



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



24th November 2024

**Thirty Fourth Sunday in
Ordinary Time (B)**

**Second Collection for:
Animate Youth**

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Psalm Response

'The Lord is King, with majesty enrobed'.

For the times they are a-changin'

It's that famous song by Bob Dylan and, indeed, *'the times they are a-changin''*. Time and change are inseparable and the nature of change is that it is constant and ever-occurring. Change is natural. It's been happening since the beginning of time and is always happening, even when we don't notice it. Time and change are linked. Change takes time. Changes are located in time and are separated by time. When we think about these things we can better understand our lives and life experiences.

For example, recently the weather has become noticeably colder with snow and ice. This means digging out our woolly jumpers and turning on/up the heating at home. But it won't be that long before the weather starts to warm and we welcome Spring. The seasons change in a natural cycle, and this is natural and predictable.

Our church operates on a three-year cycle of readings. Each year in this cycle the readings change. Each one is different. Now we are approaching the start of Advent on Sunday 1st December. This marks the end of one church year and the start of a new one. It also the time when we will start to use a new Lectionary at all Masses.

The Lectionary, which is the book that contains the Scripture readings for Mass and the Sacraments, is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. The process began with the Roman Missal (the big red book that the priest uses at the altar) in 2011 and has continued with all the other liturgical texts. The new Lectionary, and therefore the readings, psalms and Gospel you will experience at Mass, will use new translations from this first Sunday of Advent.

The changes are intended to make the biblical translations more faithful to the original languages, biblical scholarship, and to provide a text for use in liturgical setting that is more proclaimable and, where appropriate, more inclusive. This is an important change for us all and it has taken a long time to arrive.

In all of our churches you will find leaflets explaining what the new Lectionary is, why we have it and answering common questions about what this means for the faithful. This change is an exciting chance for us all to engage more fully and deeply with Scripture. Truly, *'the times they are a-changin''*.

Deacon Paul Rooney

Walsingham Pilgrimage

For all those joining us on this year's pilgrimage please note that the coach will leave St Bede's on Thursday 28th November at **8am** prompt. We need to avoid the school traffic! Our lunch stop will be at Newark and although there are many cafes etc. it may be advisable to take a sandwich and just buy a drink in Newark because the service in the cafes can be slow. Don't forget to take your Christmas jumper (if you have one) as we have our Christmas meal the evening we arrive.

If you would like Fr. Mark to take a petition for you to the Slipper Chapel or light a candle for you at the shrine, please pass them into the Parish Office before we go!

Our Lady of Walsingham – pray for us!

Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday is a day for the world to recognise and celebrate young people in our local church communities, whether that be through school, at home, or of course church.

To highlight all that young people, do, and what we offer young people across the diocese, we are holding a time of prayer at **Lowe House, North Rd, St Helens, WA10 2BE on 24th November at 5pm**, with social time to follow. Please do come along. The service is for everyone and is a chance to pray for, and celebrate, young people in the church. In order for us to continue to work with young people the second collection next week goes to support the ongoing work of Youth Ministry here in the diocese. Even in these difficult times any contributions you can give would be most welcomed.

Fr Simon Gore

Recommissioning of all Eucharistic Ministers

At all Masses this weekend after the homily all those who serve as Eucharistic Ministers will be called forth to rededicate themselves once more as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

This wonderful ministry should never be taken for granted and this commissioning affirms and challenges our ministers in their role; please pray for all those who serve in this way in our parish community. May God bless you all!

U.C.M. Christmas Bingo

Monday 25th November. St John Fisher Hall

Please join us. Only £1.00 admission, which includes cup of tea or coffee & mince pie. Doors open 1.00pm. Bingo starts 1.30pm. All monies will go to local charities.

We hope to see you there.

The Gospel of St Luke

Thank you to all who attended Sr. Louise Swanston talk on Luke, the Gospel of Prayer. It was lovely to see so many of you there, especially given the bad weather. Our next talk is on 27th November at 19.00 in St John Fisher Church, is "Luke, the Christmas Gospel", given by , Fr Derek Lloyd, followed by Benediction at 20.00. Please join us, all are very welcome!

You will remember Fr. Derek who was on placement here when he was preparing for ordination – welcome back to St. Wilfrid's Fr. Derek!

Would you like to be part of our Parish History and sponsor a slate?

We are delighted to announce a unique opportunity for parishioners to support the renovation of St Bede's church and at the same time be a part of the history of this fine building. The re-slating of the roof is now well underway! Any parishioner can help by sponsoring their own individual slate.

The scheme will enable parishioners to remember loved ones or family members by having their name written on the slates that will be returned to the roof of St Bede's.

There are two options.

One is to have a family name written on the slate, for example:

The Smith Family

Alternatively, it could be the name of a person or persons (maximum 2 names)

John Smith

or

John and Mary Smith

The suggested donation for a slate is £30.

If you would like to take part in this unique project, which will have your loved ones remembered for the next century, then please print their names on a piece of paper and drop them off at the parish office in an envelope with your donation marked for the attention of **Peter McCann**.

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

Our next practice is on **Tuesday 3rd December at 7pm in St John Fisher Church**

End of Life Bill Petition

At the back of all our churches are petitions for you to sign. These are a response to the Catholic Bishops of England, Wales and Scotland and their plea for us to take action to defend life. Please take time to sign the petition, please don't walk by. You have a right to have your voice heard. The petitions will then be sent to our MP Derek Twigg.

St Wilfrid's Altar Servers Group – First Social

As part of a wider initiative across the parish to celebrate and re-vitalise 'lay-ministry', we are delighted to announce the founding of the 'St Wilfrid's Altar Servers Group'! We are marking this significant moment in the life of our parish with a celebratory Pizza Night at St Bede's Presbytery on Monday 2nd of December at 6pm. The event will only be open to those presently Altar Serving in the parish. All servers under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Please register your attendance and any special dietary needs with the Parish Office in good time. Thank you for your ministry! Fr. Peter and Rev. Paul.

Sr. Eileen Moore R.I.P.

Last Wednesday, we received the news that Sr. Eileen, of the Sisters of St. Clare, died peacefully back home in Ireland. Sister is fondly remembered for her pastoral work in the former parish of St John Fisher. Her funeral will take place on Friday 29th of November at 11am and will not be live-streamed. As parishioners of St. Wilfrid, we can join our prayers with those present at her funeral at 11am, together in the love of God; however, there will be a Memorial Mass for Sr. Eileen in **St George's Maghull at 9.30am on Monday 25th** Please pray for the repose of Sr. Eileen's soul and for the consolation of her loved ones.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	24th November	Solemnity of Christ the King	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Michael & Winifred Butler
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Eileen Irving
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Anne Henegan
Monday	25th November	Ferial	
11.30	Requiem Mass	St Basil	Winefred McGrath
Tuesday	26th November	Ferial	
11.30	Exposition & Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Jim & Mary Bebbington
Wednesday	27th November	Ferial	
10.30	Holy Mass	Madeleine McKenna Court Care Home	Residents of Nursing Homes
12noon	Requiem Mass	St Michael	James John McCann
Thursday	28th November	NO MASS	
Friday	29th November	Ferial	
19.00	Deanery Mass	St Stephen's, Orford	
Saturday	30th November	Feast Day of St Andrew the Apostle	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Fr George Malaki
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Barbara Flanagan
Sunday	1st December	1st Sunday of Advent (C)	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	George O'Grady
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Jessica Duffy
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Marek Skutnik

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Healing & Courage
St Basil	Sr. Eileen Moore
St John Fisher	Barry & Ann Mullard
St Michael	Special Intention

Requiescant in pace

Sr Eileen Moore,
Donna Bewley-Smith,
Willow McNulty,
Michael Bennett & Richard Topping

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!