

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



**Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Year C)**

21st September 2025

**Second Collection
This week is for Evangelii Gaudium.**

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Psalm Response

'Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.'

Reflect on The Word and God's Creation

The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1st September until the 4th October, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. It celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment.

All four of the Gospels draw on the Creation account and structure in their opening verses. For the 2026 liturgical year, which begins on the 30th November 2025, the Church enters Year A for Sundays and Year II for weekdays. This cycle draws heavily from the Gospel of Matthew. Look out for the talks on the Gospel of Matthew we are hosting in the parish over the coming weeks.

The Gospel of Matthew is a foundational Gospel that introduces the life and ministry of Jesus Christ through a uniquely Jewish-Christian lens. It has a strong emphasis on prophecy fulfilment, the teachings of Jesus, and the ethical demands of discipleship. Matthew's Gospel bridges the Old and New Testaments while inviting readers into a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and what it means to follow Him.

In preparation for the new liturgical year and understanding that we are in the Season of Creation, this week we might all benefit from a time of quiet reflection on the message of Matthew's Gospel about the ethical demands of discipleship and our collective treatment of God's beautiful creation.

"If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a kind of dissonance. On the one hand, we can hear a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator; on the other, an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home".

Pope Francis

What will you do this week positively and constructively in response to this?

Deacon Paul

Mass of Thanksgiving – Archbishop Malcolm

On **Friday 3rd October at 7pm** at the **Metropolitan Cathedral**, we will celebrate Holy Mass in thanksgiving for Archbishop Malcolm's ministry as Metropolitan Archbishop of Liverpool. This will be followed by a drink's reception in the Cathedral Crypt. We are all invited to attend.

If you would like to attend this Mass, there will a coach leaving St. Bede's Church at 6pm and returning at 10pm. If you would like a seat on the coach please pass your name, telephone number and your £10 into the parish office and we shall reserve you a place.

Liturgy Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Liturgy Group on **Tuesday 23rd September at 7.30pm** at St. Bede's Presbytery. All existing members of the Liturgy Team are encouraged to attend and anyone who is interested in this part of parish life is welcome to attend too. Just turn up, you will be made most welcome!

Warrington and Widnes Deanery Mass

On **Friday 26th September at 12noon**, at Holy Family Church in Cronton, our monthly deanery Mass will be celebrated. All are welcome and encouraged to attend to pray for our deanery and to be united around the table of the Lord.

Fr. Joe's Jubilee Mass

Could all those who signed up for the coach to attend Fr. Joe's Jubilee on **Saturday 27th September**, please meet outside St. Bede's Church at **10.15am**. The coach will return to St Bede's at around **16.30pm**. May God bless Fr. Joe on this wonderful occasion, and we thank God for his priestly ministry.

Called to Serve

Thank you to those who expressed an interest in being formed as new Eucharistic Ministers (aka Extraordinary Ministers of Communion). It's fantastic that there was enough interest shown for us to organise a formation session. Thank you! This will be held in the Guild Hall **10.30am until 12.30 on Saturday 18th October 2025**. Please let the Parish Office know if you can attend this event for catering and organisational purposes.

As an Extraordinary Minister, you are called to serve the community by assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion. There is still time to step forward and join this formation session. Just drop your name and contact details into the Parish Office. **Dcn. Paul**

Parish Choral Offering

We are delighted to inform you that at **6.30pm on Friday 26th September** at St Basil's Church our Metropolitan Cathedral Choir will be singing a selection of Choral Classics. Our special guests that evening will be Widnes Catholic Children's Choir.

Tickets are £2.50 and will be on sale again at all Masses over this weekend. After this, tickets can be purchased from the Parish Office from Monday. Please come to what will be a very enjoyable evening. Refreshments will be available.

Parish Choir

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or have not 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 this **Monday 22nd September**, at 7pm in **St. John Fisher Church**, followed by **Tuesday 14th October**.

Welcome Archbishop John

On **Friday 26th September**, St. Gerard's RC Primary School welcome Archbishop John Sherrington to school. Archbishop John will meet all the children, and he will bless their prayer room which is a place of peace and prayer in school. We hope Archbishop John enjoys his time in one of our wonderful schools.

Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage 2026 – Join Coach 6!

Young people (aged 15–22) from Warrington, Widnes and Leigh parishes and schools are warmly invited to join the Archdiocesan Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage, taking place **22nd – 31st July 2026**. This is a wonderful opportunity to travel with other young people, grow in faith, make lifelong friends, and serve the assisted pilgrims who journey to Lourdes.

Cost: £720 (Early Bird Discount: £670 if applied before 20th October) Fundraising opportunities will be available to help reduce costs. **Deposit:** £100 at time of application. **Includes:** Travel, 7 nights' hotel accommodation, all meals, insurance, and pilgrimage t-shirts.

Application forms are available online from Monday 15th September, please visit www.liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk.

For more information, please contact Dan Antonio, Coach Leader, via email - coach6@rcaol.org.uk. You can also follow Coach 6 on our social media platforms, Facebook (Lourdes Coach 6) and Instagram (coach6lourdes).

Come and join Coach 6 for a life-changing experience!

Gift of Life for Zambia : Trip to Buxton, Wednesday, 22nd October

Our next trip takes us to the lovely spa town of Buxton in the Derbyshire Peak District. The town has a wealth of sights to discover - Buxton Crescent, the Pavilion Gardens, Buxton Baths, The Pump Room, lots of individual shops and cafes. The coach leaves St. Basil's at 9.30am and returns at approximately 6.30pm. Cost is £22. Please put your money in an envelope with your name and telephone number and give it to either Monica 0151 424 8194 or Angela 0151 424 8668. We look forward to your company. All profits to GIFT OF LIFE FOR ZAMBIA. Thank You.

Widnes Catholic Children's Choir

Widnes Catholic Children's Choir have started their rehearsals again after the summer break at **St John Fisher Church Hall – Monday's 4-5pm**. They are currently looking for lots of new members from Years 2-8 who love singing and want to join our amazing group!

There are many exciting concerts and events planned for the coming year both in Widnes and beyond, so if you know of someone who is interested, please follow this link to sign up.

<http://eepurl.com/i8AkqA>

Widnes Food Bank

Thank you to everyone who supported us during the summer! This time of year, is a busy time for us all at Widnes Foodbank. It's a time for us to reflect on the support we receive from our community and give thanks. Compassion, care and dignity are at the heart of everything we do. We will always be there for anyone who needs our support. If you can donate food, our current most needed items are below.

Soup, Custard, Tinned Fruit, Jam, UHT Juice, Coffee Sweets and Treats .

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	21st September	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Burke
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Diane Corwell
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Richards
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Nic Cook
Monday	22nd September	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	David Byrne
11.00	Funeral Service	St John Fisher	Denise Brown
14.00	St Bede's Junior School Mass	St Bede	Tina Owen
Tuesday	23rd September	Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina	
10.00	Holy Mass	St Gerard's School	Derek Hughes
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	SVP
Wednesday	24th September	Our Lady of Walsingham	
09.45	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Agnes Eunice Higgins
Thursday	25th September	Ferial	
11.00	Funeral Service	St Basil	Peter Thomas Sunderland
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12.00	Holy Mass	St Michael	Margaret Mary Mulroy
Friday	26th September	Ferial	
12 noon	Deanery Mass	Holy Family, Cronton	Honor Evans Private Intention
Saturday	27th September	Vigil of the Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Keith Austin
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Parishioners
Sunday	28th September	Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Wilson
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	John Murphy
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	John & Margaret McDermott
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ted Riley

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Special Intention
St Basil:	Michael Andrew Murphy
St John Fisher:	AJ Special Intension
St Michael:	Brian Quinn

Rest in Peace

Jennifer Mary Settle, Terence Brendon Karalius
& John (Jem) Jeremy Atherton

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!