



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

19th January 2025

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Psalm Response

'Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples'

2025 is a Jubilee Year

My newsletter reflections over the last couple of weeks have focused on change and looking forward during the month of January. By the time this newsletter reaches you we will have had 'Quitters Day', the day when most people give up on their New Year resolutions. It is estimated that 88% of people give up upon their resolutions before the end of January.

But please, keep up your hope! After all, for us Catholics this is a special year, a Jubilee Year, a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation. It's a fantastic prospect. It's a whole year in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

A 'Jubilee' is often used to refer to the celebration of a particular anniversary of an event, usually denoting the 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, and the 70th anniversary. Think of wedding anniversaries. The term comes from the Hebrew Bible, initially concerning a recurring religious observance involving a set number of years. This typically involved freeing of debt slaves. I doubt we can do this in Widnes!

In our Roman Catholic tradition, a Jubilee Year is traditionally proclaimed by the Universal Church every 25 years. It is a particular year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of others, and to renew a focus on the spiritual life.

How exciting! Let's look forward to 2025 and make the most of this Jubilee Year!

Deacon Paul

Parish Heritage Display

On Saturday 11th January the Parish Heritage Display was officially Blessed and opened at St. Michaels church. Parishioners who braved the cold were able to view some incredible artefacts relating to our Catholic Heritage. Amongst almost 100 objects on display were.

16th Century vestments, recusant chalices, Bishop Johns crozier and cassock, Bishop Tom Williams pectoral cross given to him by Pope John Paul II, Bishop Tom Neylon's mitre used at his ordination, scared altar stones from some of our former churches. The biretta donated by His Excellency the Apostolic Nuncio which he wore at the coronation of King Charles III and many more interesting things. Come and have a look!

It is hoped that shortly a book will be placed in each of our churches with pictures and details of the display.

Thank You's

Dear Fr. Mark and Parishioners of St. Wilfrid,

Please send our sincere thanks to the parishioners for the generous Advent donation. With the introduction of the Prayer and Liturgy Directory '*To Love You More Dearly*', we intend to purchase new bibles with the money. We will create a label for the inside cover to state that the bibles have been gifted to the children at St Bede's Catholic Junior School from the parishioners of St. Wilfrid. We hope that they are used for many years to come.

With love and thanks,

The House Captains and Miss Housley (was Tiernan).

Thank you to Father Mark and the Parish of St. Wilfrid for the very generous and much valued donation of £275 from the Advent Fundraising.

We are so appreciative. This money will go towards RE resources and will support the enhancement of the environment and delivery of RE. St Basil's Infant School.

Widnes Food Bank

Happy New Year! Thank you to everyone who supported us over the festive season. With this icy cold weather. It is going to be difficult for many in our community. If you can donate food to us, our most needed items are:

Jam, Long life orange juice carton, Coffee, Rice, Biscuits, Tinned fruit & Tinned meat.

Please leave any items at the back of church and the sacristans and volunteers will bring it to the food bank at St. Bede's.

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 28th January at 7pm** in St John Fisher Church.

St. Basil's Music Ministry - Please join us in the preparing music for Lent to be sung at St. Basil's on **Tuesday 28th Jan, 11th Feb and 25th Feb - 6.30pm to 8.30pm** in St. Basil's Church. All welcome.

Archdiocesan Celebration of the Miraculous Cure of Jack Traynor

Following the announcement in December of the miraculous cure of John (Jack) Traynor, the Archdiocese of Liverpool will be celebrating this historic moment with Mass followed by a drink's reception at the **Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Tuesday 18th February at 7pm.**

We are hoping to offer a coach to take us to the Cathedral for this historic event, the coach will leave St. Bede at approx. 5.45pm and return after the drink's reception. There may be a cost towards the coach, but it will be kept to a minimum.

As this parish has a deep devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes it would be good to be well represented at this wonderful Mass.

If you would like to come, **please pass your name and telephone number** into the Parish Office asap. Once we have an idea of numbers we shall move forward.

Sacramental Programme 2025

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Parents Meetings

To enroll your child onto the Parish Programme you need to attend the following meeting. The Sacramental Programme is for children who are in Year 4 and have been baptised as Roman Catholic.

Sunday 26th January

Non-Catholic School – 10.15am Mass and Enrolment after Mass in **St. Michael's Church.**

Tuesday 28th January

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour RC Primary School – **9.15am in OLPS School Hall**

St. Gerard's RC Primary School – 9.15am in **St. Gerard's School**

St. Basil's RC Primary School – 2.30pm in **St. Basil's Church**

St. John Fisher RC Primary School – 2.30pm in **St. John Fisher Church**

Wednesday 29th January

St. Michael's RC Primary School – 2.30pm in **St. Michael's School Hall**

St. Bede's RC Primary School – 2.30pm in **St. Bede's School Hall**

Deanery of Warrington and Widnes Mass

On **Friday 31st January at 12 noon** at St. John Fisher Church we welcome the people and priests of the deanery to our parish. The Mass is the ideal place to gather to pray for the deanery as we face the future together. Please make a note of this date in your diary and make a special effort to attend Mass this day. It is so important to be supported in our journey of faith as we travel the synodal way.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of the community. Any safeguarding concerns must be reported immediately.

Safeguarding Lead – Fr. Mark

Safeguarding Reps – Pauline Ruth, Carol Murray and Pauline Rolt.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	19th January	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Nancy Prendergast
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Richards
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Christina Kenny
Monday	20th January	Ferial	
9.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer		
9.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Thomas & Mary Burke
Tuesday	21st January	Memorial of St Agnes	
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	John McDermott
Wednesday	22nd January	Ferial	
12noon	Funeral Service	St Michael	John (Faz) Parker
Thursday	23rd January	Ferial	
11.00	Funeral Service	St Basil	David Abbott
11.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Madeline & Sean Woods
Friday	24th January	Memorial of St Francis de Sales	
9.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer		
9.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Cheryl Bradley
Saturday	25th January	Feast of the Conversion of St Paul the Apostle	
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Archie Burgess
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Teresa Alderton
Sunday	26th January	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret & Ted Riley
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Brian Quinn
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tracey McNamara

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Sylvia & Denis Moran
St Basil:	Jim Norris
St John Fisher:	Thanksgiving
St Michael:	Rene Power

Requiescant in pace

Kian Rose, Maureen Richardson,
Brendan Coffey, Esme Barron, Terrence Bonnon,
Susan Laveric, John Mullarkey & Peter Higgins

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!