



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

25th October 2026

Parish Office:

Monday to Friday: 9:30-16:30
(unless stated in newsletter)

Second collection next week is for: SVP

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

Parish Clergy: 0151 422 1772

Rev. Father Mark Moran (Parish Priest, Moderator).

Rev. Father Peter F. Ross (Parochial Vicar).

Rev. Deacon Paul Rooney.

Rev. Deacon Paul Whitehead.

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Deborah Kenna

Psalm Response

"I love you, LORD, my strength."

Gospel Acclamation Verse

**"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him."**

'An intimidating experience'

An artist once wrote that the most intimidating experience he has is facing the blank, whiteness of paper or canvas. 'Do I draw a line, where do I make a mark?' Fear can paralyse our actions - 'What if I get it wrong or make a mistake?' This experience is not exclusive to artists. Fear like this can describe so many experiences we have at any part of the day.

We are all gifted by God, but do we always use these gifts? Do we even recognise our own giftedness? If we do not want to ask others what gifts, we have - other people often recognise our gifts before we do - ask God! God gave us the gifts we have, and gave them to us to use, and to be used for others. What do we carry into each day, into our meetings with other people, into the times when we can be creative or helpful?

The man who wrote about the 'blank sheet of paper' with its 'intimidating whiteness' had discovered earlier in life he had a gift to paint. He used that gift of painting to support a charity working overseas - selling some of his work, giving talks etc. Many of us do not have this talent, but we are not without any gift. St Paul writes of, 'having gifts that differ according to the grace given us.' Gifts that differ but are needed within our Church communities.

What grace has been given us; what gifts can we offer? Ask God, in prayer and in humility. Perhaps some tasks may be your 'intimidating experience', of having to start from the beginning. But if every artist or painter was frightened away by blank canvas or paper, we would have no works of art!

Dcn. Paul Whitehead

The Gospel of Mark - A Series of Talks

For the third-year running, St. Wilfrid's Parish is pleased to offer a series of four accessible talks on the Sunday Gospel for the ensuing liturgical year (2026/27), the Gospel of Mark. As always, these talks, taking place on **Wednesdays** at **19:00** at the Parish Hall at St. John Fisher, are aimed at 'anyone and everyone', with the four speakers bringing their own wisdom and experiences to the table. Each session concludes with benediction at 20:00. This coming week, Fr. Mark Drew, will offer us an insight to the Suffering Servant as seen in St. Mark's Gospel, please come along and hear the Good News!

28th October 2026 - Fr. Mark Drew: The Suffering Servant.

4th November 2026 - Sr. Bridget Folkard SSMN: The Kingdom of God.

9th November 2026 - Kate Wilkinson: Evangelisation and Mission.

Sacramental Programme Catechists Meeting

There will be a meeting for all Sacramental Programme Catechists following Holy Mass on **Tuesday 27th October** at St. Bede's Presbytery. All catechists are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Young Catholics in Widnes Pilgrimage

On **Monday, 26th October**, around 20 members of our parish young adults' group will journey to London for a day pilgrimage to the sites and shrines of St. Edward the Confessor, St. Thomas More, St. John Fisher, and St. John Southworth. We will be joined on the pilgrimage by His Grace, Archbishop Sherrington. The day will include: a tour of the Palace of Westminster (thanks to Derek Twigg MP), a tour of Westminster Abbey (including prayers at the Shrine of St. Edward), and a tour of Westminster Cathedral (given by Fr. Patrick van der Vorst of Christian Art). It promises to be a fantastic day!

Our next regular event will take place on **Friday, 6th November 2026**, at 18:00 at St. Basil's. As November is the month of prayer for those who have died, we will celebrate a Solemn Requiem Mass (Latin and English) with Gregorian chant. As you arrive, you will be handed a candle which will burn during the Mass for your deceased loved ones. The preacher at this Mass will be Fr. Derek Lloyd. Social and quiz to follow!

November – Month of the Holy Souls

During November, we remember and pray for our deceased family members and friends. To include your loved ones in our prayers, please pick up an envelope from the back of church. Write their names on the envelope, place their names and your offering inside, and return it to the Parish Office. All names will be placed before the altar in every church and remembered in prayer throughout the month.

St. Wilfrid's Parish Choir

New members are warmly welcome to join the choir, regardless of whether you are completely new to singing, returning after many years, a past member, or only able to attend occasionally. Please note that due to safeguarding guidance, all choir members must be over 18.

Our upcoming practices will feature a new venue and a date change. We will meet at 7pm in St. Basil's Church on the following dates: **Monday 26th October, Monday 9th November, and Tuesday 1st December.** All are welcome!

Papal Award – Mr. Terry Hayes

The **Benemerenti Medal** (meaning "To a well-deserving person" or "Worthy of Merit") is a prestigious papal decoration bestowed by the Pope to honour individuals who have demonstrated long and exceptional service to the Catholic Church. We are overjoyed that **Mr. Terry Hayes** has been awarded the Benemerenti award from His Holiness, **Pope Leo XIV** for his fidelity and service to the Church. We shall have a wonderful Mass and celebration with Terry to present this award to him, when the shock has worn off! Terry was quite overwhelmed when he was told, as you can imagine! Congratulations Terry and may God continue to bless you!

Gift of Life for Zambia Trip to Port Sunlight and Cheshire Oaks

Our last trip of the year is on **Wednesday, 25th November**, to Port Sunlight, a beautiful garden village created for the Sunlight Soap factory workers in the 19th Century. A guide will accompany the coach around the village retelling its unique history. You will have time to explore further or enjoy lunch before we move on to afternoon shopping at Cheshire Oaks. We leave St. Basils at 9.30 am and return at approximately 6.30pm. To book, please put £23 in an envelope marked with your name and telephone number and pass it to Monica (424 8194) or Angela (424 8668).

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Come and experience a wonderful way to receive forgiveness and healing. Confessions will be available at the following times and locations:

- **St. Basil's Church: Saturday 7th November, 3:30pm – 4:15pm**
- **St. Bede's Church: Sunday 8th November, 3:15pm – 3:55pm**

All are welcome to attend and experience the peace of this beautiful sacrament.

Warrington and Widnes Deanery Mass

Please come and join our wider church family for our upcoming monthly deanery Mass **on Friday 30th October** at 12:00 noon at St. John Fisher Church. This time together provides a wonderful opportunity for us to step outside our usual parish routine and come together as the whole deanery of Warrington and Widnes. By gathering in faith, we can offer our mutual support, share in the Eucharist, and pray intentionally for the needs, families, and future of our entire deanery community. Whether you can travel from across Warrington or live just down the road in Widnes, your presence and your prayers are a vital part of this collective worship. Please consider making time in your day to share in this celebration of unity and help us strengthen the bonds of faith across our local area.

Choir Chaperones

The Department of Music within the Archdiocese of Liverpool are seeking Choir Chaperones to support the music department in their work by supervising choristers and other young people under 18 under their care, ensuring their safety and wellbeing. Chaperones will work variable hours to provide cover at choirs led by the archdiocese primarily at various locations. Please follow this link for more information or to apply by **Monday 2nd November**;

<https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers> or contact: d.townley@metcathedral.org.uk with any enquiries about the roles.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday 25th October

09.00 Holy Mass
10.15 Holy Mass
11.30 Holy Mass
16.00 Holy Mass

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Bede Anne & Tony Smith
St. Michael Pauline Noone
St. Bede Carol Ann Randall
St. Bede Parishioners

Monday 26th October

09.30 Service of the Word with
Holy Communion

Monday Week 30 in Ordinary Time

St Basil

Tuesday 27th October

09.30 Funeral Service

11.30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary
12.00 Holy Mass

Tuesday Week 30 in Ordinary Time

St. Basil Norman William Cooper

St. Bede Honor Evans

Wednesday 28th October

11.30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary
12.00 Holy Mass

Feast of Ss Simon and Jude

St. Bede Private Intention

Thursday 29th October

No Mass or Service

Thursday Week 30 in Ordinary Time

Friday 30th October

12.00 Deanery Mass

Friday Week 30 in Ordinary Time

St. John Fisher Jean Smith
Tom's successful operation

Saturday 31st October

16.30 Holy Mass
18.00 Holy Mass

Vigil of the Solemnity of All Saints

St. Basil Barry Cunningham
St. John Fisher Thanksgiving to St Lucy

Sunday 1st November

09.00 Holy Mass
10.15 Holy Mass
11.30 Holy Mass
16.00 Holy Mass

Solemnity of All Saints

St. Bede Harry Taylor
St. Michael Parishioners
St. Bede Thanksgiving (PS)
St. Bede Prakash Pawar

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for 7 days for your intention

St. Bede: Anne & Tony Smith
St. Basil: Edna Owen
St. Basil: Fr. Brian Newns
St. John Fisher: Fr. Dan Howarth
St. Michael: Special Intention

Rest in Peace

Fr. Brian Newns, Paul Barrow
& Kenneth David Hughes

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!