# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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





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### Parish Clergy:

Rev Fr Mark Moran (PP, Moderator)	0151 513 0024
Rev Fr Thomas Clarke	0151 424 6641
Rev Fr Bill Murphy	0151 495 1854
Rt Rev Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 2738
Rev Deacon Paul Rooney	0151 422 1772

### **Responsorial Psalm**

R. With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

# Medjugorje Pilgrimage - Day 2

Up early our first morning at 5am we walked through the mist covered fields, a twenty-minute walk, accompanied by the dawn chorus for our climb up Apparition Hill where Our Lady on her second visit had appeared to the young visionaries. I can tell you from personal experience that it's not an exercise for the faint hearted. I climbed the hill only once and that was on my first visit to Medjugorje in 2003. But after hip operations etc. I am unable to keep my balance on those jagged and rough stones. Those who made the climb were rewarded with a breathtaking panoramic view of the whole of Medjugorje while sitting under a large white statue of Our Lady, as they said the mysteries of the rosary. Those of us who couldn't make the climb sat at the Blue Cross instead. This is where Our Lady first appeared to the young people in 1981. We spent our time praying for all those at home who we promised to pray for while waiting for the group who went up Apparition Hill to return before making our journey back through the fields to our hotel for a hearty breakfast at 8am.

Every morning, except Sunday, Mass is celebrated in English at 10am in the church of St James in the domain which lasts just under the hour. No sooner has Mass finished when another nationality is outside ready to take our place. At our Mass some twenty-five plus priests Concelebrated coming from most of the English-speaking world from as far away as Australia.

After Mass a representative from Joe Walsh gathered us together to explain the programme for the week. For example, the evening meal is always at 4pm.

All the priests visiting Medjugorje are invited to make themselves available to hear confessions which begin at 5pm and sometimes going on until 8 pm, a great spiritual experience with penitence coming back to the sacraments after 5, 10, 20, 30 years. At 5.45pm the church bells ring to call all to prayer, 6 pm is the national Croatian Mass which is celebrated at the outdoor altar to accommodate the large crowds who come to Medjugorje every day. This has to be experienced to be believed. Imagine in your mind's eye a large semicircle of park benches, row after row to accommodate up to five thousand pilgrims.

To be continued.... Fr Bill

### Quarant'ore thanks

Thank you to all who came to adore Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament during our 40 hours of prayer – I am sure that the blessings for our parish as we face in this time of transition and change will be abundant. A massive thank you to Carol Murray and Theresa McCann who worked so hard in arranging the flowers and making the altars in our church look so beautiful. A real act of praise! To the sacristans and the musicians and singers, always enhancing the liturgy – thank you!

Quarant'ore, always reminds me that in all our activity and work, our primary focus must always be Jesus – it is His kingdom that we are building, His work that must be done and we are all simply servants of His mission.

Fr Mark

# **Bless The Lord My Soul**

# 11th June at St Basil's Church 7pm

You are invited to our Taizé service. Come to experience the beauty of meditative prayer and peace through music, song and silence. We look forward to welcoming you.

#### Thank You

Thank you to all the parishioners at St Wilfrid's for your generous support for CAFOD this year and for your latest donation of £703.30.

Thank you so much for being there for our global family.

# **Lay Leadership Formation**

An educated, engaged and empowered laity is required by the Church to advance its mission in the world. On Saturday 25th May we brought together a group of parishioners for the first of three days to form them as Lay Leaders for Celebrations of the Word and Communion. The participants were led by Deacon Paul in the beautiful setting of the Ince Benet Retreat Centre, Crosby.

Following a period of prayer, music and meditation, the first day started with topics such as the changing times in the Church, the need for the faithful to understand and to respond to challenges, an exploration of the Hebrew tradition that Jesus lived, how our celebration of the Eucharist has developed and what it means to us today. The afternoon session examined the early Christian practices, the development and structure of our Mass and the nature of the Eucharistic prayers used today.

The wonderful participants enjoyed the day (especially the lunch) but agreed that they were challenged with this material. Good! This was the intention so that we may benefit from theologically literate Lay Leaders in our thriving parish. Two more formation days to follow.

We pray and thank God for those who are preparing to serve our community as Lay Leaders

### **Deanery Synodal Council**

Next Tuesday the Deanery Synodal Council will meet at St. Joseph's in Penketh for their next meeting. The representatives from each parish within the deanery meet to discuss how we can continue in our journey as a deanery and as families of parishes in a synodal way.

The reps for St. Wilfrid's Parish are, Denise Roberts, Pauline Rolt, Peter McCann and Susan Warburton.

Clergy Reps: Dcn. Paul Rooney and Fr. Mark Moran.

Please pray for the DSC, it is the responsibility of us all to be open to the call of Pope Francis, to become a Synodal Church that is open to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

### Requiescant in pace

Martin Clifford, Harry Davies, Peter Farrell, Marie Boden, George Yearsley, Linda Stafford, Eileen Lee, Eileen Fox & Mary Sadler

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

# **Sanctuary Lamp**

*The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.* 

St Bede Mary Florence Reid

St MichaelMary DaviesSt John FisherThanksgivingSt BasilSpecial Intention

#### **Ordination Invitation**

Rev Peter Ross, who, after his ordination to the Sacred Priesthood will join Fr. Mark as his assistant on 1<sup>st</sup> September has invited 48 people from St Wilfrid's Parish, to join him at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King to witness his ordination. Rev Peter will be ordained with three other men, Rev James Finnegan, Rev Martin Fyles and Rev Lister Tonge – all being ordained for the Archdiocese of Liverpool. What a wonderful day for the Church in Liverpool!

Itinerary Saturday 13th July

10.30am Coach to leave St Bede's Church

12noon Ordination Mass2pm Leave Cathedral

3pm Arrive at St. Bede's Church

If you would like to attend the ordination, please pass your name and telephone number into the Parish Office as soon as possible. The cost of the coach will be £5 per person but we will collect that on the day, do not pass the offering into the office.

# **Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood**

Almighty and eternal God,
in your unfailing love you provide
ministers for your Church.
We pray for those whom you call
to serve the Church in the Archdiocese of Liverpool
as priests

Inspire in them a generous response.

Grant them courage and vision to serve your people

May their lives and service call your people to respond to the presence of your Spirit among us that, faithful to the Gospel and hope of Jesus the Christ, we may: announce glad tidings to the poor proclaim liberty to captives, set prisoners free and renew the face of the earth.

Please think about saying this prayer daily, that other young men may hear the call and respond generously to the call from the Lord to serve as priests within the Archdiocese of Liverpool.

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Sunday	9th June	Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time			
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Terence Morton		
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Sarah Loftus		
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret & Eddie Burke		
16.00	Holy Mass	Holy Family	HF Parishioners		
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Monday	10 <sup>th</sup> June	Ferial			
09.00	Exposition and Morning	•			
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil Hewitt Family			
Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup> June	Memorial of St Barnabas,	Apostle		
12 noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede Eileen Blood			
19.00	Taizé Prayer Service	St Basil			
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Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup> June	Ferial			
11.30	Exposition and Morning	Prayer			
12 noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Fr Tony Reynolds		
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Thursday	13th June Memorial of St Anthony of Padua, Priest, Doctor				
12 noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Clair Rainford		
12 noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Mary Patricia Stott		
Friday	14th June	Ferial			
09.00	Exposition and Morning	Prayer			
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Maureen Shakeshaft		
12 noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede	David Tirrell		
13.00	Requiem Mass	St Michael	John Murphy		
Saturday	15th June	Ferial			
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Jean Murphy		
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Dcn John Williams		
Sunday	16th June	Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time			
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Hayden Bradley		
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Louise Hudson		
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Shelagh Smith		
16.00	Holy Mass	Holy Family	HF Parishioners		
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