

# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

29<sup>th</sup> November 2020

First Sunday in Advent (B)

**“Listen!  
I am  
standing at  
the door  
knocking.”**

*Rev 3:20*



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

St Wilfrid's Parish Office  
St Bede's Presbytery  
Appleton Village  
Widnes, WA8 6EL

**The Parish Office is now  
open for telephone enquiries**

0151 422 1772

**Please email:**

[stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:stwilfridswidnes@rcaolp.co.uk)

**Office Manager**  
Heather Harrison

**Parish Administrators**  
Susan Warburton  
Shelagh Hindley

**Pastoral Associate**  
Jessy Mottram-Noé

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

Please keep looking at our website for up  
to date news.

**Follow us on Facebook:**  
**Parish of St Wilfrid Widnes**



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

**‘Light the Advent candle one, now our waiting has begun’**

This is the first line of a song/hymn that I sing (very badly!) with Key Stage 1 children as we enter the season of Advent, the season of waiting. The song speaks of the light of waiting growing week by week as the candles of the Advent wreath are lit until the light representing the birth of the Christ child is lit on Christmas Day and the light of the world has entered.

This year has seen the world waiting constantly to see what is going to happen next? There has been so much anxiety and worry this year, the pandemic has touched everybody's life. What tier will we be in? What are we allowed to do? Can we go to Church or not? Is my job safe? When can I see my family and give them a hug? Real questions in a difficult time.

.....continued

We, as followers of Jesus, light a candle on a wreath; we won't even see the candle being lit this week, but the candle will be lit in each church of the parish. A small candle lit in faith, surrounded by prayer symbolising our belief that we prepare for Jesus, Emmanuel, God with Us. God who is with us in our uncertainty, in our questions, in our anxiety, Jesus is not far away, he comes to live in us once more!

Perhaps on, this First Sunday of Advent, we could light a candle in our homes, the place where Jesus wants to dwell and see in the flame of the candle the hope and peace that only Jesus can bring.

May God bless you all and your families in this holy season of Advent!



Fr. Mark

## Magnificat and St Paul's Missal

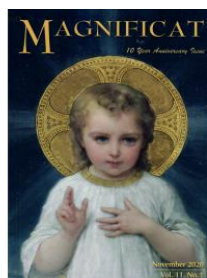
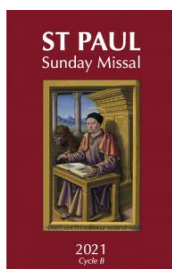
This forthcoming year we will not be ordering any Missals and have had to cancel our subscription to The Magnificat. This is due to the fact that we cannot distribute them to any parishioners who want them and cannot afford to be left with any unsold copies as has been happening throughout lockdowns with The Magnificat's.

If you would like to purchase either of these publications you can do this directly using the details below.

Perhaps you could ask your loved ones to get you a subscription for a Christmas gift and you will have a reminder of their gift each month when The Magnificat drops through your letterbox. What a lovely thing that would be.

If there are any other publications that you used to get from church and would like to order direct, please contact the office and we will assist you with any contact details.

<https://stpauls.org.uk/liturgy/catholic-liturgical-books-booklets/missals.html>



Telephone: 0207 828 5582

Email: [sales@stpauls.org.uk](mailto:sales@stpauls.org.uk)

## 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 will be available each Sunday morning - Fr Tom on 29<sup>th</sup> November which is the First Sunday of Advent and Bereavement Mass.

### Across the Archdiocese:

New resources now available include:

- [Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent \(also available as an audio download\)](#).
- [Readings for the Season of Advent](#).
- [Week 12 in the series of 'Armchair Retreats' with Fr Denis Blackledge SJ.](#)

All can be accessed/downloaded at <https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/> or through <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/> by clicking on 'Prayer and Other Resources'.

### Prepare the Future: Advent Reflections in the light of Fratelli Tutti – given by Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald MAfr

Following on from our Prepare the Future series given by Christine Allen - Director of CAFOD, Fr Diarmuid O'Murchu and Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald, we are delighted that once again Cardinal Michael will join us and give four reflections as part of an opportunity for Advent prayer and contemplation.

Cardinal Michael will be looking at four aspects of Advent in the light of Fratelli Tutti: Stay awake; Prepare a way for the Lord; Bearing Witness; "Get on with it, lass"; and inspiring us to encounter the Advent Christ in this time of uncertainty whilst heeding the call of Pope Francis to "Prepare the Future".

You are invited to join us for one or more "live" on Zoom on Mondays at 7pm – 7:30pm on 30 November, 7 December, 14 December, 21 December for a time of reflective prayer. The prayer and reflections will also be available on YouTube LiverpoolJ&P and Facebook. To receive the Zoom link please register via our Facebook Page [jpliverpooljp](#) or online at the [J&P website](#).

## We pray for those who are sick

Fr Malcolm Prince

Michael McKewen

Emma Pender

If you know of someone who is sick & would appreciate their name being placed on the list, please contact the Parish Office on 422 1772. The name of the sick person will appear for 6 weeks, this can be renewed by contacting the Parish Office. ***We can only place names in the Newsletter with the written consent of the sick person.***

## Wednesday Word

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

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

## **CHURCH WILL RE-OPEN FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY** **2nd DECEMBER**

Please note that the churches will be open half an hour before Mass starts. This is to allow for controlled and staggered arrival times and to allow us to record your names for contact tracing. Please consider this when making your plans and allow enough time.

### **CHURCH CAPACITY**

Due to social distancing requirements, the maximum number of people allowed in each of our churches is greatly reduced. Once the maximum number has been reached, anyone else who arrives will not be able to enter the building. Our maximum capacities are as follows:

St Michael's	<b>110</b>	St Bede's	<b>68</b>
St John Fisher's	<b>50</b>	St Basil's	<b>60</b>

Please remember that there is currently no obligation to attend Mass. Also, you may consider attending Mass only **one day a week** to make space for others.

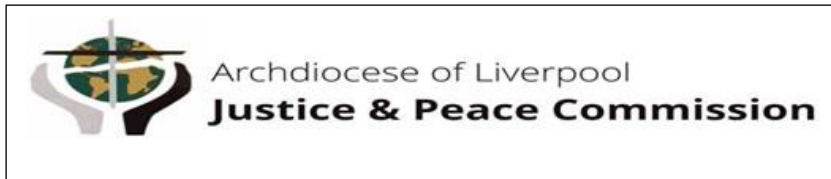
**If you have any Covid 19 symptoms (i.e. a new, continuous cough) you must not attend church. Also, if you have tested positive for Covid 19 you must not attend church until you have recovered. This is for the safety of others.**

We **MUST** wear face-coverings as we enter church and throughout Mass.

- Please use the hand sanitisers provided as you enter and leave church.
- If you have a device or missal with text for Mass you may bring this with you.
- A steward will direct you to a seat.
- Holy Communion will be given out at the end of Mass.
  - A steward will invite each row forward in a pre-determined order.  
**Please wait to be invited before leaving your bench.**
  - Take your face covering down when the person in front of you is receiving.
  - Receive the host in your hand, step to the side, consume the host and then put your face covering back on.
  - Make your way slowly and reverently out of church, using the one-way system.

We may have to stop offering public worship at very short notice following Archdiocesan and Government advice.

Please note that the doors have to remain open during Mass to ensure adequate ventilation. This means it may be colder than we would like. Please wear a coat.







## **Christmas Card Campaign for the Holy Land 2020**

This year, once again, we are invited to send Christmas cards to Catholic parishes and schools in Palestine and Jordan.

Here at St Wilfrid's we have been asked to reach out in solidarity and support to two parishes in Jordan; *'The Beheading of John the Baptist'* parish and *'St Joseph's'* parish.

If you would like to send a small Christmas card to our twinned parishes in Jordan please be sure to write in it;

-  your greeting and name
-  which parish you are from
-  on the envelope write *Christmas card for the Holy Land* and name of the parish where you would like your card to go
-  then simply post your cards through the letterbox at the Parish Office

All cards will be sent together in a package from the parish by **the end of November** as delivery is not speedy.

***This is a lovely simple way in which we can reach out to each other and show support to our sisters and brothers across the globe, please help if you can***

### ***This is what it means to parishioners who receive our cards....***

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP said *"I wholeheartedly endorse the Diocesan Holy Land Christmas Card campaign and I would encourage our parishes and justice and peace groups to send Christmas cards to our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. On my visits to the Holy Land people often remark how supported they feel when they receive a Christmas card from our diocese, and I believe it to be a real sign of our solidarity with those who live there. It's also a promise of our prayers for them at Christmas, and this means so much to them."*

*"Thank you for your concern about the situation here. Believe me it is a really difficult situation. About the Christmas card I must confess to you that it is a personal joy for me and for my parish to receive every year your cards. It is a joy to know that many people are concerning about our situation. So, I advise, if it is possible, to continue to send the cards. But really if it is possible."* Fr Mario da Silva IVE, pp at Holy Family, Gaza.

# Safeguarding in the Catholic Church in England and Wales

The Bishops' of England and Wales received the IICSA Report into Safeguarding in the Catholic Church at their Plenary Meeting last week. The Bishops' also received The Elliott Report, which they commissioned in October 2019, to review the Safeguarding Structures in the Church. The Bishops' have accepted all the recommendations of the Elliott Report.

*Below is the Statement from the Bishops' and the links to the IICSA and The Elliott Reports.*

*The Catholic Church in England and Wales welcomes the Report from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse relating to the institutional response of the Church in its duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation.*

*We thank the IICSA Panel for their work. The Report will now inform the ongoing reform and improvement of safeguarding in all aspects of the Church's life.*

*An important aspect of the Inquiry's work was the voice given to victims and survivors of abuse, including the accounts which they gave of their subsequent engagement with the Church. Listening attentively to their witness testimony has brought into sharp relief the extent of the damage this sexual abuse has had on their lives.*

*We apologise to all victims and survivors who have not been properly listened to, or properly supported by us. By listening with humility to those who have suffered, we can contribute to the healing of the wounds of abuse, as well as learn from those most directly affected how we must improve the Church's safeguarding standards, policies and procedures.*

*This is an ongoing task and one to which we are wholly committed. Child sexual abuse is a crime. It is a crime that requires committed vigilance and strict procedures to ensure reporting to the statutory authorities. This is the Church's policy. It is also why our safeguarding work needs to be continually reviewed and improved. Where there have been failings and inconsistency in the application of our safeguarding procedures, we acknowledge these and commit to actions which will bring about improvement.*

*Abuse is an evil act against the most vulnerable; it must never be excused or covered up. Abuse committed against children and the consequent damage to people's lives cannot be undone. For this, we apologise without reservation, and we are committed to listen attentively to the voices of those who have been abused.*

*This report is an important moment in our safeguarding journey in the Catholic Church in our countries. It will now be considered in detail by us, the Bishops, at our Plenary Assembly beginning next week so we can explore how to integrate the findings of this important Inquiry into the life and work of the Church in order to consistently safeguard children and the vulnerable.*

**Vincent Cardinal Nichols**

*President*

**Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP**

*Vice-President*

*Continues.....*

Continued...

## Listen

You can listen to the Independent Chair of the review, Ian Elliott, discussing the panel's work and subsequent recommendations.

[Ian Elliott on the Independent Safeguarding Review by Catholic Church \(soundcloud.com\)](#)

## Executive Summary and Recommendations

You can read/download the executive summary and all 15 recommendations here.

[Independent Safeguarding Review – Executive Summary](#)

## Full Report

Read or download the Elliott Report in full.

[Independent Safeguarding Review – Elliott Report](#)



If you have been abused by a member of the Church, please contact the Safeguarding Department at the Archdiocesan Office 0151 522 1043, the Police or Social Services.

Please remember those who have been abused by members of the Church in your prayers.

## CAFOD Advent Prayer and Reflection

**Are you looking for a chance to enjoy some quiet time... some prayer and reflection...in your own home? (Read below to find out all the details)**

**Every Sunday - from 29 November to 6 January, 6pm-6:30pm**

[CAFOD Advent Prayer - A Journey to The Manger](#)

Join us for some simple and peaceful prayer and reflection as we share our journey of Advent together. We will gather around a candle and be gently led in a time of prayer. No need for a computer camera or microphone or worrying about what to say. Just register then click the link on Sundays through Advent and on Epiphany, the 6th of January. The prayer will start at 6pm and run for less than half an hour. All are welcome to join us on this journey.

[Register](#) to the series



## Synod News: Our next steps

### Looking at the Proposals: Week Three

At this stage of the Synod all our Parish Synod Members have been tasked with hearing the voice of parishioners as together we share our thoughts and ideas on the proposals for each Synod theme.

One way in which each of us can do this is by looking through the proposals prayerfully to see what we are 'most drawn to'...

This weekend the proposals for *Theme Three*, '**How we pray together**', are attached to our newsletter for us to have a look at, ponder, reflect upon and talk about with those around us, or those with whom we are in contact via What's App, Facebook, telephone etc.

- ✚ Then the invitation is to see what your heart is most drawn to...
- ✚ Select 2 Affirmations
- ✚ Select 5 Proposals
- ✚ Simply indicate which proposals you select by putting down the number (i.e. 2.12, 2.17 etc) no need to type out the whole proposal
- ✚ Indicate the affirmations selected by naming the heading the affirmation comes under (e.g. Mission)
- ✚ Send them through to our parish synod members on this email address [stwilfridsynod@gmail.com](mailto:stwilfridsynod@gmail.com)

Alternatively, if you would rather write down your choices, they can be posted through the letter box at the Parish Office (just place them in an envelope marked as 'Synod Proposals' and they will be passed on to Synod members).

This will enable our parish members to reflect upon what is shared before they each send through 2 discerned affirmations and 5 discerned proposals in early December. (Themes 2,3, and 4 will be posted out with the newsletter over the next three weekends).

Please take part if you can, every voice matters.

***What is your heart drawn to?***



## MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions have been allocated up to December. Any new Masses will be allocated as there is space in the individual weeks.

The following Masses will be said by the priests this week:

Eileen Myler

Ann Hurst L.D.

Pious List x 2

Bernard Dean L.D.

Frank Richard Hurst Ann.

Margaret Jessica Duffy B'day Remb.

Frank Smith

Michael Noon L.D.

Residents of all our care homes

Maria Stockton

Terence Burns

Peter Percival B'day Remb.

Anthony Myler 1<sup>st</sup> Ann.

Michael Noon (Latey dead)

Elaine McPartland (Latey dead)

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

Michael Noon                      Elaine McPartland

May Randles                      Catherine Pierce

Elizabeth Glennon              Gail McDowell

David Staniford



## **PARISH NOVENA 2020**



This year's Novena resumes at St Michael's Church at 7.00pm on:

**Wednesday      2<sup>nd</sup> December**

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.

We are also encouraged to pray the Rosary at home during these weeks of Novena for the intercession of Our Lady.

**The new Director of the National Shrine of Walsingham, Mgr. Philip Moger, is a friend of Fr Tom's. He will celebrate Mass for all our Novena Petitions in the Basilica in Walsingham on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December.**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

#### **NHS Track & Trace**

**Please remember that if you test positive for Covid-19 and have visited one of our churches in the preceding days it is important that you let the office know**

**(0151 422 1772)**

**We will then be able to advise others who attended the same service.**



## [National Grief Awareness Week](#)

(Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December).

Please click on the link above for more information.

During this most difficult year we need to show our support to those who are mourning the loss of a loved one.

It is difficult during this time of the pandemic to do what we would usually do when someone dies and we have not been able to have our monthly bereavement Masses in the parish.

This week, Fr Tom will be recording the Sunday Mass. All the names of the deceased in our parish will be read out during the Mass. It will be an opportunity to recall and remember all of those loved ones who have died since November last year.

Please remember them in your prayers.



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:

Sponge Puddings

Tinned Potatoes

Jam

Crisps

Christmas Treats

Shower Gel

Toothbrushes/Toothpaste

Items can be taken to the Widnes Foodbank Warehouse, which is at Widnes Cemetery Lodge, Birchfield Road, Widnes WA8 9EE. The Warehouse is open on ***Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 11am.***

Items can also be left at the Widnes Foodbank collection points at the main Widnes stores of ASDA, Morrison's and Tesco.

In addition, there are a number of other collection points shown on the Widnes Foodbank website ([www.widnesfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.widnesfoodbank.org.uk)), which include Appleton Village Pharmacy and Cronton Garden Centre.

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

facebook.com/WidnesFoodbank

twitter.com/Widnes Foodbank

instagram.com/WidnesFoodbank

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

<b>THIS WEEKEND</b>		<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</b>	
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	11-12 noon	St Bede's	Confession
	5:00pm	St Michael's	Mass
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	9:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	10:00am	St John Fisher	Mass
	11:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	4:30pm	St Basil's	Mass

<b>WEEKDAYS</b>		<b>DIVINE OFFICE WEEK 1</b>	
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November FEAST OF ST ANDREW	9:15am	St Michael's	Mass
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	11:00am	St Bede's	Exposition & Private Prayer
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	7:00pm	St Michael's	Novena Mass
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	11:30am	St Bede's	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	12 noon	St Bede's	Mass
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	9:15am	St Michael's	Mass

<b>NEXT WEEKEND</b>		<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</b>	
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	11-12 noon	St Bede's	Confession
	5:00pm	St Michael's	Mass
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	9:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	10:00am	St John Fisher	Mass
	11:00am	St Michael's	Mass
	4:30pm	St Basil's	Mass

*The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool is committed to keeping your personal data secure. Please see our Privacy Notice on our website at [liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/privacy-notice](http://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/privacy-notice)*

## **Funerals**

**Please remember in your prayers,**

Marie Thérèse O'Connor

Brenda Hamlin

Brian Holding

**whose funeral took place last week.**

