

# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

28<sup>th</sup> February 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B) PSALTER WEEK 2

**“Listen!  
I am standing  
at the door  
knocking.”**  
*Rev 3:20*



Fr Carl Mугan (PP)	0151424 6641
Fr Tom Neylon (PP)	0151 424 2738
Fr Mark Moran	0151 513 0024
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 4021
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
[stwilfridswidnes.uk](http://stwilfridswidnes.uk)

**Follow us on Facebook:**

**Parish of St Wilfrid Widnes**

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



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**Pastoral Associate**  
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A month ago, I should have realised more clearly that my plan to give glimpses of the wealth of wisdom and challenge in Pope Francis' book "Let Us Dream", and do it in the very limited space of the weekly reflection would fail, and fail badly, to communicate the depth of the wisdom and subtlety of Francis' writing... and its sense of urgency. I very much regret that, but if somebody is persuaded to read the book because they heard it mentioned here, then all is not lost!

So, part three is entitled 'A Time to Act'. Francis delves at length into the notion of being 'a people', in the most inclusive way possible. 'If we are to come out of this crisis better, we have to recover the knowledge that as a people we have a shared destination. The pandemic has reminded us that no one is saved alone'.

When Pope Benedict spoke to the great and good of this country in Westminster Hall, he spoke of the Christian voice having a right to be heard in the market place of dialogue that shapes a country. He was applauded very loudly. Pope Francis puts it this way: *To be a Christian is to know that we are part of a people, a people expressed in different nations and cultures yet which transcends all boundaries of race and language. The People of God is a community within the broader community of a nation, serving the nation, helping to shape that nation's self-understanding, while respecting the role played by other religious and cultural institutions. But if the Church has a particular role to play at times of crisis, it is precisely to remind the people of its soul, of its need to respect the common good. That is what Jesus did: he came to strengthen and deepen the bonds of belonging - of the people of God to each other. That is why the one who matters most in the Kingdom of God is whoever makes himself least, serving others, and especially the poor.*

Restoring the dignity of the individual, especially of the poor and marginalised, is another key theme. Francis dissects the huge gaps in our society revealed by pandemic and proposes approaches to healing them. He looks at life issues, at land and housing and work. He is strong on the proposal for a Universal Basic Income. He is very strong on the riches of solidarity and sense of purpose among poor and dispossessed people and the need to take serious account of that. And so much more.

God bless.

**Bishop John**

## MASS INTENTIONS.

The following Masses have been said by the priests this month:

Dorothy Fox L.D.  
Trish Lewis L.D.  
Glengs Hammond L.D.  
Residents of all our care homes x 4  
Nellie Roberts L.D.  
Kathleen O'Brien 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary  
A Private Intention  
Joan Williams L.D.  
Nancy Prendergast L.D.  
Yvonne Carnzy L.D.  
Mary Cullerton L.D.  
Jose Padilla L.D.  
Julie Conway RIP  
John Hollywood L.D.  
Alexander Braniff L.D.  
Tom Hough L.D.  
Elizabeth Glennon L.D.  
Tony O'Dowd L.D.  
Marie Quirk L.D.  
Parishioners of the parish x 4  
Ellen Morgan L.D.  
Winifred Higginson L.D.  
Jean Nicolson L.D.  
Michael McKeown L.D.  
Catherine Peirce L.D.  
Beryl Wright L.D.  
Mike McKeown L.D.  
A Private Intention  
John & Nancy Barrow & family  
Josephine Gorman L.D.  
Brian Burford  
Joan Williams L.D.  
Joseph Tiernan L.D.  
Margaret Yates L.D.  
Elizabeth Yates L.D.  
Mary Lewis L.D.  
Frank Cox 18<sup>th</sup> Ann.  
Mary Lewis L.D.  
John Moran L.D.  
Deceased members of McMullen & Carolan families  
Special Intention (VY)  
Nancy Rolt 20<sup>th</sup> Ann.  
Joseph Wright L.D.  
Tony Baker Ann.  
Jim Fay B'day Remb.  
Thomas Coady L.D.  
Norman Corlett L.D.  
Arthur Lethbridge 100<sup>th</sup> B'day remb.  
Alan Pickervance RIP

Marie Teresa Quirk L.D.  
Frances Tillyer-Andrews  
Mgr Charles Glass Ann  
Kevin Byrom L.D.  
Denis Murray 3<sup>rd</sup> Ann  
Joan Williams  
Michael McKeown  
Alexander Braniff  
Thomas Mark Hough L.D.  
James O'Connor L.D.  
Elizabeth Sant L.D.  
Christine Flaherty L.D.  
Margaret Naglor L.D.  
William Smith L.D.  
Nancy Prendergast L.D.  
James Hunt L.D.  
Patricia Webster L.D.  
Beryl Wright L.D.  
Ellen Morgan L.D.  
Patricia Webster L.D.  
Kathleen McDermott L.D.  
Edward Riley L.D.  
Josephine Gorman L.D.  
Margaret Yates L.D.  
John Hollywood L.D.  
Mary Lewis L.D.  
Winifred Higginson L.D.  
Nellie Roberts L.D.  
Norman Corlett L.D.  
Yvonne Carnzy L.D.  
Thomas John Coady L.D.  
Dorothy Lowe L.D.  
Lynn Hammond L.D.  
Margaret Skardon L.D.  
The Intentions of C Noon  
Marie Quirk L.D.  
Marie Josephine Cullerton L.D.  
Frances Broomer L.D.  
Florence Gray L.D.  
Joan Mary McCallum B'day remb  
Barbara & Robert Challinor-Both died of Covid  
Gerard McCann B'day remb & dec'd family members  
The Intentions of P Golson  
Christopher Gaskell L.D.

## GREAT NEWS!

### OUR CHURCHES ARE OPENING AGAIN.

We are happy to be able to announce the cautious re-opening of our churches from:

**WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH 7pm. NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH at St Michael's**

Following that our Mass schedule will be as follows:

WEEKEND MASS TIMES			
Saturday	11:00 am	St Bede's	Confession
	5:00 pm	St Michael's	Mass
	6:00pm	St Basil's	Mass
Sunday	9:00 am	St Michael's	Mass
	10:00 am	St John Fisher	Mass
	11:00 am	St Bede's	Mass
	4:00 pm	St Bede's	Mass

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES			
Monday	9:00 am	St Basil's	Exposition & Mass*
Tuesday	11:30 am	St Bede's	Exposition & Mass*
Wednesday	6:30 pm	St Michael's	Exposition & Mass
Thursday	11:30 am	St Bede's	Exposition & Mass*
Friday	9:00 am	St John Fisher	Exposition & Mass
*Confession 9-9:25am/11:30-11:55am on request			
<b><i>Mass will start 30 minutes after Exposition.</i></b>			

You are reminded that we will still have to restrict the numbers of people in churches and adhere to all the social distancing guidelines and rules.

- **Wear a face mask over mouth & nose at all times**
- **Sanitise your hands, on entry and exit**
- **Keep 2m (6 foot) apart at all times**
- **Follow the steward's directions; sitting where you are asked to allow the maximum number in our churches**
- **Wait for the stewards to invite you to go up for communion**
- **Leave directly afterwards by the appointed exit doorway**

As long as we all adhere to these rules to keep ourselves and everyone safe and the infection numbers in Halton remain under control, we are hoping to be able to put together a programme of Masses and services for Holy Week and Easter.

We look forward to seeing you all in church again very soon.

The Clergy Team

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS 2020/21

In this most difficult of years when some have been struggling financially, we have still been able to send to the Archdiocese your most generous donations for the following special collections for 2020/21.

CAFOD	3708.76	NUGENT	120.00
PAX CHRISTI	909.88*	DAY FOR LIFE	58.00
PRIESTS TRAINING FUND	117.00	AFP WORLD MISSIONS	40.00
HOLY PLACES	88.00	ANIMATE YOUTH	109.00
PETER'S PENCE	497.52	PRIESTS IN RETIREMENT	110.00
HOME MISSIONS	173.80	LENTEN ALMS 2020	123.90
*collection before lockdown		CRIB OFFERINGS (NUGENT) 2019/20	505.73

We have also received donations to the following charities which have been passed on and gratefully received.

Widnes Foodbank 145.00      Mary's Meals 10.00      The Medaille Trust 30.00

Thank you for your continued support for both the charities and the parish. All your very kind donations are much appreciated in these difficult times.

### Easter Flowers

This year we will be offering an opportunity to purchase an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one. The cost will be £5 and the lily will be displayed in one of our churches at the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening. The names of the deceased will be displayed in all our churches.

This is a new incentive which will allow us to fill our churches with flowers and will help to defray the cost. We have had such a loss of income during the pandemic which is now approaching a full year and we must look at creative ways to boost our income and keep our churches looking special.

If you would like to purchase a lily, please put the name and donation in an envelope and post through the letterbox at the parish office.

The final date for requesting an Easter Lily will be **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March.**





## BLESSED SACRAMENT CANDLE

Each week in all of the four churches in the parish of St. Wilfrid the sanctuary light burns before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. That small red light signals that Jesus is truly present in the tabernacle, that He dwells amongst us – God is with us!

***Would you like to have the candle lit for your intentions?***

***Would you like the candle to burn in memory of a loved one?***

If you would like to dedicate the sanctuary candle in church, please write the intention (*only one name please*) with your offering (*suggested offering £10*) and which church you would like the candle to burn in, to the Parish Office. Each week the name of the person for whom the candle burns will be noted in the newsletter.

***'This week the Blessed Sacrament Candle in St. John Fisher Church burns for Bill and Joan Moran'***

You can request a specific week but if that date has gone your intention will either go to a different church or the nearest available week.

The candle burns continually for 7 days.

Thank you



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Traditionally during Lent we walk the Stations of the Cross to accompany Jesus as He journeys to Calvary, to show the great love of God for us His people.

Please come and pray the Stations of the Cross as a community if you are able.

**Friday 12th March at 7pm at St. John Fisher's led by Fr. Mark**

**Tuesday 16th March at 2pm at St. Bede's led by Fr. Carl**

**Friday 19th March at 7pm at St. Michael's led by Bishop John**

**Tuesday 23rd March at 2pm at St. Basil's led by Fr. Bill**

**Friday 26th March at 7pm at St. John Fisher's led by Fr. Tom**

***'We adore you O Christ, and we praise you, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world'***

## 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 from St Wilfrid's will be available on Sunday morning from 8am.

### Across the Archdiocese:

- [Reflection for the Second Sunday of Lent](#) (also available as an audio download).
- [Sunday readings](#).
- [Week 25 in the series of 'Armchair Retreats' with Fr Denis Blackledge SJ.](#)
- [Lent reflections with Fr Chris Thomas – The Mystery of God.](#)

## Caring for Creation – working with MPs – additional workshop

Due to good interest in the workshop that Hope for the Future will deliver on how to build effective relationships with your MP on climate change, a second opportunity has been scheduled for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 7pm to 9pm. Please see details of both workshops on the poster attached.

### Fr Peter Fox RIP

Fr Peter Fox, for many years Parish Priest of St John Fisher, died in the Presbytery at St Luke's Whiston on Wednesday. May he rest in peace.

Peter and I were together for a year at St Mary's, Highfield Street, in Liverpool city centre, in the late seventies.

He was great company and a most dedicated priest, but he suffered all his life from the worst form of diabetes. He was blessed for all his time at John Fisher and at St Luke's to have Sr Eileen as his Parish Sister. She lived until a few weeks ago in her flat here in Widnes and travelled daily to Whiston. Sr Eileen was amazingly alert to his diabetic symptoms and could occasionally be seen surreptitiously handing him jelly babies even at Mass! But her care saved his life on innumerable occasions. She is an expert at injections.

Peter was to retire in May to a flat at St George's, Maghull, where there are a number of retired priests, and on the morning of his death he was due over there to measure up for some furniture..... Ordained in 1969, he would have served in parishes of the Diocese for nearly fifty-two years. **May he rest in peace.**

### **We pray for those who have died:**

*Ted Dourley*

*Annie Humphries*

*Veronica McDonnell*

*Janet Wilcox*

*Fr Peter Fox*

### **And those who's funerals take place this week:**

*Lynn Hammond*

*Margaret Skardon*

*Christopher Gaskell*

**May they Rest in Peace.**



## NOVENA to ST JOSEPH

On the day our churches open once more on **Wednesday 10th March** we have decided to begin in prayer with a Novena to St. Joseph. At each Mass the Novena prayer will be prayed and we will offer ourselves once more in faith to Jesus through the intercession of St. Joseph. If you cannot attend Mass the novena can be prayed at home, this will be attached to next week's newsletter.

<b>Wednesday 10th March</b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>St. Michael's</b>
<b>Thursday 11th March</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>St. Bede's</b>
<b>Friday 12th March</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>St. John Fisher</b>
<b>Saturday 13th March</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>St. Bede's</b>
<b>Monday 15th March</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>St. Basil's</b>
<b>Tuesday 16th March</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>St. Bede's</b>
<b>Wednesday 17th March</b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>St. Michael's</b>
<b>Thursday 18th March</b>	<b>12noon</b>	<b>St. Bede's</b>
<b>Friday 19th March</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>St. John Fisher</b>



We are invited to bring our Novena Petitions (**please write them out at home before you come to Mass**) and place them in the petitions box at the back of church.

### **Saint Joseph Novena**

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls – Pray for me.

**Please come if you can or make this powerful novena in your own home!**

### **Lenten Reflections**

Join us in prayer online each Friday of Lent with a reflection from Mill Hill Missionaries and members of the Missio family.



**10:30 am: 19 & 26 February, 5,12,19,26 March, 2 & 4 April**

Local Secretaries, Promotes and Treasurers are welcome to stay online and chat together after the prayer (via Zoom).

To register email [redbox@mission.or.uk](mailto:redbox@mission.or.uk) or call **020 7821 9755**.

All reflections can also be viewed live on [YouTube.com/MissioUK](https://www.youtube.com/MissioUK). Please let members of your parish know. The recordings will be available on YouTube to watch at another times, or to share with others.

# +live simply

## Celebrate Creation

This year as we journey through our Lenten season like no other, let's simply celebrate and appreciate our surroundings giving thanks each day for God's creation...

whether we are

- gazing through our window



- pottering in the garden



- visiting the park



- out on a walk



Let God's creation bring joy....: 'Fast from pressures and be prayerful'... (Pope Francis)



Foodbank is continuing to operate in these difficult times and would like to thank everybody for their generous support.

**Widnes Foodbank** gratefully receives donations of any food items but would particularly welcome donations of the following food items:

UHT 1L+ Juice	Sponge Puddings	Jam	Crisps
Tinned custard	Tinned Fruit	Antibacterial Wipes	Washing Powder

Crossing Point centre will now be able to accept donations on Mondays (11am – 2pm), Thursdays (11am – 1pm) and Fridays (11am – 2pm). Items can also be left at the Widnes Foodbank collection points at the main Widnes stores of ASDA, Morrison's and Tesco and various drop off points in Halton.

Any additional information can be found at: [www.widnesfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.widnesfoodbank.org.uk)

As well as the Widnes Foodbank website information on Widnes Foodbank can be found on the following social media sites: -

[facebook.com/WidnesFoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/WidnesFoodbank)

[twitter.com/Widnes Foodbank](https://twitter.com/Widnes_Foodbank)

[instagram.com/WidnesFoodbank](https://www.instagram.com/WidnesFoodbank)

**Thank you to anyone who can make a donation.**

### **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.

### **Wednesday Word**

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

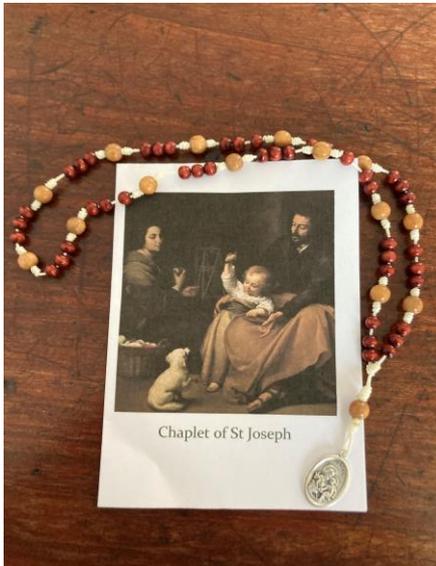
<http://wednesdayword.org/parish/index.htm>

### **POLISHING AS AN LENTEN PENANCE!**

As we prepare for Easter, we have found lots of beautiful brass vases that may be used in our decoration of Churches at Easter, but they need a polish!

If you would like to help out and have some 'Brasso' that needs using up then please call to the Parish Office and collect as many vases as you feel able to polish and return them when they are as shiny as your halo for doing it!

God bless you and thank you!



### **Chaplet of St Joseph**

As we have entered the 'Year of St Joseph' the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph have reminded us of the Chaplet of St. Joseph. This can be used as an aid to prayer. The chaplet is recited on beads and comes with a self-explanatory leaflet with how to pray the prayer.

The beads are hand made by the sisters and both beads and prayer cards cost £12. If you would like me to order you're a set please pass your **NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND £12** through the letterbox at either **St John Fisher or St Bede's presbyteries for my attention**. When they arrive, we will telephone you and they will be available to collect from the parish office.

St Joseph – pray for us!

**Fr Mark**

### **CHAPLET OF ST. JOSEPH**

Each Friday morning at 9.10am during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. John Fisher Church the chaplet to St. Joseph will be prayed together. Some people have bought the beads to say the chaplet on and these obviously should be used, but do not worry if you did not get a set, you can use your rosary beads to pray the chaplet! A sheet will be provided for all who wish to join in this prayer before Mass. This will start **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March**.  
**St. Joseph - pray for us!**



Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted and he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support.

Donate online at [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give) or by sending into the parish office. You can also easily give via text. Text **LENT** to **70460** to donate £10. \*

\*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text **LENTNOINFO** to **70460**. For more information, please see our Privacy Policy: [cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice](http://cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice).

Stephanie and Cathy from our parish are also walking alongside Abdella this Lent by challenging themselves to walk 10,000 steps, every day, for 40 days.

You can sponsor them at: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/standensisterswalkforwater](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/standensisterswalkforwater)

