | George O'Grady (2 <sup>nd</sup> B'day Rem)   |
| 09.30            | Holy Mass                     | St Michael  | Edward Mulroy (Ann)  |
| 10.30            | Holy Mass                     | St John Fisher  | Parishioners   |
| 11.15            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | David Lynn Syers   |
| 16.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | Jean Ardrey  |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>27<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>    | <b>Ferial</b>   |  |
| 09.00            | Exposition and Morning Prayer |   |  |
| 09.30            | Holy Mass                     | St Basil  | Mike Gannon (LD)   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>28<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>    | <b>Ferial</b>   |  |
| 11.30            | Exposition and Rosary         |   |  |
| 12.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | Anthony (Tony) Karalius (4 <sup>th</sup> Ann )                                     |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>29<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>    | <b>Ferial</b>   |  |
| 11.30            | Exposition and Rosary         |   |  |
| 12.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | Joan Price (LD)  |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>30<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>    | <b>Feast of St Andrew, Apostle</b>                        |  |
| 11.30            | Exposition and Rosary         |   |  |
| 12.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Michael  | Ann Richardson (LD)  |
| 12.30            | <b>Requiem Mass</b>           | <b>St Bede</b>  | <b>John Watt</b>   |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>     | <b>Ferial</b>   |  |
| 09.00            | Exposition and Rosary         |   |  |
| 09.30            | Holy Mass                     | St John Fisher  | Theresa Campbell (LD)  |
| 12.00            | <b>Requiem Mass</b>           | <b>St Bede</b>  | <b>John McGillicuddy</b>   |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b>     | <b>Ferial</b>   |  |
| 10.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | Eamon Hallmark (LD)  |
| 10.30            | Confessions                   |   |  |
| 17.00            | Vigil Mass                    | St Bede   | Ronald & Stuart O'Toole (B'day Rem)  |
| 17.00            | Vigil Mass                    | St Basil  | Thomas Schmolz (LD)  |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b>     | <b>First Sunday of Advent (Year B)</b>                    |  |
| 09.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | Michael Bernard Connally (Ann)   |
| 09.30            | Holy Mass                     | St Michael  | Eleanor Wood (17 <sup>th</sup> Ann)  |
| 10.30            | Holy Mass                     | St John Fisher  | Dorothy Fox (3 <sup>rd</sup> Ann)<br>Lynne & John Doyle (40 <sup>th</sup> Wed Ann) |
| 11.15            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | Caroline Edwards (Ann)   |
| 16.00            | Holy Mass                     | St Bede   | John Cosgrove (Ann)  |