Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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





Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Year C)

2nd February 2025

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Psalm Response

'The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!'

Empathy and Kindness

"Let me hold the door for you. I may never have walked in your shoes, but I can see your soles are worn, your strength is torn under the weight of a story, I have never lived before. Let me hold the door for you. After all you have walked through, it is the least I can do." Morgan Harper Nichols

I came across this poem and it resonated with me in my daily interactions with so many people. I am always conscious that I do not know the full story, that my perception is limited, and my understanding is flawed. My answer is to always try to be kind and show empathy – some days I manage this better than others!

We are all called to bring Christ into every situation that we are in, to bring His presence when healing is needed, His forgiveness when mistakes have been made and His love when life is overwhelming. In everything, to point to Christ, not to ourselves, for He knows the story, his perception is unlimited, and His understanding is perfect.

When we look at another, we look at Jesus!

Fr. Mark

Medjugorje Pilgrimage 14th – 21st May 2025

Transport to and from the Airport - As promised we now have details of the cost of a return trip by coach to Manchester Airport. It would be nice for us all to travel together and the cost for the return coach journey would be £31pp. If less people travel on the coach, then the cost will increase. So that the coach can be booked can you please let me know as soon as possible if you wish to travel on the coach. Either telephone the Parish Office and leave a message for me or drop a note into the office for my attention. The outbound flight time is 12.55pm.

Passports - can everyone please check that their passport has six months left, before expiry, after the date we return. You need to calculate from the date the passport was issued not the expiry date.

Susan Warburton

Warrington and Widnes Deanery Synodal Council

On Saturday 8th February the members of the DSC will gather at St. Benedict's Parish in Warrington to continue walking the synodal path together. These meetings tackle many of the difficult issues we face as a church and your prayers are welcomed. If you have any issues or questions that you would like raised at these meetings, please direct them to our parish reps.

They are: Susan Warburton, Pauline Rolt, Denise Roberts, Peter McCann, Fr. Peter. Dcn. Paul and Fr. Mark.

Men of St. Joseph Prayer/Study Group

All men are welcome to attend the first meeting of this faith/study/friendship group on Wednesday 5th February at St. Helen's Church in Crosby, L23 7TQ. For more information see **MOSJ.CO.UK**

Last Chance to Sponsor a Slate

We have had a tremendous response from parishioners for the *Sponsor a Slate* project. The closing date for the project is next **Sunday 9th of February**. If you want your name, or a loved one's name, on a slate for the sanctuary at St Bede's Church please put your name and offering (suggested £30) in an envelope, marked for the attention of Peter McCann, and drop it in to the parish office before then.

Could you be an Altar Server?

St Wilfrid's Altar Servers group is going from strength. We have been meeting with them since autumn 2024 and now have an exciting series of social events and formation sessions lined up.

Do you know someone who might benefit from joining our Altar Servers? No previous experience is necessary as you will receive the required support and formation. We welcome children who have made their First Holy Communion upwards, as well as adults who wish to serve.

There are lots of reasons for becoming an Altar Server. It might just be one of the best things you could choose to do! If you are interested, please speak to Fr Peter, Deacon Paul or one of our adult Altar Servers. St Wilfrid's need you!

Dcn Paul and Fr Peter

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

Archdiocesan Celebration of the Miraculous Cure of Jack Traynor

Following the announcement in December of the miraculous cure of John (Jack) Traynor, the Archdiocese of Liverpool will be celebrating this historic moment with Mass followed by a drink's reception at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Tuesday 18th February at 7pm.

We are hoping to offer a coach to take us to the Cathedral for this historic event, the coach will leave St. Bede at approx. 5.45pm and return after the drink's reception. There is no cost as the Archdiocese are paying for the transport to and from the Cathedral!

As this parish has a deep devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes it would be good to be well represented at this wonderful Mass. If you would like to come, **please pass your name and telephone number** into the Parish Office asap.

Lourdes 2025 Parish Pilgrimage

Thank you to everyone who have already shown interest to our parish pilgrimage to Lourdes - Thursday 24th July until Thursday 31st July 2025. We have received a good number of positive responses. This is immensely helpful for our forward planning.

We will be staying in the Hotel Roissy, and the cost is £1045 with a single room supplement to be added. There's still time to come on pilgrimage, but you will need to contact the Parish Office now with some urgency. If you intend to join our Lourdes 2025 pilgrimage, please come to the planning meeting at 7.00pm on Thursday 13th February in St. Bede's Church. All are welcome.

This 2025 pilgrimage to Lourdes has special significance for the Archdiocese of Liverpool as the Church has declared the case of John (Jack) Traynor a miracle. Jack was a pilgrim on the Archdiocese's first official pilgrimage to Lourdes in 1923 and was cured dramatically of epilepsy, paralysis of the right arm and paraplegia during the pilgrimage. It is the first English miracle to be recognised at Lourdes.

Deacon Paul

Sacrament of Confirmation

Are you in Year 8 or above and would like to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation later on this year? You need to register at **liverpoolcalled.co.uk**

Please remember to note on the registration form that you are a member of the Parish of St. Wilfrid in **Widnes**. Any queries please see Fr. Peter.

Prayer to St. Michael

Holy Michael, the Archangel,

defend us in this day of battle.

Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray.

And do thou, Prince of the Heavenly host,

by the power of God, thrust down to hell,

Satan and all wicked spirits,

who wander through the world, for the ruin of souls.

Amen.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	2nd February	Feast of the Preser	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Jim McCann	
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Mass Association Members	
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Diane Ferris	
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners	

Monday3rd FebruaryFerial09.00Expositions & Morning Prayer

09.30 Holy Mass St Basil Stephen Barber

Tuesday 4th February Ferial

12 noon Requiem Mass St Michael Brendan Coffey

Wednesday 5th February Memorial of St Agatha

11.30 Exposition & Rosary

12noon Holy Mass St John Fisher Andrew Green

Thursday 6th February Memorial of St Paul Miki and Companions

11.30 Exposition & Rosary

12noon Holy Mass St Michael Audrey Fallon

Friday 7th February Ferial

12 noon Requiem Mass St John Fisher Esme Barron

Saturday 8th February

16.30 Holy Mass
18.00 Holy Mass
St Basil Parishioners
St John Fisher Michael O'Grady Patrick Hyland

Sunday 9th February

09.00 Holy Mass St Bede Mary Taylor 10.15 St Michael Don Pearce Holy Mass 11.30 St Bede **Evelyn Edwards** Holy Mass 16.00 St Bede Dave Cunningham Holy Mass

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your

intentions.

St Bede:Special IntentionSt Basil:Jim NorrisSt John FisherFr TonySt Michael:Declan Smith

Requiescant in pace

Terence Bonnon, Alberto Macchione, Susan Laveric, Gerald Carroll, Mary Glover, Francis (Frank)Carolan, Terence O'Brien & Cecila Flanagan

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!