

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

13th July 2025

Second collection next week for:
'Provisions for Priests in Retirement'

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Psalm Response

'Seek God, you who are poor, and your hearts will revive'.

Pope Leo XIV, unity and communion.

It is hard to believe that Pope Leo has been Bishop of Rome for two months. By meeting world leaders, presiding over important liturgies and speaking words of justice, our wonderful new Pope has thrown himself in at the very deepest of deep ends. None of us can imagine how he is feeling. Good on him for having a holiday at Castel Gandolfo.

I think Pope Leo's motto is a précis of the papal ministry. In taking "in illo uno unum" (in the one [Christ] we are one), Pope Leo indicates that unity and communion, are for him, a priority and a way of being Church. Indeed, the Pope has described unity and communion as his "way of acting and thinking".

True 'horizontal communion' (communion between human beings) arises out of God's relationship with us, which we can call 'vertical communion'. Horizontal communion does not amount to much unless it is fed by God's relationship with us. God's peace is the "peace the world cannot give". So, we are one, not in each other, not in our human communities, not in our particular agenda or ideology, nor in our sense of feeling entitled to be right, but in Christ. The Church has been torn by dis-unity ever since she was mystically founded by Jesus. You could say, that backstabbing and agenda-based thinking have been trademarks of Christians throughout the ages. Though the Church is divinely founded, she has sinful human members. This mean we are always in a state of perpetual injury and recovery. The last few years have brought about no exception to this pattern.

So, Pope Leo has a duty to preside in love over the Church. May God guide him, so that he may be a man of true communion, grounded in God, not in himself.

Fr Peter

Congratulations Fr. Peter

This Sunday, 13th July, Fr. Peter celebrates his first anniversary of his Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood. Congratulations dear Father and thank you for all you do and are for us in our parish of St. Wilfrid! You are a blessing to us all! Happy Anniversary!

Annual Lourdes Mass – Sunday 13 July, 5.00pm – Metropolitan Cathedral

All are warmly invited to the Annual Lourdes Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral on **Sunday 13 July at 5.00pm**, with **Archbishop Emeritus Malcolm** presiding.

This is a special opportunity to pray together, seek Our Lady's intercession, and remember the pilgrims travelling to Lourdes—especially those seeking healing and strength.

A lantern carrying parish petitions will be brought to the Mass before continuing to Lourdes, where it will be placed at Our Lady's Shrine.

This year, we also give thanks for the 71st recognised miracle of Lourdes—the healing of **Jack Traynor**, a significant figure in our diocesan history. Members of Jack's family will be present at the Mass, and some will join the diocesan pilgrimage.

Lourdes at Home – Tuesday 29th July

Our pilgrims are getting ready for their time of pilgrimage with Archbishop John and the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to our Lady's Shrine in Lourdes. For those of us unable to attend we shall mirror a day in Lourdes so that we can be truly with the whole Archdiocese in Lourdes. This day will take place at St. John Fisher Church.

7am – Mass of St. Bernadette.

12noon – Service of Anointing the Sick and a light lunch in the Parish Hall.

7pm – Rosary and Torchlight Procession.

All are welcome to attend, spread the word about this wonderful event!

Our Lady of Lourdes – pray for us!

St. Bernadette – pray for us!

Parish Choir

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or haven't been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally, it doesn't matter, you will be most welcome. Due to safeguarding guidance all members of the choir must be over 18. Our next practice is **Tuesday 22nd July, at 7pm** in St. John Fisher Church.

Widnes Food Bank

Thank you to everyone who supported us during June. Please would you continue to support us during July. Our current most needed items are: UHT Juice, UHT Milk, Jam, Coffee, Tinned meat, Tinned Fish and Toilet Roll.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of the community. Any safeguarding concerns must be reported immediately to any member of the Safeguarding Team.

Safeguarding Lead – Fr. Mark

Safeguarding Reps – Pauline Ruth, Carol Murray and Pauline Rolt

St. Michael's Church - Vandalism

Dear Parishioners

It seems that once more St. Michael's Church and Presbytery is under attack with acts of mindless vandalism and destruction.

Last week part of wall leading into the presbytery has been pulled down which has broken the electric gates and the statue of St. Bernadette in the grotto in front of the church has been smashed. They came back to try and steal the gates.

This has been reported to the police.

PLEASE, if you see any behaviour or persons that appear to be up to no good, please, DO NOT approach them but at a safe distance call 999 and report the incident to them.

This behaviour is scary and mindless.

Incident Reference - IML – 2120330 Crime Number – 25000526629

Fr. Mark

Summer Timetable – Masses

The summer starts with the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes and the month of August and early September gives us all a chance to recharge, step back and take some time. This is much needed, especially for our clergy who need a break too!

It is nigh on impossible to get cover for the weekend of **26th/27th July**, as so many priests are in Lourdes, so Fr. Mark will be on his own and the number of Masses we have is too much for one priest. So, on that weekend **ONLY** the Masses will be.

Saturday 26th July

4.30pm – St. Basil

6pm – St. John Fisher

Sunday 27th July

9am – St. Bede

10.15am – St. Michael

From **27th July till 14th September** – No 4pm Mass at St. Bede.

Weekday Masses will still be celebrated, please check the newsletter each week. Also, during the month of August, the **Parish Office** will be open from **9.30am – 1.30pm**.

Mrs. Pam McGuffie - Celebrating her career as a Teacher/Headteacher

On the retirement of Mrs. McGuffie, Headteacher of Our Lady's School, the governors would like to invite you all to a special Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate her teaching career and especially her role as Headteacher in our school for over 10 years.

There will be a Holy Mass on **Friday 18th July** at **2pm** in St Michael's Church. All are welcome to come and celebrate with Mrs. McGuffie and the children, staff, parents, and governors of Our Lady's School.

LGBTQ+ Mass

On **Sunday 20th July** we shall welcome the members of the LGBTQ+ community and their families for Mass at **St. Basil's Church** at **2pm**. All are welcome! Further information and support can be given by Canon Stephen Maloney.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	13th July	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Benny Lynch
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Marek Skutnik
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Mr & Mrs Smith
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ethel Parr
17.00	Holy Mass	Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral – Lourdes Annual Mass	
Monday	14th July	Ferial	
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Annette Mary Vaughan
Tuesday	15th July	Memorial of St Bonaventure	
09.00	Funeral Service	St Michael	Paul John Willcox
Wednesday	16th July	Ferial	
10.45	Requiem Mass	St Michael	James Blong
Thursday	17th July	Ferial	
No Mass/Service			
Friday	18th July	Ferial	
12noon	Warrington & Widnes Deanery Mass	St John Fisher	Joan Williams Brendan Mannix
14.00	Mrs. McGuffie Retirement Mass	St Michael	Children of the Parish
Saturday	19th July	Vigil of Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Jan Bajorek
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Joan Mary McCallum
Sunday	20th July	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Mary & Joseph Davies
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Peter Richards
14.00	LGBTQ Holy Mass	St Basil	Brenda Thistlewaite Steve Cawley
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Richard & Lilian Shaw

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Special Intention
St Basil:	Gus Van Cauwelaert
St John Fisher:	Frances Walsh
St Michael:	Special Intention

Rest in Peace

Harry Doyle, Moria Kelly
& David John Ramanouski

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!