



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



25th August 2024

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Parish Office:

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Rev Fr Bill Murphy 0151 422 1772

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Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator

Deborah Kenna

Responsorial Psalm

'Taste and see that the Lord is good'

All is well!

Fr. Bill and I went to see Bishop John last Sunday afternoon and he is settling into his new home in sunny Ainsdale! He passes on his love and prayers to you all and to let you know that he is very happy! Fr. Thomas is making his final preparations for his departure for more studies in Leuven and he is excited about this new chapter of his priesthood unfolding. And this weekend we say a final farewell to Fr. Bill as he enters his retirement on 31st August – Fr. Bill will still be around as he will reside in the parish, and we wish him every blessing as he learns how to take things easier! Fr. Peter is moving into the presbytery at St. Bede, and I know he is excited about getting to know everyone and serving here as a priest.

All change, but all will be well!

As a community, we are used to change, we are used to listening, watching and adapting to the signs of the times in our church and in our community. This is one of our strengths and it should be seen as such. We look up and out, we do not stagnate by only looking down and in! We constantly look for new ways of building His kingdom here in this place and we are constantly reminded that we are all simply servants of His kingdom – we each have a part to play. Yet change can bring anxiety and fear, and a quotation I always find comforting is from Mother Julian of Norwich,

'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well'

Fr. Mark

Service to Commission Lay Leaders

A group of parishioners responded to an invitation to discern whether they could lead Services of the Word for their fellow parishioners in the months that lie ahead. Led by Dcn. Paul, they went away for days of study and discussion to understand the ministry within a parish setting.

They have completed their training and have already begun their ministry amongst us. Bless them! We ask your prayers for, Linda Mellor, Ann Kenwright, Elaine Davies, Wayne Murray, Frances Atherton, Andy West. On **Tuesday 3rd September at 7pm at St. John Fisher Church**, they will be commissioned by the whole parish, for their ministry is one of service to us all. You are encouraged to come and support them by attending this Service of Commissioning

Jubilee Club

Come and join a group of ladies who meet every Thursday in the Parish Hall at St. John Fisher, WA8 3JA. The Jubilee Club have talks, craft afternoons, bingo and share friendship! They meet at 1pm – 3.30pm. Come along, you will be made most welcome!

Fundraising Group

The work at St. Bede's Church is well under way and though the money is secure for the building and reordering work there will be lots that we could do if we had the money to do it? Stained Glass in the side windows? Stations of the Cross restored? These things rely on the generosity of you, the people of the parish. But could we think of new and engaging ways to raise money? Do you have any ideas? If you do and would like to become part of a small coordinating group to raise funds, then please pass your name and telephone number into the parish office and the Buildings and Finance Group will assemble the group to explain what we hope to have within the restoration of St. Bede's Church!

Upcoming Dates for the diary...

September always feels like a 'New Year' for me, the schools return, and we start planning for another year ahead...

Tuesday 3rd September at 10am at St. Bede's Presbytery – Buildings and Finance Meeting

Saturday 7th September at 10am at St. Bede's Church – Mass for the Bereaved

Tuesday 10th September at 12.30pm at St. Bede's Presbytery – Social Group Meeting

Saturday 21st September at 10am at Guild Hall – Deanery Synodal Council

Tuesday 24th September at 10am at St. Bede's Presbytery – Second

Site Meeting in relation to the restoration of St. Bede's Church

Tuesday 24th September at 7.30pm at St. Bede's Presbytery – Liturgy Group Meeting

Could all members of these groups make a note of these times and dates and thank you for serving as members of these groups for the good of our whole community.

YCA Co-ordinator for the York Weekend 2024

During the weekend of the 26th-27th October 2024, Young Catholic Adults and the Traditional English Association of Catholic History will be organising a pilgrimage to Catholic York, including a visit to, St. Margaret Clitherow's Shrine, the Bar Convent and St. Mary's Bishophill – the oldest Church in York. This event is aimed at Young Catholic Adults and Catholics interested in history.

For details of how to book onto this free weekend and for more info see:-

<https://bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-yorkpilgrimage2024>

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	25th August	Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Paul Gandy
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Elizabeth Geraghty & Patrica Mary King
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Paul Mercer
Monday	26th August	Memorial of Blessed Dominic Barberi	
09.30	Service of the Word with Holy Communion	St Basil	
Tuesday	27th August	Memorial of St Monica	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12 noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Natividad Nitvan
12.30	Requiem	Holy Family	Winifred Conway
Wednesday	28th August	Memorial of St Augustine	
12 noon	Requiem	St Michael	Ursula Connolly
Thursday	29th August	Memorial of the Passion of St John the Baptist	
12 noon	Requiem	St Michael	Patricia Platt
Friday	30th August	Memorial of St Edmund Arrowsmith	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	David Dwyer
Saturday	31st August	Ferial	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Kathleen & Bernard Buckle
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Mary Stevenson
Sunday	1st September	Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Eileen Lee
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Alice McLarney
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Private Intention
16.00	Holy Mass	St. Bede	Parishioners

- Please note where Mass is each day, as until we know the state of play with the restoration, we will not be having Mass at St. Bede during the week.

Requiescant in pace

Brian Morris
&
Holy Souls in Purgatory

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Benjamin Rudge
St Basil	Frances Jean Miller
St John Fisher	Fr. Bill
St Michael	Private Intention

Appeal for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

We need more Eucharistic Ministers. We need more ministers to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound and we need more ministers to serve at Holy Mass, offering the Body and Blood of Jesus to our fellow parishioners.

We are literally at capacity, any new requests for Holy Communion at home will have to be placed on a waiting list as we have no one to offer them the sacrament at home. To be clear, Holy Communion can be taken to the sick on any day and the sick are so grateful to receive Jesus and know that they are not forgotten by the community. In October, Fr. Peter will begin to celebrate Mass in the nursing homes in the parish and will offer the Sacrament of the Sick to those who require it. Also Fr. Mark and Fr. Peter cover Whiston Hospital overnight to offer spiritual comfort to the dying and the bereaved.

Could you help? Yes, you, not the person sitting next to you!

Could you volunteer for this wonderful ministry in our community?

If you would like to know the commitment that is required for either role, please pass your name and telephone number into the Parish Office and Pauline Rolt will contact you. All necessary safeguarding procedures will be followed before your appointment is made as a minister and training will be given. Please think about it.

Fr. Mark

Parish Choir

Everyone is always very welcome to come and sing in the Parish Choir. 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.

Our next gatherings are on Monday 2nd September, Tuesday 1st October, Monday 4th November and Tuesday 3rd December, all at 7pm in **St John Fisher Church**.

Please note the change of venue, due to the continuing renovation work at St. Bede's Church.

R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Would you like to become a Roman Catholic?

Would you like to know more about your faith and have the time to talk to others about big questions?

The RCIA programme is a discerning programme for adults who wish to learn more, and after a time of prayer and contemplation, may wish to become Roman Catholics. The programme runs from late September till May and requires a weekly commitment.

If you would like to know more, please leave your contact details at the Parish Office and Pauline Rolt will contact you.