

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent and Feast of the Holy Family (Year A)

21st December 2025

Parish Office:

St Bede's Presbytery
Appleton Village
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 6EL

Parish Clergy:

Rev Fr Mark Moran (PP, Moderator)	0151 422 1772
Rev Fr Peter Ross	0151 422 1772
Rev Deacon Paul Rooney	0151 422 1772

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Psalm Response

'Let the LORD enter; he is the king of glory.'

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna

Alleluia Verse

'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bare a son, and they shall call his name

Emmanuel - which means, God with us.'

Christmas Blessings to you all!

We offer our heartfelt thanks to all our church volunteers for the generous service you give to our parish community. Through your time, talents, and quiet dedication, you help make our parish a welcoming and faith-filled home. Much of what happens within our church would not be possible without your faithful commitment.

Your service is a beautiful reflection of love in action. Whether you are visible or working behind the scenes, your kindness touches countless lives and strengthens the bonds within our community. You give freely, often without recognition, and in doing so you mirror Christ's call to serve one another with humility and compassion.

We are deeply grateful for the spirit of love and kindness you bring to everything you do. Your example inspires us all to live our faith more fully and to care for one another with open hearts. May God bless you abundantly for your service, and may you know how truly valued and appreciated you are.

May God bless you and your families this Christmas and may we all journey together to meet Jesus, God with us, Emmanuel, so that we can continue to serve in this wonderful parish of St. Wilfrid in Widnes!

Fr. Mark, Fr. Peter and Dcn. Paul

Parish Office Opening Hours

The Parish office will be closed on Wednesday 23rd December and re-open on Friday 2nd January. Syl & Deb thank you all for your lovely support throughout the year and wish you all a blessed Christmas.

Christmas Offerings at Christmas

In the past, the Easter and Christmas collections went straight to the priests as their Christmas gift from the parish. **This practice stopped a long time ago!** Yet many people still think it is still the practice. Every penny of the collection goes into the parish coffers to pay for lights, heating and repairs and towards the mission of the community. If you wish to give a gift to the priests at Christmas the only way they can accept it is if it is in an envelope with their name on it, otherwise it should rightly go to the community. We write this to clear up any confusion regarding this practice, but did we tell you...*"you look lovely today!!"*

Fr. Mark & Fr. Peter

Advent Candle

This Sunday we light the fourth candle on our Advent wreath. **The Angels' Candle (Peace).** The fourth candle symbolises peace. It reflects the message of the angels: "Peace on earth, good will to all." This candle invites us to embrace Christ's gift of peace in our lives. As we look at the Advent wreath growing in strength as each candle is lit, let us pray that our faith is strengthened and we may know more and more that Jesus, Emmanuel, our God, is with us!

St. Wilfrid's Parish Calendar 2026

Stop the press! We have purchased some 2026 calendars of our wonderful parish. Each month there are different photographs of our churches, inside and out. They are just £5 each and can be purchased at the back of church. We did not get lots this year as we were unsure how many people would like one, so be quick and you will not be disappointed!

All proceeds from the sale of the calendars will go to the upkeep of all our churches. What a lovely stocking filler it would be.

Foodbank

Widnes Foodbank would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy Christmas. We are so lucky to have such a supportive and generous community around us. Thank you to everyone who donates and supports the Foodbank. Please would you continue to support us as Christmas approaches, helping those who are most in need in our community. If you are able to donate food the most needed items are below.

Please note that we cannot distribute items which contain alcohol.

Christmas Goodies, Long Life Juice, Tinned Beef/Chicken/Ham, Tinned Mince Beef/Steak, Toiletries, shampoo and Washing Up Liquid.

18-35

The Advent Carol Service saw members of our 18-35 Group taking a leading role by welcoming and reading during the liturgy. They did an incredible job. It was refreshing and inspiring to have our young Catholics lead us in prayer. After the service, we went into the Arrowsmith Room for our Advent Party. The next meeting will take place on Sunday 25th January at St. Basil's at 6pm. We look forward to welcoming Fr. Mark Drew, from Woolston, who will be delivering a talk on the subject of Eastern Orthodoxy. Social afterwards as usual in the Arrowsmith Room.

Fr Peter

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	21st December	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret & Kenneth Bate
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Marie Morris
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	George Grace
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
Monday	22nd December	Week 4 of Advent	
09.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Jimmy Tarpey
Tuesday	23rd December	Week 4 of Advent	
09.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Anne & Tony Smith
10.00	Funeral Service	St Michael	Ellen June Horabin
Wednesday	24th December	Christmas Eve	
16.30	First Holy Mass of Christmas	St. Bede	Rose Riley & Brendan Coffey
16.30	First Holy Mass of Christmas	St. Basil	Steven Bate
18.00	First Holy Mass of Christmas	St. John Fisher	Peter Jerram
18.00	First Holy Mass of Christmas	St. Michael	Denis, Kathleen & William
23.30	Carols before Mass	St Bede	
Midnight	First Holy Mass of Christmas	St. Bede	Deceased Clergy
Thursday	25th December	Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord	
09.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Winifred Burns
10.15	Holy Mass	St. Michael	Mary & Philip Keane
11.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Joan Moran
Friday	26th December	Feast of St Stephen	
12noon	Holy Mass	St. John Fisher	Mary Rath Margaret & Robert Spofforth
Saturday	27th December	Vigil of the Feast of the Holy Family	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Eilish Currie
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Parishioners
Sunday	28th December	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Christina Kenny
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	The Case & Kenny Family
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Stan Fellowes
No 4pm Mass This Week			

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intention.

St Bede: John Doyle
St Basil: Deceased Taylor Family
St John Fisher: Davies, Glynn & Warburton's
St Michael: Bridget Hickey

Rest in Peace

Mary Ann Myler
 Barbara Ann Ryan

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Parish Liturgy

Sunday 28th December

Feast of the Holy Family

09.00 Holy Mass

St Bede

Christina Kenny

10.15 Holy Mass

St Michael

The Case & Kenny Family

11.30 Holy Mass

St Bede

Stan Fellowes

No 4pm Mass This Week

Monday 29th December

Feast of St Thomas Becket of Canterbury

No Mass or Service

Tuesday 30th December

Sixth day of Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

11.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary

12noon Holy Mass

St Bede

Roy Nelson Jnr

Wednesday 31st December

Seventh day of Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

11.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary

12noon Holy Mass

St Bede

William Leslie Dean

Thursday 1st January

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

11.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer

12noon Holy Mass

St Michael

Edward & Martin Tague &
Mary Riley

Friday 2nd January

Memorial of Ss Basil Great & Gregory Nazianzen

09.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer

09.30 Holy Mass

St John Fisher

Winifred Golson

Saturday 3rd January

Vigil of Second Sunday after the Nativity

16.30 Holy Mass

St Basil

Parishioners

18.00 Holy Mass

St John Fisher

Peter Jerram

Sunday 4th January

Second Sunday after the Nativity

09.00 Holy Mass

St Bede

Ray Johnson

10.15 Holy Mass

St Michael

Mass Association Members

11.30 Holy Mass

St Bede

Cyprian & Irene Eziashi

16.00 Holy Mass

St Bede

In Thanksgiving (JM)

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intention.

St Bede: Veronica Murray

St Basil: Special Intention

St John Fisher: The Jones Family

St Michael: Deceased Loved Ones

Rest in Peace

Mary Ann Myler

Barbara Ann Ryan

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!