



# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



## Palm Sunday Passion of The Lord

13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Next Week – Second Collection – Lourdes Youth

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### Psalm Response

'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

## Tariffs and the Gospel

The imposition of tariffs by Donald Trump, along with the reactions of countries impacted by these sweeping changes, are making big news. Tariffs are taxes on imported goods. Countries impose tariffs with the intention of protecting their local industry from international competition and raising national tax revenues. Interestingly, it seems that Donald Trump's tariffs may raise the price of Bibles, including the president's own branded version of the holy text!

Tariffs can affect the prices of products made in the home country as well as those imported from other countries. Many economists argue that tariffs create market distortions that can harm domestic consumers over time. They can also lead to a trade war if trading partners impose tit-for-tat tariffs.

None of this sounds good to me and makes me wonder what a Christian should think about these things?

The temptation is for us as Christians to withdraw from these issues, to consider the social problems only with regard to their economic or political aspects. But this misses a crucial point as the Gospel compels us to faith-filled action. We are bound to love our neighbours, whether they want it or not.

Loving your neighbour means more than just having affection for them. It is an attitude. It means recognising the dignity and worth of all people, no matter where or who they are, and also recognising them as awesome beings made in God's image. This means not treating them as a threat or danger. It is also about ensuring as far as possible, whether as a government, church or individual, that our actions do not cause active harm to others.

So, in a time when some world leaders are choosing to isolate and withdraw, let's do the opposite.

**Deacon Paul**

## Will you Walk in Witness to Your Faith in Jesus?

This afternoon at **3pm** we will gather outside St. Bede's Church and walk in witness to our faith through Victoria Park praying and singing and showing our faith in our community. Will you come? Will you change your usual routine and come and walk as a Christian as we enter the holiest of weeks? We may be laughed at; we may be ridiculed – but so was He...

### 4pm Mass on Palm Sunday

After the Walk of Witness there will be a 4pm Mass at St. Bede, yet the Mass will be with the Neo Catechumenate Community and presided over by their priest. You are all welcome to join this Mass, but it will be a bit longer than the usual 4pm Mass!

### Lenten Reconciliation Service

On **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> of April** at St. John Fisher Church we shall have our Lenten Reconciliation Service. Everyone is encouraged to avail themselves of the sacrament before Easter.

**PLEASE NOTE:** if you have been to confession during Lent, especially in the past few weeks, you do not need to come again. We have offered lots of opportunities for confession this Lent, they are all valid! We can only find three priests to hear confessions on the 15<sup>th</sup>, so please come to confession if you have *not been*, but if you *have been* to confession recently, bask in your forgiveness!

### Relics of St. Columba, St. Andrew and St. Margaret of Scotland

St. Wilfrid's Knights of St. Columba have been asked to host a visit of the relics of these three great saints in our parish. What an honour! They will visit our church after Easter, and we shall pray with the relics asking their intercession for our mission here in Widnes.

### Timetable of the Visit – St. John Fisher Church

#### **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

9.30am – Morning Prayer and Rosary

10am – 12noon – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the presence of the Relics.

12noon – Holy Mass (*Presider: Fr. Bill Murphy, Chaplain to the Knights of St. Columba*)

12.30pm – 2pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the presence of the Relics.

6pm - 7pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the presence of the Relics.

7pm – Holy Mass

#### **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

9.30am - Morning Prayer and Rosary

10am – 12noon - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the presence of the Relics.

12noon - Holy Mass (*Presider: Fr. Bill Murphy, Chaplain to the Knights of St. Columba*)

**Relics to depart from St. Wilfrid's Parish.**

### Lourdes Collection

On Easter Sunday at all Masses there will be a second collection to help our four young people, Chrissie, Christopher, Caolan and Hannah to attend the Lourdes Pilgrimage this summer. They work so hard when they are there and have a wonderful experience of God and His Church. Please be generous, as you always are!

### Chrism Mass

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, leaving St. Bede at **6pm** and returning around 10pm. There are only **4** seats left on the coach, if you would like to attend, let the Parish Office know asap.

### Lenten Journey

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm at St. Bede** – Walk of Witness

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm at St. John Fisher** – Reflective Stations of the Cross

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm at St. John Fisher** – Scripture Group

## Easter Parish Office Hours

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April till Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April – 9.30am – 1.30pm

Good Friday – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Closed, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - 9.30am – 1.30pm,  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Closed and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April – 9.30am – 1.30am. Please take note.

### Will you not watch one hour with me?

On Maundy Thursday at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, each of us experience the Lord going to the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples and there He enters the 'dark night'. He is in mental anguish, He feels abandoned and overwhelmed by what is to come.

#### **Will you sit with Jesus?**

After the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we are invited to sit and wait in the garden with Jesus. From the end of the Mass of the Lord's Supper until **8.45pm**, we shall sit in silence and watch with Him. Then we shall say Night Prayer together and leave St. Michael's Church in silence.

Many of us have experienced that 'dark night' when in the darkness our problems feel that they might overwhelm us. Sadly, we know that worry when we are unsure of what is to come, that desperation when we see a loved one go through pain that we cannot ease. Bring all of that to the Garden of Gethsemane this year and sit with Jesus and know He understands.

### Children's Stations of the Cross – Good Friday

Please note that the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday are for the children and young people in our parish. Please **DO NOT** attend unless you are accompanying a child or young person, this is so that we can ensure safeguarding best practice across our entire parish community.

### Easter Offerings

Please remember that in the past, the Easter Collection was given to the priests in the parish, this has not been the practice for many years. The Easter collection, like every collection, goes towards the upkeep of the parish. So, if you would like to give a gift to the priests, it must be in a separate envelope with their name on it.

### Young Catholics in Widnes – 18-35

We shall gather once more this **Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> April**, between 6pm and 9pm for a 'Night of Mercy' pondering the wonderful forgiveness of God and how the Lord's forgiveness impacts in our lives. Please come if you are in the correct age bracket!

### Our Lenten Journey 2025 Week 6 - Community

This week as we walk with Jesus in his suffering and humiliation could we find time to pray for all victims of Human Trafficking and Slavery who suffer injustice in our midst across the world?

Could you pray the **Medaille Trust** prayer one day this week?

**'Lord Jesus Christ, friend of the outcast and liberator of the captive, you are close to all those who suffer, to those who are slaves. Set them free from their mental and physical bondage and by your power set us free from our indifference. We pray for the work of your redeeming love in the situations of violence, abuse and betrayal we see around us in our world. Amen'**

*'The commitment against human trafficking and exploitation can "ignite flames of light, which together can illuminate the night until the dawn breaks." Pope Francis*

### Parking at St. Basil's Church

When parking around St. Basil's Church please be mindful of residents and obeying the law surrounding where it is legal to park. We are blessed with fantastic numbers at the 4.30pm Mass, yet we should always be mindful of residents and following the parking laws.

### Mary's Meals

If you have collected 'Loose Change' for this charity, there will be large boxes at the back of each church for you to put your donations in. Thank you for your generosity.

## Parish Liturgy

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Passion of The Lord</b>	
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Michael & Winnie Burns
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael	John Davies
11.30	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Parishioners
<b>15.00</b>	<b>Walk of Witness</b>	<b>St. Bede</b>	
16.00	Holy Mass <i>(Neo Cat Community)</i>	St. Bede	Marie Bonnon
<b>Monday</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Mary Unwin
<b>19.00</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>St. John Fisher</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Brian McKeown
<b>19.00</b>	<b>Lenten Reconciliation Service</b>	St. John Fisher	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>	
<b>19.00</b>	<b>Chrism Mass</b>	<b>Cathedral</b>	Marese Hudson Win McGrath
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	
<b>19.00</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>	<b>St. Michael</b>	John Sullivan
<b>20.00</b>	<b>Watching with the Lord</b>		Mark Cullen
<b>20.45</b>	<b>Night Prayer</b>		
<b>Friday</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	
<b>11.00</b>	<b>Children's Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>	
<b>15.00</b>	<b>Passion of the Lord</b>	<b>St. Bede</b>	
<b>15.00</b>	<b>Passion of the Lord</b>	<b>St. Michael</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Resurrection of the Lord</b>	
<b>20.30</b>	<b>Vigil of the Resurrection</b>	<b>St. Michael</b>	Alan Bennett Yvonne Goldman
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	
<b>09.00</b>	Holy Mass	St Basil	Billy Moran
<b>09.00</b>	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher	Sam Shone
<b>10.15</b>	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
<b>10.30</b>	Holy Mass	St Bede	Elizabeth & Cyril Morris

### Sanctuary Lamp

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

<b>St Bede:</b>	Teresa Topping
<b>St Basil:</b>	Wounded Shoulder of Jesus
<b>St John Fisher:</b>	Special Intention
<b>St Michael:</b>	Steve Cawley

### Rest in Peace

Steve Cawley, Roy Shone,  
Lawrence Karalius, Patricia Ogburn,  
Lillian Burns, Elsie Harrison,  
Stephen Cosgrove & Philip Lynch,

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

