

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

8th November 2020

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

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

Rev 3:20



Fr Mark Moran	0151 422 1774
Fr Joe Bibby (PP)	0151 424 6641
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Fr Carl Mугan (PP)	0151 513 0024
Fr Tom Neylon (PP)	0151 424 2738
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021

NEW PARISH WEBSITE ADDRESS:
stwilfridswidnes.uk

Please keep looking at our website for up to date news.

Follow us on Facebook:
Parish of St Wilfrid Widnes



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

St Wilfrid's Parish Office
St Bede's Presbytery
Appleton Village
Widnes, WA8 6EL

**The Parish Office is
closed during lockdown**

Please email:

stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk

Office Manager
Heather Harrison

Parish Administrators
Susan Warburton
Shelagh Hindley

Pastoral Associate
Jessy Mottram-Noé

THERE IS A SEASON FOR ALL THINGS...

This is a line from the Book of Ecclesiastes which tells us how there is a time for all things, a time to be born, a time to die, a time to laugh a time to cry; a reminder that all things have their time and place. Last week we faced more change, the fear and anxiety that may have surrounded entering 'lockdown' once more, that sense of being isolated from loved ones, the longing for human touch and contact, to desire and need to be connected to one another. In the political world we saw debate and discussion abound, elections of presidents and statements from parliament, most of which confused and bemused this priest in Widnes! Our churches were restricted in what we could offer and how we could celebrate. A week when the news brought little good news?

Yet amidst all of this, we must remember that this is still a season for life and growth and joy and happiness and trust. Amidst all the confusion and worry we celebrated with Fr. Joe as he was Missioned/Commissioned to go from 'God to God'. In a church in Widnes, with all that is going on around us we, as a community gathered around an altar and prayed with one of our priests as he goes overseas to serve others. Our work does not stop! The Archbishop reminded us all that Fr. Joe does not go alone, he takes us with him, as he goes in our name. A wonderful celebration that reminded me that whatever we are called to be in this 'season', whatever we are called to do, we

must do it with a generous and willing heart. In the craziness of the world, we as a parish continue to listen to the voice of God and we respond to Him.

In the month ahead, when church services have been 'paused' and life may seem overwhelming, remember that God has not moved, no matter what season we are in, God has not moved.

In all things let us pray for one another and be confident in our prayer.

May God bless you all, Fr. Mark

CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Statement from the President and the Vice-President of the Conference on the National Lockdown

Wednesday 4th November 2020

Today, Parliament passed into law the Regulations governing many aspects of activity in the whole of England until 2nd December. These Regulations prohibit the gathering of people for communal worship in churches and other religious buildings.

Churches remain open and in use for activities other than communal worship, including personal prayer and support for those in need. Funeral Masses and funeral services may be held. Please refer to the [Regulations](#) (for places of worship see paragraph 18) and associated [Guidance](#).

Despite profound misgivings it is important that we, as responsible citizens, observe these Regulations, which have the force of law: 'Remind them to be obedient to the officials in authority; to be ready to do good at every opportunity' (Titus 3:1). We do this in solidarity with so many others on whom are being imposed restrictions which impact severely on their lives and livelihoods.

It is also important to recognise that these Regulations are not an attack on religious belief. However, they do demonstrate a fundamental lack of understanding of the essential contribution made by faith communities to the well-being, resilience and health of our society. At this difficult moment, we ask that, as a Catholic community, we make full use of our churches as places of individual prayer and sources of solace and help. We must sustain each other in our patterns of prayer, joining a national shared moment of prayer each day at 6pm, and observing the Vigil of Christ the King (21st November) as a day of prayer for the ending of this pandemic. And we encourage you all in your practical service and support of each other and those around you in need.

This pathway of prayer and service is the royal road we are to take as a gracious witness in our society today.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols
President

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP
Vice-President

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

With effect from **Thursday 5th November** there will be no Masses in any of our churches for the duration of lockdown.

St Bede's Church will be open each Tuesday & Thursday from 11am until 12 noon for private prayer.

Funerals are still permitted in church.

The Parish Office will be closed so please email stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk if you need to contact the admin team or the clergy. Thank you.

Fr Joe

On Wednesday, November 3rd Archbishop Malcolm visited our parish to give Fr Joe his Mission Cross and send him to work with LAMP in Peru in the name of the Archdiocese. He will be leaving the parish in a couple of weeks' time on November 23rd.

After that date, and until his flight on January 6th, he can be contacted at:

St Margaret Mary's Presbytery, Pilch Lane, Knotty Ash, Liverpool, L14 0JG

j.bibby@rcaol.org.uk

Photographs of Wednesday's Mass will soon be available at "Archdiocese of Liverpool Flickr".



How to access Mass

St Wilfrid's Widnes:

YouTube videos are being prepared so that you can participate in Mass.



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC52-K27EaYwySzRmeP3f3eA>

Mass will be available each Sunday morning; this weekend Bishop John will be the celebrant, Fr Bill the following weekend and Fr Joe on 22nd November.

Please share this information with any parishioners who may not have access to the newsletter.

Across the Archdiocese:

New resources now available include:

- [Reflection for the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time](#) (also available as an audio download).
- [Readings for the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.](#)
- [Week 9 in the series of 'Armchair Retreats' with Fr Denis Blackledge SJ.](#)
- [The Big Questions of 2020.](#)

All can be accessed/downloaded at <https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/> or through <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/> by clicking on 'Prayer and Other Resources'.

We pray for those who are sick

Fr Malcolm Princez

Michael McKown

Emma Pender

If you know of someone who is sick & would appreciate their name being placed on the list, please contact the Parish Office on 422 1772. The name of the sick person will appear for 6 weeks, this can be renewed by contacting the Parish Office. We can only place names in the Newsletter with the consent of the sick person.

Wednesday Word

This could be a very helpful way of accessing the Sunday readings.

<http://wednesdayword.org/parish/index.htm>

Catholic Pictorial

The latest edition is available digitally at:

<https://bit.ly/36fUh2V>

<http://www.catholicpic.co.uk/> updated daily with news from around the Archdiocese.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

NHS Track & Trace

Please remember that if you test positive for Covid-19 and have visited one of our churches in the preceding days it is important that you let the office know by email:

stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk

Thank you



FAITH INTO ACTION

CAFOD ONLINE EVENT.



Date and Time

Saturday 14 November 2020

11:00 – 16:00 GMT

Join CAFOD for a day of online discussion and workshops on the world we want to create after the pandemic.

You're invited to join CAFOD's free online event [FAITH INTO ACTION](#) to discuss the world we want to create after the pandemic – one where we respond to Pope Francis's call and ensure plans for recovering from the crisis tackle poverty, inequality and the climate emergency.

The online gathering will allow us to:

- Reflect on what changes we want to see after the coronavirus crisis in participatory sessions led by practical theologian Sam Ewell and climate campaigners from around the world.
- Look at how we can turn Pope Francis's most recent call to action into a reality, learning about his new encyclical, Fratelli Tutti.
- Hear from CAFOD's Director of Advocacy Neil Thorns on the crucial global talks the UK is hosting next year and discuss the practical steps we need to take to rebuild our common home.

This event is open to everyone who is interested in campaigning with CAFOD – new and experienced campaigners alike. **All are welcome!**

Agenda

11:00 – Introductions and opening prayer

11:20 – Reflection session with practical theologian Sam Ewell

12:00 – Exploring Fratelli Tutti: A message from Pope Francis

12:40 – Lunch

13:20 – Hearing from overseas communities on building a better world from the crisis

14:00 – The 2021 'super year' with CAFOD's Director of Advocacy Neil Thorns

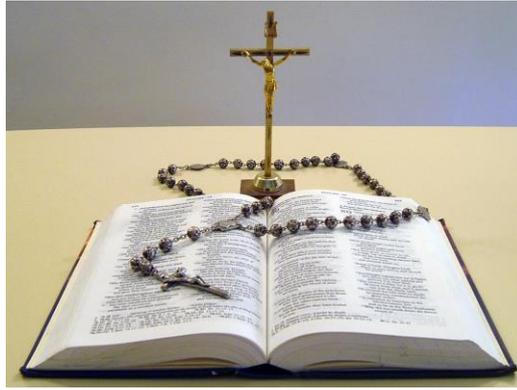
14:30 – Break

14:45 – 'How do we build a better world from the crisis?' with CAFOD campaigns

15:45 – Closing session

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/faith-into-action-building-a-better-world-after-the-pandemic-tickets-121721948625>

PARISH NOVENA 2020



As our Wednesday evening Novena Masses have been cancelled perhaps we might all pray the Novena prayer at home:

Dear Mother, the Lord looked on you in your humility and chose you to be the Mother of his Son; and now all ages call you blessed.

God has worked marvels for you.

You witnessed the death of your Son on the cross and your continuing faith brought you to witness his victory over death, filling your heart with joy and praise.

By the example of your life you showed that God's mercy is on those who fear him.

You are now with the saints singing the praises of God and praying for us, who need our prayers.

Pray with us to the Lord, and as our prayers rise before him like incense, may he hear us and answer us, according to his promise.

We pray for those who have died

Katherine Olivia Donohue

Neville John Conroy

Doris Sylvia Brennan

Barry Loftus

Iris Geraghty

Stephen O'Connor

Terence Burns



MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions have been allocated up to November. Any new Masses will be allocated as there is space in the individual weeks.

The following Masses will be said by the priests this week:

Joan & Catherine Cosgrove

Jean Hunt (2nd Anniversary)

James Clark (LateLy dead)

James Fay (Anniversary)

Pious List x 2

People of the Parish

Madeline Palmer

Colette Cain

Jean Mary Handley (Anniversary)

Winifred Flanagan

Residents of all our Care Homes

Ann & Hugh Brennan

Marion James (LateLy Dead)

M.C.

Katherine Olivia Donohue (LateLy dead)

Neville John Conroy (LateLy dead)

Doris Sylvia Brennan (LateLy dead)

Barry Loftus (LateLy dead)

Iris Grogarty (LateLy dead)



PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY,
ST STEPHEN'S DAY – 26th December & THE FEAST OF THE HOLY
FAMILY – 27th December.



Christmas Eve 24 th December	8pm	St Basil's
	8pm	St Bede's
	8pm	St John Fisher
	8pm	St Michael's
Christmas Day 25 th December	8:30am	St Basil's
	9am	St Bede's
	10am	St John Fisher
	10:30am	St Michael's
	11:15am	St Bede's
St Stephens Day 26 th December	12 noon	St Michael's
Sunday 27 th December	9am	St Michael's
	10am	St John Fisher
	11am	St Michael's
	4:30 pm	St Basil's

The proposed schedule for Christmas will only be possible if there are enough stewards available to enable the Masses to be celebrated lawfully and safely, and in accordance with the guidance we have received from the Archbishop and the Government. ***I am appealing to those who are fit and able to do so, to step forward to be trained as stewards to help during the Christmas period.*** This will be of great benefit to the parish.

For further information please contact the Parish Office via email –
stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk

Fr Tom

SYNOD 2020

The summary proposals and ideas on each of the 4 Synod Themes have been received by the Synod Members across the Archdiocese. We can view them on the Synod 2020 website. Take your time to look through them prayerfully, between now and the beginning of December. In the meantime, ways will be developed for us to share our thoughts and to prioritise the proposals with one another in the parish before we indicate, in the week beginning 7 December (via an online portal), the 5 'proposals' and the 2 'affirmations' that we are **most drawn to** under each theme. *The phrase 'most drawn to' is being used specifically because we are invited to listen to our heart, listen to the community that we are a part of, and in the light of this listening to ask ourselves: What are the proposals I am most drawn to?*

The information that is gathered by the Synod Working Party through the online portal will be examined to produce the final list of Synod Proposals which will be presented to us in March 2021.

From March to June 2021 you will be asked to discern again by sharing the final list of Synod Proposals in preparation for the coming Synod in June.

Pious List

Pious list envelopes will be available at the back of St Bede's Church. Please place a list of those you wish to be remembered at Mass during the month of November and pass them into St Wilfrid's Parish Office, with your donation, at St Bede's Presbytery.

A purple candle is in place on the sanctuary in St Bede's Church which will symbolise our prayers for the dead. The candle will be lit during private prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Funerals

Please remember in your prayers -

Gwendoline Tomlinson

Peter Shaw

Patricia Ann Moran

Ann Patricia Jones

Adèle Topping



whose funerals took place last week.