

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



**Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Year C)**

Second Collection This Week is For
"APF World Missions"

19th October 2025

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Psalm Response

'Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth'

Dilexi Te - Pope Leo XIV's first Apostolic Exhortation

Pope Leo has issued his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi Te* (I have loved you), on love for the poor. This document, begun by Pope Francis and completed by Pope Leo, stands in succession to Francis' last letter, *Dilexit Nos* (he loved us), on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The two letters demonstrate the close connection between God and the poor, for it is in the wounded faces of the poor that we see Christ himself. Here are a few key extracts:

10. In this sense, it can be said that the commitment to the poor and to removing the social and structural causes of poverty has gained importance in recent decades, but it remains insufficient.

19. The Gospel shows us that poverty marked every aspect of Jesus' life. From the moment he entered the world, Jesus knew the bitter experience of rejection.

75. The Church's tradition of working for and with migrants continues, and today this service is expressed in initiatives such as refugee reception centres, border missions and the efforts of Caritas Internationalis and other institutions.

97. All the members of the People of God have a duty to make their voices heard, albeit in different ways, in order to point out and denounce such structural issues, even at the cost of appearing foolish or naïve.

121. Through your work, your efforts to change unjust social structures or your simple, heartfelt gesture of closeness and support, the poor will come to realize that Jesus' words are addressed personally to each of them: "I have loved you" (Rev 3:9).

You can read it online for free or buy a hardcopy from Pauline Books and Media in Liverpool.
Thank you Pope Leo (and Pope Francis)!

Fr Peter Ross

Vision Group Update

Tasks outlined by the Archdiocesan Trustees...

Parishioners are invited to work on the following:

- *Being aware of the mission of the Catholic Church in the Widnes and Cronton Family of Parishes.*
- *What buildings are essential/needed to best support this mission?*
- *Explore the possibilities for civic involvement, grants, donations, legacies to support the mission.*
- *Consider the use/release of assets in the family of parishes to support the mission.*

What are our next steps?

- To gather two new groups of parishioners to work, in conjunction with the Vision Group, as project leaders on the tasks outlined by the Archdiocesan Trustees (see above).
- To set a realistic remit for each group, given the time frame

When will this happen?

October and early November will be the starting point for these two groups. Please continue to support, pray and be involved in these next important steps on our parish journey across the coming months...

Quarant'ore 2025

Flowers – Donations are welcome towards the flowers that will adorn the altar. Please mark your envelopes '40 Hours Flowers' and pass your donations into the Parish Office.

Candles – If you would like to buy a candle for 40 hours, the cost of these are £15 for a large candle and £5 for a small candle. These can be lit in memory of a loved one or for a specific intention. The name or the intention will be written on the candle, so only one name or intention per candle please. For example, 'The Moran Family'. Please pass your candle donations into the Parish Office ASAP. Many thanks!

October Talks – Gospel of St. Matthew

We continue our exploration of St. Matthew's Gospel on **Wednesday 22nd October at 7pm** at the Parish Hall at **St John Fisher Hall**. Refreshments will be served from 6.40pm. For this talk we welcome Fr Mark Beattie., Parish Priest of St. Chad and St. Bede in Chorley. Fr Mark is well known for his talks on spirituality and faith in action. All are welcome to come along and learn more about Jesus!

Thank you From Widnes Food Bank

I'm writing to say thank you for St Wilfrid's Parish for the donations to Widnes Foodbank. As donations have dropped considerably in the current financial climate, we are very grateful for this contribution. It is only due to the goodwill of people like you that the Foodbank can work as well as it does. Your donation of 5.5 kg of food equates to 13 meals, which is a great help. Thank you to everyone who supports us.

Change of Date - Parish Choir

Please note the practice meeting on Monday 3rd November date has been changed to the following week, **10th November at 7pm in St. John Fisher Church.**

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or have not been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally, it doesn't matter. You are most welcome. Due to safeguarding guidance all members of the choir must be over 18 years of age.

Thank You from the 18-35 Group

"On behalf of the 18-35 youth group, I would like to thank the wonderful parishioners of St Wilfrid's for your incredibly generous donations towards our pilgrimage to Walsingham. Your support will allow us to spend time together and develop our faith in such a special and holy place. We will keep you and your intentions in our prayers."

Hannah Moriarty

November – Month of the HOLY SOULS

November is when we as a Church pray in a special way for the dead, those we have known and loved and those, who in charity, have no one to pray for them. At every Mass the faithful departed are remembered, but during this special month certain opportunities are offered to draw together as a community to pray, remember and support one another in faith.

Saturday 1st / Sunday 2nd November – Feast of All Saints

Monday 3rd November – Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed - 7pm at St. Bede

Saturday 8th November – Mass for all the Faithful Departed, Blessing of Graves - 10am at St. John Fisher

At this Mass we pray for all who have died. Everyone will be offered a bottle of holy water to take to graves or places of remembrance, to bless and pray.

Sunday 9th and Sunday 16th November – Masses for all who have died from our parish in the past 12 months, 4pm at St. Basil's.

At these two Masses, the names of all who have died in our parish community in the past 12 months will be read aloud to call them to mind, to pray and to thank God for them.

Pious List – There are envelopes at the back of every church for you to place the names of those who you would like to be included on the parish pious list, with your donation. Please return these to the Parish Office ASAP.

"In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die...they are in peace."

Book of Wisdom

Diaconate Information Session – Tuesday 21st October

Are you or someone you know interested in exploring a vocation to the **Permanent Diaconate**? Deacons are ordained ministers of service and compassion in the Church, assisting both in liturgy and in the pastoral and practical life of their communities.



An **online information session** will take place on **Tuesday 21st October 2025 at 7.00pm**, led by the diocesan formation team. The session will offer insight into the role and ministry of deacons and help those discerning a possible calling.

Book by scanning QR code or visiting: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/are-you-interested-in-becoming-a-deacon-tickets-1802040524719?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Trinity Safe Space

'The Trustees of Trinity Safe Space wish to clarify that they in no way intended to cause any hurt to the school community at St. Michael's RC Primary by the statement in last week's newsletter. If any offence was caused, sincere apologies are made. The Trustees are fully aware of the wonderful reputation of St. Michael's School in the local community, and we share their values of living according to the teachings of Jesus.'

Trustees of Trinity Safe Space

Jubilee Club

The Jubilee Club meet every Thursday in St John Fisher Hall from **1.30pm to 3.30pm**. All are welcome to join us for a friendly chat with light refreshments. However, please note there will be no meeting on **23rd October**. We will re-commence the following **Thursday 30th October**. During November we have a quiz on **6th**, Music afternoon on **20th**, plus Flower arranging on the **27th**. Christmas activities during December. Please join us if you can. You are very welcome!

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	19th October	Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Eddie Tague
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Fr Bernard Wood
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Joan Moran
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	P. Murray
Monday	20th October	Ferial	
No Mass or Service			
Tuesday	21st October	Ferial	
10.00	Funeral Service	St Basil	William Hunt
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	The Derbyshire Family
Wednesday	22nd October	Ferial	
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Basil	Alfred John Rowland
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Eunice Higgins
Thursday	23rd October	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	John Prendergast
10.00	Funeral Service	St Basil	Ann-Marie Bradshaw
Friday	24th October	Ferial	
13.15	Holy Mass	Ss Peter & Paul, Year 7	Young people of the Parish
Saturday	25th October	Vigil of the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Mary Unwin
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Winnie Doyle
Sunday	26th October	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Harry Taylor
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Carol Randall
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Fr Mark & Fr Peter

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Special Intention
St Basil:	Mary & John Rooney
St John Fisher:	Joan, Eileen & Joe Skilky
St Michael:	Stan & Carmen Plumtree

Rest in Peace

Peter Tennant, Kevin George Riccio,
Margaret Condon, Erica Norma Shaw,
Raymond Samuel Massey,
Margaret Stone & Michael Higgins.
May the Angels lead them into Paradise!