

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

7th November 2021

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**“Listen!
I am standing
at the door
knocking.”**
Rev 3:20



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Fr Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Fr Thomas Skeats O.P.	0151 424 2738

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Facebook: Parish of St Wilfrid Widnes
<https://www.facebook.com/stwilfridswidnes>

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

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

Reflection

A few years ago, I was lucky enough to spend some time in Peru attending a gathering of Dominican friars from around the world. During my time in South America, I stayed at the convent of Our Lady of the Rosary, popularly known as Santo Domingo, in Lima, the capital of Peru. It was in this convent that Saint Martin de Porres, whom the Church honours and remembers in the first week of November, spent his life as a Dominican lay brother.

St Martin is affectionately known as ‘the Saint of the Broom’ because he considered all work to be sacred, no matter how menial. He is an example of how the gifts of those who seem to count for little in the eyes of the world cannot be hidden from God.

In this sense, St Martin calls to mind the Gospel figure of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10). St Martin was mocked for being an illegitimate son and of mixed race. Zacchaeus, too, didn't seem to amount to much in most people's eyes. He was not only short in stature but reviled as a tax collector - a “sell-out” to the Romans. But starting with nothing more than the desire to see Jesus, his life was transformed. Within a few hours, Zacchaeus went from being scorned as an outcast to being blessed by Jesus as a son of Abraham. That's what the grace of God can do!

O Saint Martin, teach us to be generous with the gifts that God has given us. Make us sympathetic towards those who are suffering and afflicted. Pray to Our Redeemer and to Our Lady of Mercy that our hearts may not be hardened by sin and selfishness, but that we may always be kind and generous to our neighbours because they are the children of Our Heavenly Father. Amen.

Fr Thomas OP

This week the Blessed Sacrament Candle burns for:

St Basil's
St Michael's

Albert Timperley Birthday Remembrance, Jean Handley- Anniversary
Veronica and Jim Glynn Anniversary



MASSSES FOR THE DEAD IN NOVEMBER

During the Month of the Holy Souls, we are inviting every family who has lost a loved one in the past 20 months to remember and pray for them at Mass. The Masses will take place every Sunday afternoon at 4pm at St. Michael's Church during November. Every family will receive a letter inviting them to one of the Masses and they will hear the name of their loved one read aloud in church and each family will be given a candle to take home to light in remembrance.

Please pray for the thirteen young people of our parish who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the coming week. The Confirmation Mass will take place on Wednesday 10 November at St Bede's Church at 7pm.

All are most welcome to attend.

Times of Prayer at Holy Family, Cronton . HOLY SOULS' PRAYER GROUP Each Tuesday at 7pm in the presbytery. To pray for the Holy Souls and ask their intercession.
CENACLE OF OUR LADY Each Thursday at 6pm in the Church.

Calling all adults/young people who would like to continue or get involved in offering children's liturgy at the weekend Masses! If you are interested, then please come to a short meeting on **Monday 15th November at 7pm at St. Bede's Presbytery**. We can look at what we are able to offer, how we can attract families with children to church and ensure we are all secure in Safeguarding procedures and guidelines. **Fr. Mark**

GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE

This weekend at all Masses you will have the opportunity to buy some tickets for our '**Grand Autumn Raffle**', the raffle will be drawn at the Advent Dance on the 26th November at St. Basil's Parish Centre. All proceeds will go to parish funds so please bring some extra cash to Mass with you next week and if you know people who would be kind enough to buy a ticket or two then please take some books of tickets and return them to the Parish Office asap. Thank you!



Dates For Your Diary

Parish Advent Party

Friday 26th November 7.30pm
St Basil's Club
Tickets £5 – Available from Parish Office

**Only 15 Tickets left,
so be quick!**

Parish Choir of St. Wilfrid

The next gathering of our Parish Choir is on **Tuesday 30th November** at 7.00pm in St. Bede's church (please note the change of day). Everyone is always very welcome, even if you have not sung before, or been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally.



Advent Carol Service – Calling all Musicians!

We shall be having our Advent Carol Service on Sunday 19th December at 4pm at St. Michael's Church. As well as the children from St. Gerard's and St. Bede's Infant and Junior Schools we are calling on all musicians and choirs to send a representative to a meeting on

Thursday 18th November at 7pm at St. Bede's Presbytery

So that we can get an order of service together! Could any member of the Liturgy Group who is free please attend this meeting too? Thank you!



Fr. Mark

Exciting news about the churches of St Bede and St Michael.

We are all aware that our two listed buildings, the church of St Bede and the church of St Michael, have been in need of repair and restoration work for some time.

As both of the buildings are listed any work requires the agreement of the Historic Churches Commission together with financial approval from the Archdiocesan Trustees. In addition, consultation is needed with the Arts and Architecture Group and of course parishioners will be kept informed of progress throughout.

Parishioners should be reassured that during this project normal repair and maintenance work will continue to take place at the churches of St Basil and St John Fisher.

A start has now been made on this process. An ambitious plan for the repair and restoration of our two buildings is to commence with immediate effect. Due to the size and nature of this project a plan will be drawn up for approval for St Bede's and once this is completed similar work will be carried out at St Michael's.

Approval will be sought for the following repairs and renovation:

The sandstone fabric of the church, roof, gutters and downspouts, lighting, windows and frames (including the stained-glass windows), tiled flooring, plastering, redecoration, heating system.

Some work will commence immediately at St Bede's. This includes the restoration of the now repaired weathervane to the church tower, the installation of a disabled toilet and baby changing facilities and repair work to the church bell.

It is an ambitious plan but one which needs to be started now to ensure the future of these two buildings and to make them both fit for purposes.

Updates on the progress will be published in the newsletter over the coming weeks and months.



Building and Finance Committee.

October Talks

The last of our four October talks on Hope, Faith, Charity and Love took place last Thursday.

We are grateful to all the speakers who gave their time and shared, so honestly, the fruits of their prayer and reflections.

Each speaker gave us an insight into prayer and our Christian life. They reminded us that God is at work within us and if allow God's love to be poured into our hearts, love is the result which can be shared. Faith and hope are dependent on GOD'S love being active in our hearts.

Thank you to all those who attended the talks. I am sure you felt enriched and entertained by all the speakers. Thank you to the Liturgy Group for their involvement, but most of all thank you to Fr Mark who used his "charm" to ensure that we had such excellent speakers. We look forward to more!

Psalms 33:22 'May your unfailing love be with us Lord, as we place all our hope in you!'

LGBTQ+ Catholics Liverpool Archdiocese Prayer and Support Group

Inclusivity and diversity at many levels have been very prominent in the discussions and proposals in our Synod journey. In April 2021 Archbishop Malcolm shared with us in the Ad Clerum and then to our parishes the following words in response to the Dubium from the CDF on the blessing of same-sex unions. It is important that we reach out to all our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters to show them that they have a place in the heart of our Church and the Archdiocese.

'We are a stronger and more powerful witness to Christ because of the presence of our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters and far from denying their experience and the reality of their lives we should learn from them and hear God speaking through that reality'

Archbishop Mc Mahon

LGBTQ+ Catholics do have a place in our Church and we are all the better for their presence and active involvement in our parishes. It also became evident that they would welcome opportunities to meet together in prayer and in social gatherings to support each other and share their experiences as members of the Catholic faith communities in which they live and worship.

Our next Mass will be at **All Saints, Anfield** on **Sunday 5th December** at **12.30pm** followed by a social gathering. This is an open invitation to our LGBTQ+ Catholics, their families and friends but also to anyone who would like to come along. It would be helpful to know who might attend for catering purposes. If you are intending to come along you are very welcome but please do let us know: You can phone 0151 287 8787 or email frsmaloney@aol.com



Canon Stephen Maloney

Sunday 7 th	THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9am 10am 10am 11am 4pm	Holy Mass (<i>St Bede's</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Michael's</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St John Fisher</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede's</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede's</i>)	Anthony and Monica Stevenson <i>Pro populo</i> Margaret Rimmer Sam and Elsie Clemson Mary Crawford
Monday 8 th	<i>Feria</i>	9am 9.10am 9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Prayer During the Day Holy Mass (<i>St Basil's</i>)	Patrick Hyland
Tuesday 9 th	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	11.30am 11.40am 12pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Prayer During the Day Holy Mass (<i>St Bede's</i>)	James Fay
Wednesday 10 th	St Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor	7pm	Confirmation Mass (<i>St Bede's</i>)	Youth of the Parish
Thursday 11 th	St Martin of Tours, Bishop	11.30am 11.40am 12pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Prayer During the Day Holy Mass (<i>St Michael's</i>)	Residents of our Care Homes
Friday 12 th	St Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr	9am 9.10am 9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Prayer During the Day Holy Mass (<i>St John Fisher</i>)	Maria Raymond
Saturday 13 th	<i>Feria</i>	10am 10.30 5pm 6pm	Holy Mass (<i>St Bede's</i>) Confessions (<i>St Bede's</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Bede's</i>) Holy Mass (<i>St Basil's</i>)	Winifred Flanagan John and Margaret McDonnell George Glanville

St Bede's Open for Private Prayer
Monday to Friday 10.00am till 13.30



