

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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

Archdiocese of Liverpool
Registered Charity No 1199714

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Times (Year A)

15th November 2026

Second Collection next week: Animate Youth

Parish Office will close 13.30 on Wednesday.

Parish Office:
Monday to Friday: 9:30-16:30
(unless stated in newsletter)

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Rev. Father Mark Moran (Parish Priest, Moderator).
Rev. Father Peter F. Ross (Parochial Vicar).
Rev. Deacon Paul Rooney.
Rev. Deacon Paul Whitehead.

Psalm Response
"Blessed are all who fear the LORD."
Gospel Acclamation Verse
"Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord.
Whoever abides in me bears much fruit."

Please pray for priests who have died

On Tuesday, I attended the Requiem Mass for the late Father Brian Newns. Fr. Brian is well regarded here, having ministered in Widnes for many years. May he rest in peace. Attending the funerals of priests is a priority for me. As priests, we are connected through the ministry we share. We rely on each other a lot. Indeed, there is a saying, "no one gets a priest like a priest." My best friends are priests (or still in training), and I speak with them on the phone and meet up with them. Nevertheless, even if priests don't know each other, we're still related through the Sacrament of Ordination. We share in that Sacred Ministry. So, brother priests are family in a real sense. Therefore, when one of us dies, the family gathers to mourn and pray. I didn't really know Fr. Brian. I met him briefly when I was on a placement.

However, family is family, and you just go to the funeral, if the diary allows. Fr. Brian is my brother. Other recently deceased priests, Fr. John Joyce, Fr. Tom Gagie, Fr. Leo Stoker, Fr. Joe Kendall, Fr. Francis Fearns, they are my brothers. I knew some better than others. But that doesn't matter. We all want people to pray for us when we die. As I keep saying, when I'm dead, please don't 'celebrate my life'. That won't help me. Instead, pray for me! Have a Mass said, pray a Rosary, sprinkle my grave with Holy Water. That's what I need. Prayers to speed me on my journey back to God. Another reason why I go to the funerals is so I can concelebrate and offer Mass for the priest. Please spare a prayer for all priests who have died, the ones we have known and loved, the ones we have never met.

Fr Peter Ross

Advent Retreat Day

On **Saturday 12th December** from 10am – 3.30pm at St. Basil's Church we are delighted to offer an Advent Retreat Day led by Sr. Bridget Folkard, SSMN. The theme of the day will be ***'Behold, He comes to us, leaping over the mountains.'*** On the day as well as having time for personal prayer and reflection, Sr. Bridget will explore with us Old and New Testament texts to prepare our hearts and lives for new love and mission in Christ. The cost of the day, which includes lunch, is £10pp and places are **limited to 20 people**. If you would like to attend the retreat, please pass your name and £10 into the Parish Office. It promises to be a wonderful day!

Clergy Residential Move

Fr. Mark will be moving from his residence at St. John Fisher presbytery to the presbytery at St. Basil's in the next few weeks. This transition is a strategic decision made to support the long-term financial health and apostolic mission of our parish community.

By consolidating clergy housing at St. Basil's, the parish will be able to either rent or sell the St. John Fisher presbytery. The revenue generated from this asset will be directly reinvested into the parish as a whole. Fr. Peter will continue to reside at St. Bede.

As a parish family, we must continuously evaluate our resources and property to ensure we are using them effectively to support our ministry, serve our community, and secure our future. We thank you for your continued support and prayers during this time of transition, and we extend our thanks to Fr. Mark as he moves home, and we pray that he settles into his new presbytery quickly.

Archdiocesan Advent Retreat Day for Young Adults

On **Saturday 28th November**, St. Wilfrid's Parish is proud to host the Advent Retreat Day for Young Adults from across the Archdiocese. The day will be led by Fr. Derek Lloyd, ably assisted by Fr. Peter and Canon Aidan Prescott V.G., and will take place at St. Basil's Church from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Because the retreat concludes at 4:00pm, we kindly ask for the understanding and cooperation of parishioners attending the 4:30pm Mass that evening. **Please do not** arrive at St. Basil's **before 4:00pm**. This includes our musicians and sacristans! While it will be a bit of a rush to set up for Mass in those 30 minutes, we are confident we will cope for just this one week!

This is a wonderful event in the life of the Church, helping to nurture the faith of our younger members. Please keep this event and all the young attendees in your prayers as we welcome them here to Widnes.

A Time of Prayer for Archie and Mia

Widnes has been rocked in recent days, following the deaths of two of our young people, Archie and Mia. Together with Saints Peter and Paul Catholic High School and Wade Deacon High School, St. Wilfrid's Parish will offer two periods of quiet prayer and reflection in church. Members of the two families, each school and the wider community, are invited to come along, to light a candle, to sign the Book of Condolence and to sit and pray. All are welcome. We will also announce the details of the funerals in due course. May Our Lady of Compassion intercede for all those who mourn, that they may be comforted.

For Archie – Tuesday 17th November between 5pm - 7pm at St. Basil's Church, WA8 4SZ
For Mia – Thursday 19th November between 5pm - 7pm at St Bede's Church, WA8 6EL

Presentation of the Papal Bene Merenti Medal

It is with great joy that we can announce that Bishop Tom Neylon, Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool, will join our community on **Tuesday 24th November** to celebrate the 12noon Mass and to present **Mr. Terry Hayes** with the Bene Merenti Papal Award from his Holiness Pope Leo XIV. The award is given for Terry's dedicated service and fidelity to Holy Mother Church. Please join us for this beautiful celebration to honour Terry's lifelong devotion to our parish family. Refreshments will be served after Mass. All are welcome!

St. Peter and Paul RC High School Diary of Events

On **Thursday 3rd December** at 6pm there will be a Christmas Bingo to raise funds for the school charities and on **Friday 4th December** at 1.15pm the school will host a Senior Citizens Christmas Party. For further details and tickets contact: **www.ticketsource.com/pandpchs** or email: **expressivearts@stpeterandpaul.co.uk** or phone 0151 424 2139.

St Marie's Christmas Carols and Sing Along

The St Marie's Heritage Group are delighted to welcome back the wonderful Parish Choir of St Wilfrid who will be leading us all in Christmas Carols and Songs on **Tuesday 8th December** at 7pm at St Marie's Church, Lugsdale Rd. There will be mulled wine, mince pies and refreshments. This event is free to attend. To reserve a place email: **heritage@haltonsthelensvca.org.uk** or call 01928592405

Canonical Process – St. Michael's Church

The canonical process for St. Michael's Church is structured in four distinct phases: the consultation period, the council review, the Archbishop's final discernment, and the potential appeal process. The timeline began on **1st November 2026** with an announcement in the parish newsletter opening the public consultation. Parishioners and interested parties can submit their comments, feedback, or concerns directly to the Archbishop via letter or email at **consultation.widnes.@rcaol.org.uk** until the closing date on **20th December 2026**.

Following the public phase, the process moves to the Council of Priests, who will be formally consulted on the matter during their upcoming meeting in **February 2027**. Once all canonical consultations are complete, Archbishop Sherrington will enter a period of prayer, discernment, and final decision-making. No official decisions have been made yet, meaning the window for formal appeals is not yet open. The right to appeal only arises after the Archbishop issues an official decree. When that final decree is published, it will include explicit instructions outlining the exact timeline and procedure for how appeals must be made. A consultation meeting will be held at St Basil's Church on **Thursday 26th November** at **7.00pm**.

St Wilfrid UCM Christmas Prize Bingo

The UCM are hosting a Christmas Prize Bingo on the afternoon of **Monday November 30th**, starting at 1.30pm. There will also be raffles, and refreshments. All are welcome! Thank you to all the people who attended our Book Sale which raised £48.

Mass of Anointing

On **Saturday 28th November** at 12noon there will be a Mass of Anointing at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, L25 2RW. The Mass will be presided by Bishop Tom Neylon. All are welcome to come and encounter Christ through the anointing of the sick and to pray at the shrine of St Peregrine, the patron of those with cancer and serious illness. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	**15th November**	**Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**	
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Bishop John Rawsthorne
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael	Linda Garvie
11.30	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Parishioners/Pious List
16.00	**Holy Mass (Bereavement Mass)**	**St. Basil**	**Holy Souls**
Monday	**16th November**	**Monday Week 33 in Ordinary Time**	
09.00	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St. Basil	Mary & James Glynn
Tuesday	**17th November**	**Tuesday Week 33 in Ordinary Time**	
10.00	Holy Mass Year 3 & 4	St. Michael's School	Holy Souls in Purgatory
11.30	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Nancy Prendergast
17.00 - 19.00	**Prayers for Archie**	**St. Basil**	
Wednesday	**18th November**	**Wednesday Week 33 in Ordinary Time**	
11.30	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Chris Hindley
Thursday	**19th November**	**Thursday Week 33 in Ordinary Time**	
17.00 -19.00	**Prayers for Mia**	**St. Bede**	
Friday	**20th November**	**Friday Week 33 in Ordinary Time**	
11.00	**Funeral Service**	**St. Bede**	**Mia Louise Jones**
Saturday	**21st November**	**Vigil of Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**	
16.30	Holy Mass	St. Basil	Thomas & Marie Boden
18.00	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher	Vocations to Priesthood
Sunday	**22nd November**	**Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**	
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	100th Birthday Thanksgiving
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael	Pauline Noone
11.30	Holy Mass	St. Bede	The Sunderland Family
16.00	**Holy Mass (Bereavement Mass)**	**St. Basil**	**Holy Souls**

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for 7 days for your intention

St. Bede:	Ray Johnson
St. Basil:	James Rooney
St. Basil:	Holy Souls
St. John Fisher:	Anne Biggs
St. Michael:	Special Intention

Rest in Peace

Archie Boscoe, Mia Louise Jones,
Margaret Rowlands, Elizabeth Owen,
Vincent Battersby, Alicia Hoy,
Gerald Gornall & Raymond Clarke

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!