



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (YEAR A)

30th April 2023

Parish Office:

St Bede's Presbytery
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Parish Clergy:

Fr Mark Moran (PP, Moderator)	0151 513 0024
Fr Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 2738
Fr Philip Carr (Priest in residence)	0151 424 4021

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna



Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Vocations Sunday

In these days of Eastertide, as we listen to the accounts of the growth and expansion of the early Church, we see how, under the guidance of God's Spirit, the seeds of the Gospel are carried from the Holy Land to the ends of the earth.

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, we are encouraged to pray that all Christians recognise their baptismal vocation, remembering the words of St Paul to the Ephesians that "to some his gift was that they should be apostles, to some prophets, to some evangelists, to some pastors and teachers, so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ.

Today we are encouraged to pray in a special way for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. In our diocese, Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will be Ordaining Hugh Donleavy as a Deacon in a little over a month at St Charles Church in Aigburth.

This will hopefully be followed by 3 more ordinations to the Diaconate in Oscott and the Venerable English College, Rome towards the end of the college academic year.

Please pray for our seven seminarians and for all those discerning a vocation to the priesthood within our Archdiocese. Pray for our priests too, that our Church may be blessed with Good Shepherds who are prepared to spend their life in the service of the sheep entrusted to their care.

If you feel the Lord might be calling you to the priesthood, or the religious life, why not speak to your Parish Priest about it, or make contact with the Vocations Director based at St Charles in Aigburth, by telephoning 0151727 2493 or emailing r.johnson@rcaol.org.uk

There will be a retiring collection for the Priests Training Fund

Votive Candles

The custom of lighting votive candles before images of the saints is an ancient and laudable devotion that unites us with the Communion of Saints in Heaven. However, the lighting of votive candles should not take place during Holy Mass or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, when the sole focus of our prayer should be Our Blessed Lord truly present in the Eucharist.

Private Prayer

St Bede's Church is open for private prayer Monday to Friday from 10.00am until 13.00pm, except for funerals.

You are encouraged to come in and spend some time in prayer for your own needs, the needs of the Church and the world.

Parish Archives

Our Catholic heritage in Widnes goes back a long, long way. We now have a dedicated space to store all the archives and historical memorabilia relating to all the former parishes in Widnes. The archives include items such as, photographs, booklets, artefacts, parish notices going back over 100 years. Now is the chance for you to get involved and ensure that your family is included in these records. If you have something you believe would enhance our archives (this may be an artefact from one of the churches or a photograph of a parish event such as First Holy Communion, May Procession, Wedding etc.) and would like it to be stored in the Parish archives then send your item with as much information as possible (family names, date, church etc.) to the Parish office marked 'Parish Archives.'

Thank You

St Wilfrid's UCM would like to say a Big Thank to everyone who supported their charity bingo.

£241 was raised for the UCM fund.

St. Michael's Church

We feel we should inform all parishioners that prayers do work! After a terrible spate of anti-social behaviour around church a few months ago, we can confirm that this has now stopped, and calm is restored. We pray it continues!
St. Michael the Archangel – pray for us!

Confessions in our Churches

As we constantly review and reflect upon how we serve the whole parish, we have decided to offer confessions in each of our churches. On the first Saturday of the month the Mass and Confessions will be in a different church, so please be aware of this and take note of the newsletter. This will start in June after the First Holy Communion. On all other Saturdays of the month, Mass and confessions will be at St Bede's

3rd June, Mass, and Confessions at 10am – St. Michael

1st July, Mass, and Confessions at 10am – St. Basil

5th August, Mass, and Confessions at 10am – St. John Fisher

2nd September, Mass, and Confessions at 10am – St. Michael

7th October, Mass, and Confessions at 10am – St. Basil

4th November, Mass, and Confessions at 10am – St. John Fisher

The Clergy Team

Requiescant in pace

Doreen Freeman, William Hewitt
William Fay, Keith Dignall,
Mary Topping

May the Angels lead them into paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Joe Houghton
St Michael	Sick & Housebound
St John Fisher	Gavin Froggett
St Basil	Priest Vocations

Lourdes Pilgrimage

For those parishioners joining us on the Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July, full payment is now due.

You may have already received an email payment request from Paylands,
which enables you to pay online.

Alternatively, you can pay by cheque. Cheques must be made payable to Northern Star Travel
and posted to 46/48 Long Street Manchester M24 6UG.

If you wish to pay by Bacs Payment, the Account Name is Northern Star. Sort Code 77-19-09. Account
Number: 00031486.

You **MUST** put your booking refence on all payments.

Can you help?

Due to the several church closures and amalgamations of recent years, we are now the custodians of several important devotional items which we would like to bring back into liturgical use. Over the next few weeks, we hope to send the statue of Pope St Pius X that stood in that church for many years to be professionally cleaned and restored, so that parishioners may pray before him once more. We would also like to restore the brass ship sanctuary lamp, that lived in Our Lady's so that it may be rehung in honor of Our Lady. If you can make an offering towards both or either restoration, please enclose your offering in an envelope entitled: 'St Pius X', or 'Sanctuary Lamp', and submit to the Parish Office.

Thank you!

Meeting for all Eucharistic Ministers

Could all Eucharistic Ministers please attend a meeting on **Wednesday 10th May** after the
7pm Mass in St. Bede's Church.

This is an opportunity for us to gather and to discuss offering Holy Communion under both kinds.

Please make every effort to attend.

Mass for Sick & Housebound

Thursday 11th May 12. Noon

St Michael's Church, WA8 8TF

All who desire will be offered the Sacrament of the Sick at this Mass.

Social Group News

'9 to 5, The Musical'

On Wednesday 17th May we shall go to Manchester to see St. Dunstan's Amateur Operatic Society perform this show. They are an amateur group, but everyone who came to see them last year, when they performed 'Betty Blue Eyes', had a wonderful evening together. There was lots of laughter and fun and a 16-piece orchestra to boot!

The coach will leave St. Bede at 6pm and we will return by 11pm. If you would like a ticket, please pop your name, telephone number and £20pp into the parish office and we will reserve you a ticket.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday 30th April

9.00am Holy Mass
 9.30am Holy Mass
 10.30am Holy Mass
 11.15am Holy Mass
 4.00pm Holy Mass

Fourth Sunday of Eastertide

St Bede Joseph Stanley Wright, Anniversary
 St Michael Eileen Martin, Birthday Remembrance
 St John Fisher Norman (Ginger) Hunt, Lately Dead
 St Bede Canon John Marmion
 St Bede Elizabeth Syze & George Roberts

Monday 1st May

9.00am Exposition
 9.30am Holy Mass

St Joseph the Worker, Solemnity

St Basil
 St Basil Geoffrey Golson Jnr, Remembrance

Tuesday 2nd May

11.30pm Exposition
 12 noon Holy Mass

St Athanasius

St Bede
 St Bede Mark Norris, 11th Anniversary

Wednesday 3rd May

10:15am **Funeral Service**
 6.30pm Exposition
 7.00pm Holy Mass

Feast of Saints Philip & James Apostles

St John Fisher **Stephen Marsh RIP**
 St Bede
 St Bede Joseph Jones

Thursday 4th May

10:30am **Funeral Service**
 12:00 noon Holy Mass

Feast of the English Martyrs

St Bede **Terence Lloyd RIP**
N.B. St John Fisher Kevin Conway

Friday 5th May

9.00am Exposition
 9.30am Holy Mass
 11:30am **Requiem**

Easter Feria

St John Fisher
 St John Fisher Gavin Froggatt, 50th Birthday Remembrance
 St Michael **Catherine Woodward RIP**

Saturday 6th May

10.00am Holy Mass
 10.30am Confessions
 5.00pm Vigil Mass
 5.00pm Vigil Mass

St Bede Michael Hyland, Lately Dead
 St Bede
 St Bede Marie Bonnon, Birthday Remembrance
 St Basil Gaynor Meredith, Lately Dead

Sunday 7th May

9.00am Holy Mass
 9.30am Holy Mass
 10.30am Holy Mass
 11.15am Holy Mass
 4.00pm Holy Mass

Five Sunday of Eastertide

St Bede Jimmy Finn, Anniversary
 St Michael Denise Rigby, Lately Dead
 St John Fisher Parishioners
 St Bede Hanne Rizcallah, Lately Dead
 St Bede Neil Quinn, 5th Anniversary