

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

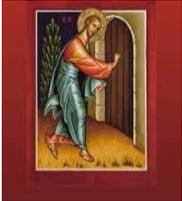
19th March 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Year A

“Listen!
I am standing
at the door
knocking.”

Rev 3:20



Clergy Team

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Psalm - Please join in the response:

'The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want'.

The Way of Trust and Love...

A dear priest friend of mine bought me a book to encourage my spiritual reading during Lent, I need lots of encouragement! It is called 'The Way to Trust and Love' by Fr. Jacques Philippe. It is a retreat in a book and thankfully for me, it is simple, straightforward, and easy to read.

Each day the book navigates excerpts of St. Therese of the Child Jesus' writings phrase by phrase, extracting powerful insights to live in everyday life. St. Therese's 'Little Way' is famous, in the little things, in small actions of kindness and love, in a smile, in encouragement, in the hidden acts – God can and is glorified!

Some people are called to do magnificent and outstanding things for God, yet most of us, if not all of us, can and are called to do the small things well for Him.

St. Therese, believed that if God had given her the desire for holiness, then He intended for her to achieve it. We are all called to holiness, and we manifest that holiness often in the little things and ways. She learned to humbly accept herself as she was and trust that God's love was so great that it would call her on to a deeper love and a deeper openness to Him and His will.

St. Therese of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face – pray for us!

Fr. Mark

BUY A LILY FOR EASTER



We want the altars in all our churches to look as beautiful as possible to celebrate the greatest feast of the Church's year. Lilies are associated with Easter, a symbol of new life and resurrection.

If you could buy a lily in memory of a loved one at a cost of £5, then please pass the name that you would like to be remembered into the parish office. All names will be displayed in all the churches for all donations made. God bless you for your generosity, please mark your envelope 'EASTER FLOWERS'.

CAR PARK

Please use every courtesy and kindness when you are using the church car park. We should only ever use kind words and actions in every part of our lives, especially when we are coming to Mass!

LENTEN JOURNEY...

Monday, 7pm at St. John Fisher Hall – Sr. Maria

Tuesday, 11.15am at St. Bede – Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, 7am at St. Bede – Early Riser Mass

Wednesday, 7.30pm at St. Bede Presbytery –

Scripture Group

Friday, 1pm at St. Basil's – Stations of the Cross

Please come walk with Him!

CHRISM MASS Wednesday 5th April

The Chrism Mass is a highlight of Holy Week, the Archbishop with the Priests, Deacons & Faithful from all over the diocese, gather in the cathedral for the consecration of the Holy Oils that will be used in the parishes of the diocese for baptisms, confirmations, anointing of the sick and ordinations to the priesthood during the next 12 months. It is a very special occasion.

A coach will leave St. Bede's Church at 6pm and if you would like to book a place on the bus, please pop your name and telephone number into the Parish Office with an offering of £5 towards the cost of the coach marked 'CHRISM MASS'. We should arrive home around 9.30pm.

If you have never been to the Chrism Mass before, please think of coming and experiencing this once-a-year event in our beautiful Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King!

Thank you is not enough...

Every day it is privilege to be a part of the parish of St. Wilfrid but walking into St. Michael's Church over the past week has made my heart burst with pride. To see parishioners, old and young working together, washing, sandpapering, painting, and cleaning to make the church look beautiful was a sight to behold! Church in Action! Love in Action! Community in Action! So, there is no other word, but

THANK YOU!

Sr. Maria Natella, O.P.

Lenten Talk

This Monday, 20th March at 7pm at St. John Fisher Parish Hall there will be a Lenten talk/reflection given by the Sr. Maria, a Dominican Sister of the Signadou. Her charism is to share the fruits of her prayer and contemplation with others; so, we are blessed that she is coming to share with us!

Please come along on Monday evening and be strengthened and encouraged in your Lenten journey.

Gift of Life for Zambia

Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful supporters in St. Wilfrid's Parish, we were able to send £2,500 to Sister Mary at St. Francis Care Programme. Sister responded, "Thank you very much for your generous donation towards our work here. May the good Lord continue blessing you all. We are busy with our patients, orphans, and income generating activities. We are having good rains this year, so we expect a good harvest. Please give my love to all our friends and wishing you all a prayerful Lent."

GRAND EASTER RAFFLE

Please take as many books of raffle tickets that as possible to sell to your family and friends. The prizes will be amazing as usual, and all the proceeds of the raffle will go towards the upkeep of all our churches here in Widnes! Tickets are available the back of Church, please return them to the Parish Office. Raffle will be drawn at Mass on Easter Sunday!

Good luck!

How does the Neocatechumenal Way enrich the church?

There are many ways the Neocatechumenal Way enriches the church. The primary enrichment, of course, is the depth of understanding members have of their own baptism and how that helps them to relate to those around them, both in the church and outside.

Missionary communities

In the UK, over 40 communities of about 30 - 40 people live their faith weekly in the form of Eucharist, Liturgy of the Word, and monthly days of communion. In addition, some parts of the country, namely Manchester and Portsmouth, have welcomed Missio Ad Gentes [Latin for Mission toward All People]. These small communities, made up of missionary families, single men and women, and an itinerant priest, are formed in areas where Catholic churches have closed. Their life involves a life of prayer, the celebration of Mass and the sacraments, a pledge to live as Christians, and thus bearing witness to neighbours, workmates, and school friends. In this way, over many years, they will become the living body of the church.

Redemptoris Mater Seminary, London

After over twenty years of cooperation between the Neocatechumenal Way and the Westminster Diocesan Seminary at Allen Hall, in 2013, alongside Kiko Arguello, founder of the Neocatechumenate, Archbishop Vincent Nichols signed a formal agreement recognising the Redemptoris Mater as a house of Formation within the structure of Allen Hall.

Seminarians formed at this house are at the disposal of Westminster Diocese, working as parish priests, spiritual directors, and, in some cases returning to Allen Hall as lecturers.

Parish Choir

We will be preparing for the Easter Services at our next gatherings which will be on:

Monday, 20th March, St Basil, 7.00pm

Tuesday, 28th March, St Bede, 7.00pm

Tuesday, 4th April, St Bede, 7.00pm

As usual, everyone is very welcome, even if you have not sung before, or been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally.

SVP VISITS

We would like to inform the parish that we will start visiting again starting this month, March 2023.

If there is anyone who would like a visit, please let your Eucharistic Minister know, or contact the Parish Office, with your name, address & contact details.

PRAYER, SHARING, FOOD AND FUN!

Last Monday at St. John Fisher Hall parishioners gathered to pray together and to share fellowship with one another. We reflected upon the Lenten prayers and stories provided by CAFOD (Catholic Aid for Overseas Development), we shared food and good conversations, lots of laughter ensued with the 'Biscuit Quiz' and over £250 was raised through the generosity of those who came.

Thank you to all who organised this wonderful event, it was uplifting to mind, body and spirit!

Parish Liturgy

St Bede's Church is open for private prayer Mon-Thurs 10am-13:00

Sunday 19th March

9.00am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Parishioners
9.30am Holy Mass (*St Michael*) – Ken Douglas Riley, 80th Birthday Remembrance
10.30am Holy Mass (*St John Fisher*) – Mary O' Brien, Anniversary
11.15am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – George and Leah Sadler, Birthday Remembrance
16:00pm Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Michelle Spencer (Adams), 8th Anniversary

Monday 20th March

9.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Morning Prayer (*St. Basil*)
9.30am Holy Mass (*St Basil*) – Mary Hampton – Lately Dead

Tuesday 21st March

11.15am Stations of the Cross (*St Bede*)
12 Noon Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – The Burke Family
13:30pm Requiem – (St Bede) - Lawrence Alan Brennan

Wednesday 22nd March

7.00am Holy Mass – (*St Bede*) – Frances Allen
18.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Evening Prayer
19.00pm Holy Mass - (*St Bede*) – Gaynor Meredith

Thursday 23rd March

10:00am Requiem – (St Michael) – Margaret Rose Bate
11.30am Exposition the Blessed Sacrament (*St Michael*)
11.40am Holy Rosary (*St. Michael*)
12 Noon Holy Mass (*St. Michael*) – Residents of the Care Homes

Friday 24th March

09.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (*St. John Fisher*)
09.10am Morning Prayer (*St. John Fisher*)
09.30am Holy Mass (*St. John Fisher*) – For Recovery from Cancer
11.30am Requiem – (St Michael) – David & Sheila Howard

Saturday 25th March

10.00am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Florence (Nonnie) Dowling -USA – Lately Dead
10.30am Confessions and Rosary (*St Bede*)
17.00pm Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Denis Mullarkey
17.00pm Holy Mass (*St Basil*) – Peter Golson – 28th Anniversary

Sunday 26th March

9.00am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Jean Finn - Anniversary
9.30am Holy Mass (*St Michael*) – Parishioners
10.30am Holy Mass (*St John Fisher*) – Patrick Rice – Lately Dead
11.15am Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Mary Bebbington - Anniversary
16:00pm Holy Mass (*St Bede*) – Christina Murphy

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede: The O'Brien Family
St Basil: The Clergy Team
St John Fisher: Jane Bissenden
St Michael: Liverpool Seminarians

Please pray for those who have recently died...

**Margaret Harrison, Antony Swift,
George Lawless, Martyn Rigby,
and Jane Bissenden,**

May they rest in peace and rise in glory!