

# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

**PENTECOST SUNDAY (B)**

**“Listen!**

**I am standing at  
the door  
knocking.”**

*Rev 3:20*



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

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

**Facebook:** Parish of St Wilfrid Widnes

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

**THIS WEEK THERE IS A RETIREMENT  
COLLECTION FOR THE:**

**SVP**

St Wilfrid's Parish Office  
St Bede's Presbytery  
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Widnes, WA8 6EL  
  
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**Pastoral Associate**  
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## Reflection

During this week we have been blessed to have the opportunity to hear the First Confessions of our children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion. What a great occasion to see these young people saying sorry and openly accepting God's mercy. But what about the remainder of us...?

At the heart of confession is our relationship and that important conversation with Christ. We see this same type of conversation and forgiveness in many of the parables but especially when Jesus meets the woman at the well. He carries this conversation on with each one of us, gently forming our hearts to love God and our neighbour. This intimate conversation is one that takes place in many ways, not simply in words but in our actions as well. The sacrament of confession is one of the most powerful tools given to the Church for the sake of our continued healing and freeing us from sin and anything that blocks our relationship with others, but mostly importantly with the Lord.

Some people shy away from considering their sins as they are sometimes too difficult to admit, or we are ashamed of them. It is true that we are all called to live in the joy and peace of the Lord, but taking time with our own thoughts and accepting our vulnerability and weakness allows the mercy of God to become apparent to us, and to realise the love that God has for us, even in our sin.

In the parable of the Prodigal Son the Lord's love is expressed through the lavish welcome that the Father has for his son when he returns home. Let's not shy away from returning home to the Father regardless of what we are carrying or what we may have done. Therefore, although we may enter confession in sorrow knowing our unworthiness, we are restored in God's image by the forgiveness of God the Father and leave in the joy and peace of God's children.

**Fr Carl**

We pray for those who have died,

*Charles Moss Brenda Myler*

Those whose funerals are next week.

*Peter Kelly Jimmy Finn*



***This week the Blessed Sacrament Candle burns:***

***St Basil's In memory of Ruth Bibby Birthday Remb.***

***St Bede's (1) In memory of Barbara Balmer***

***St John Fisher In memory of Olwen Shipman***

***St Michael's (1) In memory of Anne Noon***

***St Michael's (2) in memory of Anne & Patrick Moran***



### CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 4

Last week over 190 children made their First Reconciliation at St. Michael's Church and what beautiful celebrations of forgiveness they were. The children were well prepared by Fr. Mark and the parish catechists and they had a good understanding of the need to say 'sorry' to God and to one another when we have chosen to make a 'bad' choice. A lesson for us all!

Thank you to all who made these celebrations so wonderful for the children of the parish, the catechists, stewards, our head teachers and Year 4 staff and our priests!

Thank you!

### The Closure of Parish Centres in St Wilfrid's Parish

I wrote in March to advise that the Archdiocesan Board of Trustees has had to take the difficult decision to close the Parish Centre's at St Bede's, St Michael's and Our Lady of Perpetual Succour.

I wish to acknowledge that a petition has been received to keep the Parish Centres open and would re-iterate that after a business review of their viability the final decision has been made and staff informed that the centres are now closed.

Fr. Tom

THIS WEEKEND		PENTECOST SUNDAY (B)	
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	11am	St Bede's	Confession
	5pm	St Michael's	Mass
	6pm	St Basil's	Mass
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	9am	St Michael's	Mass
	9am	St Bede's	Mass
	10am	St John Fisher	Mass
	11am	St Bede's	Mass
	4pm	St Bede's	Mass
WEEKDAYS		DIVINE OFFICE WEEK 4	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	9:30am*	St Basil's	Mass
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	12 noon*	St Bede's	Mass
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	7:00pm*	St Michael's	Mass
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	12 noon*	St Bede's	Mass
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am*	St John Fisher	Mass
*The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for 30 minutes before each Mass			