

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



8th February 2026

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

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

"A light rises in the darkness for the upright".

Alleluia Verse

"I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life".

Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna

The Wonder of Our Parish Community

One of the quiet miracles of parish life is the way ordinary people become instruments of God's grace for one another. In our community, faith is not lived in isolation but woven through small acts of kindness, patience, and care. A listening ear, a word of encouragement, a meal shared, a prayer offered – these simple gestures reveal the presence of Christ among us.

The strength of our parish is found in generous hearts. We give not only from what we have, but from who we are: our time, our compassion, our willingness to show up for one another. In moments of joy, we celebrate together; in times of sorrow, we carry one another's burdens. This shared life reminds us that we are never alone on our journey of faith.

Forgiveness, too, is a sacred gift within our community. When we choose understanding over judgment and mercy over resentment, we reflect the boundless mercy God shows us each day. In forgiving one another, we allow healing to take root and unity to grow stronger.

Our parish is far from perfect, yet it is holy in its striving—to love more deeply, to serve more generously, and to welcome more openly. May we continue to recognise the wonder in one another, nurture a spirit of kindness and care, and remain a living sign of God's love in the world.

Fr. Mark, PP

St Wilfrid Lourdes 2026 Parish Pilgrimage

We are planning to journey to Lourdes as a parish again this year in conjunction with the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage. The dates this year are **Wednesday 22nd July until Thursday 30th July 2026**. We will be staying in the Hotel Roissy, and the cost is £1155 for an 8-night stay based on 2 people sharing, with a single room supplement to be added as appropriate.

Several people intend to journey again this year, and it is open to anyone who would like to come - **you are very welcome**.

If you would like to find out more about the pilgrimage or put your name down to travel with the parish, please pass your name and contact details into the parish office and once we have an idea of people who are interested, we will arrange a meeting with the booking forms and get deposits paid and sent off.

Denise Roberts and Dcn. Paul

Pastoral Development Strategy

Please consider becoming part of the discussions by joining in our face-to-face meetings, these will be held after Mass with a cuppa to aid the discussions!

Tuesday 10th February - After the 12 noon Mass in the **Guild Hall** there will be an open meeting.

Wednesday 18th February – After the 7pm in **St. Basil's Church**, after you have received ashes, there will be another opportunity to gather.

There are more copies of the questionnaire at the **back of all churches** for you to take home, think and discuss the questions we have been tasked with answering and then return them to church **next weekend**.

Pastoral Development Strategy Working Group

Fr. Mark, Peter McCann, Pauline Rolt, Denise Roberts, Susan Warburton, Fr. Peter and Dcn. Paul.

Pastoral Statistics 2025 – St. Wilfrid, Widnes

These are the statistics that we must return to the Archdiocesan Curial Offices which are in turn are collated and passed to the offices in Rome.

Number of Catechumens and Candidates for Reception Easter 2026 – **14**

Baptisms during 2025 -**127**

Receptions into the Church – **5**

First Holy Communions – **149**

Confirmations – **29**

Marriages – **9**

Requiems and Funeral Services – **114**

Average Mass Attendance – **805**

Number of people receiving Holy Communion at home – **60**

Number of Catechists – **38**

Members of Catholic Associations – **34**

Safeguarding Team

'Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of every single person in our community.'

Safeguarding Lead for the Parish of St. Wilfrid's – Fr. Mark Moran

Safeguarding Reps – Pauline Ruth, Carol Murray and Pauline Rolt

Visitation Thanks!

Thank you to everyone who gave Archbishop John such a warm welcome on his two visits to our parish community. The Archbishop commented on how well our churches are looked after and cared for, how loved they are, and how this is evident as soon as you walk into our sacred spaces. So many people went above and beyond to ensure that +John felt truly welcome – thank you all.

I believe that +John saw us as we are: how we celebrate week by week, and how we strive to serve the Lord faithfully here in this corner of the Archdiocese of Liverpool. We are a wonderful community, doing our very best in His service.

God bless you all for your generosity of heart and your willingness to serve our community of faith!

Fr. Mark

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Holy Michael the Archangel,
defend us in this day of battle.

Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, Prince of the heavenly hosts,

by the power of God,
thrust down into hell Satan and all wicked spirits
who wander through the world
seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

Widnes Food Bank

Thank you to everyone who supported us during a very cold January. We are asking for your continued support in February to help those in our community who are in need. If you are able to donate food to us our current most needed items are below.

Corned Beef/Ham/Chicken, Litre Carton Juice, Tinned Spaghetti, Jam, Sponge Puddings, Crisps, Tinned Vegetables and Toiletries. Thank You.

Mass Intentions Received and celebrated outside of the Parish

Brian Brolly, Patricia Gurney, John Stevens, Mgr. Charles Glass, Private Intention, Margaret & Robert Spofforth, Peter Sunderland, Kathleen Burke, Denise Brown, Graham Cleary, Eleanor Wood, Brian Cordy, John Glover, Joan Moran, Annette Parker, Veronica Murray, John Totter, Bernadette O'Leary, Peter Woodward, Jean Mannion, Joan Little, Jean Mannion and Joyce Connolly.

Parish Choir

Our next practices, preparing for the Easter Liturgies, will be on **Tuesday 24th February, Tuesday 3rd March, Tuesday 10th March, Tuesday 17th March and Monday 23rd March**, all at 7pm in **St. Bede's Church**.

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or haven't been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally, it doesn't matter, you would be most welcome.

Sadly though, at this time, all members of the choir must be over 18 due to safeguarding guidance.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	8th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede Anthony Larson
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael Mary Rimmer
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede John and Ann Case
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede Parishioners
Monday	9th February	Week 5 in Ordinary Time
09.30	Holy Mass	St. Basil Brian Morris Ged Shepard
Tuesday	10th February	Memorial of St Scholastica
11.00	Requiem Mass	St Basil William Alan Moran
12.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede Anthony Birschel
Wednesday	11th February	Week 5 in Ordinary Time
10.00	Requiem Mass	St Bede Jean Ashworth-Stott
Thursday	12th February	Week 5 in Ordinary Time
12.00	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St. Michael
Friday	13th February	Week 5 in Ordinary Time
10.00	Funeral Service	St Basil Ann Jones
12.00	Funeral Service	St Bede John Murtha
Saturday	14th February	Vigil of Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil Parishioners
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher The McDonnell Family
Sunday	15th February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede Joan Moran
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael Barbara Kinsella
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede Joseph Glackin
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede John Glover

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intention.

St Bede:	Edith Fairhurst
St Basil:	Thanksgiving
St John Fisher:	Vocations to Priesthood
St Michael:	Special Intention

Rest in Peace

Geoffrey Jackson, Marie Power,
Veronica Davenport, Hilda Bennett,
Mary Hanratty, Marie Lynch
& Margaret Fillingham

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!