



Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Times (Year C)

2nd Collection for SVP

16th February 2025

Parish Office:

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Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

Administrator:

Deborah Kenna

Psalm Response

'Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord'

A place of healing...

I write this reflection on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. I first went to Lourdes when I was 14 and it was a place that stirred the beginning of my vocation to the priesthood. It was that sense of 'Church' being a place of love, healing and mercy, that feeling of 'togetherness' and being a pilgrim towards God that stirred my soul. Lourdes will always hold very special place in my heart.

I remember as a teenager, being told by Fr. Tom Leigh the importance of taking Lourdes home with us in our hearts. That we must be missionaries of Lourdes and take what we have experienced there to our school, to our family and friends and to all who we meet. I have never forgotten that. So, whenever I go on pilgrimage, I try to bring a piece of that place home with me! To share what I have experienced with others.

Lourdes is a place of healing, a place where people experience the healing touch of God, in their minds, in their hearts and in their bodies. Above all, I think, Lourdes reminds people that they are not alone. It allows people to realise that we are all fellow travelers on this path towards God. We all need to know this, we all need to experience that truth, that we are not alone, that we walk together and this is a message that needs to be heard and shared.

The healing in Lourdes is offered everywhere, not just in Lourdes or others places of pilgrimage! That touch of the Lord to raise our hearts, minds and bodies to Him is there to be taken – we simply need to ask, and He will be there!

May Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for us on this special feast and may St. Bernadette inspire us to be witnesses of what we experience of God each and every day!

Fr. Mark

Sacrament of Confirmation

Are you in Year 8 or above and would like to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation later this year? You need to register at liverpoolcalled.co.uk. Please remember to note on the registration form that you are a member of the Parish of St. Wilfrid in **Widnes**. Any queries please see **Fr. Peter**.

St Wilfrid's Pastoral Statistics 2024

Each year every parish in the Archdiocese must report the statistics of their individual parish so that the central offices can have a picture of Catholic life across the Archdiocese. These figures are then sent onwards and upwards to Rome. I thought it would be interesting for you all to see them.

Baptisms – 156

First Holy Communion – 118 (number amended)

Confirmations – 20

Marriages – 6

Funerals – 112 (*not including Services at the Crematorium or Burial of Ashes*)

Communion at Home – 68

Sunday Mass Attendance – Average 793

Aged 18-35?

Are you aged 18-35? Do you want to grow in faith? Would you like to meet other young catholics? If it's a 'yes, yes, yes', then come and be part of our new 18-35's group! You are invited to an initial 'vision meeting' on **Sunday 2nd of March at St. Bede's Presbytery (6pm - 8pm)**, to spend some time in prayer, share refreshments and decide on what we want to do. So, get thinking! Speaking personally, I know that being young and catholic can feel isolating. But here in Widnes, there is no reason to feel isolated, as there are, in fact, many of us young parishioners scattered across the town. So come along! I'll be there. You never know, it might be the best thing you ever do...

Fr Peter

LGBT+ Catholics , Archdiocese of Liverpool

The next gathering will be held on **Sunday 2nd March 2025** at All Saints, High Street, Golborne, Warrington, WA3 3BG. Holy Mass at 2.00pm followed by refreshments. All are welcome to attend.

Widnes Catholic Children's Choir

Calling all children in years 2-8 to join this exciting new **FREE** musical opportunity here in Widnes. The choir will rehearse weekly on a Monday, 4-5pm at St John Fisher Parish Hall, launching on March 3rd! To find out more visit <http://eepurl.com/i8AkqA>

Cancelation

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, Women's World Day of Prayer on 7th March will not take place in Widnes this year

Safeguarding

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

Safeguarding Lead – Fr. Mark

Safeguarding Reps – Pauline Ruth, Carol Murray and Pauline Rolt

Sunday Missals for Sale

Since the new translation of the readings we hear on Sunday have changed, some people have asked me to get copies of the new Sunday Missal so that they can follow the readings at Mass. Your wish is my command! They are for sale at the Parish Office, and they cost £20.

Jack Traynor Mass – Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King

If you are coming to the Cathedral on **Tuesday 18th February** for the Mass the celebrate the announcement of the miracle of Jack Traynor, please arrive in good time as the coach will be leaving outside St. Bede's Church at **5.45pm**. After the Mass there will be a simple reception in the Crypt Hall and then we shall return to St. Bede!

Our Lady of Lourdes – pray for us! St. Bernadette – pray for us!

Parish Heritage Display

The parish heritage display at St Michaels church has over 100 artefacts covering the story of the faith here in Widnes. To accompany the exhibition, and for all those parishioners who would like to see it but cannot get to St Michaels, a book of pictures together with an explanation of each exhibit has been produced. This book will be at St John Fishers church for the next two weeks. After that it will be at St Basils and then St Bede's. A copy will also be kept permanently at St Michaels for those viewing the exhibition.

Sponsor a Slate

A huge thank you to all the parishioners who took the opportunity of supporting the parish and remembering loved ones by sponsoring a slate. The slates are now being placed on the roof of the sanctuary and hopefully will be there for the next 100 years or more. Delighted to report that the initiative raised over £3,000 in donations. Thanks again for your generosity and support.

Pilgrimage to Knock 2025

We are thinking of going on pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine in Knock from **Tuesday 14th October** till **Friday 17th October**. We will be staying at the Knock House Hotel, for 3 nights, bed, breakfast and evening meal. We shall be flying from Liverpool Airport. Cost is £550 for a twin room and £640 for a single room. We need to know if there is any interest in this pilgrimage. If you would like to come, can you let Susan Warburton know asap, by either speaking to her or by passing your name and telephone number into the Parish Office so that we can secure the rooms in the hotel.

Making Your Wishes Known

The one certainty we have in life is that we shall all die! Yet for those who have the gift of faith, death is not the end it is simply a new beginning in God. However, what happens when we have died is very important, what we want to happen needs to be known to our nearest and dearest now before it is too late!

Please write down that you would like a Requiem Mass, what hymns you would like to be sung etc. Basically, let your next of kin know what **YOU** want and let them know where you have left your instructions. We write this because sadly some people do not make their wishes clearly known and families, overwhelmed with grief, often make choices that are not appropriate to the person who has died.

“In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, but they are in peace!”

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	16th February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Times	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	David Hindle
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Linda Garvie
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	James Edwards
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Mason
Monday	17th February	Ferial	
12noon	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Susan Mary Laveric
Tuesday	18th February	Ferial	
12noon	Requiem Mass	St. John Fisher	Gerald Joseph Carroll
Wednesday	19th February	Ferial	
13.00	Requiem Mass	St Michael	Mary Glover
Thursday	20th February	Ferial	
11.30	Exposition & Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Basil	George Roberts Elizabeth Doris Syze
Friday	21st February	Ferial	
11.00	Requiem Mass	St Basil	Francis Carolan
Saturday	22nd February		
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	John Pattison
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	John Ernest Leigh
Sunday	16th February	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Times	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Magaret (Peggy) Heaton
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	James Bebbington
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Martin Wynne

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede:	Fr Tony Reynolds
St Basil:	Vocations to the Priesthood
St John Fisher	Sick and Housebound
St Michael:	Joan & Arthur Wilcox

Requiescant in pace

Ann Layland, Terence O'Brien, Marie Sheridan,
Elisabeth Campbell, Robert Mason, Jean Magee,
Cecilia Morris, Ann Carney & Kathleen Yates.

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!