

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

30th July 2023

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Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna



Responsorial Psalm

“Lord, how I love your law!”

NB – Over the summer months, please check Mass times as they are subject to change.

When, in January, I raised the question of feedback for Reflections and Homilies, one of the parishioners asked for a thought on disability in the Church.

As I write, three of our Widnes priests and a significant number of parishioners are in Lourdes. One of the things that draws me back to Lourdes year after year is the place of the sick and disabled in Lourdes. They are very visibly the top priority. Everything revolves around them, they take pride of place, and it is impossible to think of Lourdes without them.

Just as they took pride of place in the life of Jesus. Besides all the great individual cure stories in the Gospels, there are periodically 'summary' paragraphs which tell what Jesus was about, and being with the sick and disabled is always there. When he first sends his disciples out on their own, he sends them to these people especially. The Good News is not only in words.

In Lourdes, we are able to prioritise them in a way that we find difficult here at home. So, my question this week is for suggestions as to how we might make them more obviously welcome in the parish, how we might give more support to them and their families, how we might educate ourselves to their needs. And how we might learn to recognise that there are many different sorts of disability, not all immediately visible.

God bless us all.

+John

Fr. David Rocks, O.P.

Fr David arrived last Friday, to help out while our priests were in Lourdes. Many of you will have met him last year. He is a friend of Fr Thomas, O.P. and has been here several times. I was thoroughly enjoying his company, until Monday

On Monday I tested positive for COVID, first time for me. That put an end to our eating together. But it also meant that he had to take on whatever I was due to be involved in. He did it all most willingly. Thank you. Fr. David.

+John

Catholic Schools Inspectorate

St. Gerard's RC Primary and Nursery School – OUTSTANDING

At the end of June, St. Gerard's Primary School welcomed two Catholic Schools Inspectors into our school and after an intense two-day inspection they were judged as OUTSTANDING in all areas. Here are some of the comments...

"At St. Gerard's all pupils fully embrace their Catholic faith and values."

"Their behaviour is exemplary."

"The pupils put their faith and gospel values into action in response to Catholic social teaching."

"The parish priest is a pivotal figure within the school, supporting the pupils' journeys in faith, he is a strong presence within the lives of pupils and staff."

"Pupils enjoy their lessons...teachers are confident and have high expectations of all pupils."

"The inspiring Catholic environment of the school enables all pupils to flourish and aspire"

Congratulations to Mr. Landrum, head teacher, Miss Sanders, RE Lead, Teaching Staff, and most of all our wonderful children! You are **OUTSTANDING!**

Fr. Mark

CAFOD... "Fix the Food System."

CAFOD and St Wilfrid's Parish, supporting small farmers across the globe...

CAFOD works with small farmers around the world who produce lots of the world's food. But many of them are facing a huge problem.

For hundreds of years, they have freely used and shared their own seeds, but laws are being passed that limit what they are allowed to do with their own seeds, giving them little choice but to buy more expensive seeds from large companies. These laws make it even harder for small farmers and their families to produce enough food.

Salina is a small farmer in Bangladesh, and she told CAFOD: "To keep the seeds in our own hands is the main thing. Without seeds, being a farmer is not possible."

This why Salina is writing a letter to the World Bank, which has lots of influence over agricultural issues, asking them to protect rights of small farmers to use and share their own seeds.

Please sign Salina's letter on the way out of Mass, it will be available at each of our weekend Masses either this week or next week so please look out for it.

By signing your name alongside Salina, we can send a strong message to the World Bank that the Catholic community stands with small-scale farmers. Thank You.

<p>Requiescant in pace</p> <p>Joan Hargreaves, Hildegard Murphy, Stephen Barnwell,</p> <p>May the Angels lead them into paradise!</p>	<p>Sanctuary Lamp</p> <p><i>The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">St Bede</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Patricia & Peter Rouski</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Michael</td> <td>Peter & Winifred Rouski</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St John Fisher</td> <td>Msgr. Charles Glass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Basil</td> <td>Joseph & Mary Freeman</td> </tr> </table>	St Bede	Patricia & Peter Rouski	St Michael	Peter & Winifred Rouski	St John Fisher	Msgr. Charles Glass	St Basil	Joseph & Mary Freeman
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Long awaited news and progress...

After many years of hard work, persistence, and patience we finally have the go ahead to start the restoration of St. Bede’s Church.

‘Dear Fr. Moran,

I write to advise you that at the recent meeting of the archdiocesan trustees’ further consideration was given to the building project at St. Bede’s Church, Widnes. The decision of the trustees was to approve Phase 1 of the works to proceed.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Miller, Secretary to the Trustees”

A lot of hard work has been undertaken by the Parish Buildings and Finance Committee to get us to this point and we owe them a debt of gratitude.

St. Wilfrid and St. Bede – pray for us!

<p>Pilgrimage to the Holy Land</p> <p>There is a poster in the porch advertising a pilgrimage led by Canon John Gorman.</p> <p>If you would like more information, please have a look!</p>	<p>Private Prayer</p> <p>St Bede’s Church is open for private prayer Monday to Friday from 10.00am until 13.00pm, except for funerals. <i>(If the church is unopen during these times, please knock at the parish office)</i></p> <p>You are encouraged to come in and spend some time in prayer for your own needs, the needs of the Church and the world.</p>
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Be mindful...

We are so blessed here in our parish, and sometimes it is easy to think that everyone is as nice as we are! Please be mindful to take your bags with you when you go to Holy Communion and if anyone approaches you to ask for money before or after Mass, politely decline and refer them to one of the clergy team, who will help them appropriately. Thank you!

The Clergy Team

<p>Parish Office</p> <p>From 26th July till 30th August the parish office will be closed on Wednesdays. This is to enable Syl and Deb to catch up on the jobs that they don’t have time to get to during the busier months, so try not to ring or call on Wednesdays!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Pilgrimage to Knock</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 23rd April – Friday 26th April 2024</p> <p>On Wednesday 2nd August at 7.30pm, after the 7pm Mass there will be a meeting for all those interested in going to Our Lady’s Shrine in Knock next year. All the information that we have at this stage will be shared and booking forms will be available. Come along if you want to know more.</p>
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Parish Liturgy

Sunday	30th July	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Andrew Barrow, Lately Date
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	James Francis O'Brien, 5 th Anniversary
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Msgr. Charles Glass, Birthday Rem.
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Mary & Joseph Freeman
16.00	NO MASS	St. Bede	
Monday	31st July	Memorial of St. Ignatius Loyola, Priest	
09.00am	Exposition	St. Basil	
09.30am	Holy Mass	St. Basil	Eddie Bonnon
Tuesday	1st August	Memorial of St. Alphonus Ligouri, Bishop & Dr	
12 Noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Bill Fay
Wednesday	2nd August		
19:00	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Tomlinson
Thursday	3rd August	Ferial	
09.30	Requiem Mass	St John Fisher	Frances Walsh
11:30	Exposition	St Michael	
12 noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Patricia & Peter Rouski, 60 th Wedding Anniversary Remembrance
14.00	Funeral Service	St Bede	Walter Hurstfield
Friday	4th August	Memorial of St. John Vianney, Priest	
09:00	Exposition	S.t John Fisher	
09:30	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher	David Kenny
Saturday	5th August		
09.30	No MASS	St. Bede	
17.00	Vigil Mass	St. Bede	Gerald O'Connor, 3 rd Anniversary
17.00	Vigil Mass	St. Basil	Parishioners
Sunday	6th August	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Private Intention, F.R.
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Cyril Leslie Fallon, Anniversary
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Rita Hamilton, Anniversary
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Peter & Winifred Rouski
16.00	NO MASS	St. Bede	