

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter (B)

Second Collection: LEPR

5th May 2024

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Rt Rev Bishop John Rawsthorne	0151 424 2738
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Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

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Deborah Kenna



Responsorial Psalm

R. 'The Lord has set his sway in heaven'.

Living Stones & Strong Foundations

Over the last couple of years, we have spent a great deal of time and energy investing in our church buildings to future-proof them as places of welcome, encounter and mission.

Now the time has come to turn our attention to St Bede's, which after centuries of state sponsored suppression and persecution, stands as a powerful symbol of Catholic resurgence. With the passage of time, this neo-gothic gem has tarnished, and we now have a moral duty to safeguard this beautiful place of worship as we look to the future with hope.

Overleaf you will find the details for our forthcoming presentation evening which will take place on Wednesday evening. This has been months in the planning, and we are very excited to share this vision with you. So please make every effort to attend, irrespective of where you go to Mass in the parish. Please bring with you, a listening ear and that generosity of spirit which is a hallmark of this community.

Let us entrust this exciting project to the prayers of Our Blessed Lady, St Wilfrid and all the Saints in Heaven, that we may be good stewards of the patrimony entrusted to our care and place it at the service of all those we serve.

Fr Thomas

Thank You

Thank you very much for the warm welcome you gave me when I visited your Parish for the Mission Appeal. I thoroughly enjoyed my visit, and all the lovely parishioners I met.

Thank you so much for the generous donations of £2,020.20p that we received to help the Sisters Mission Committee throughout the world. Every penny will go to those most vulnerable and needy and will make such a huge difference to their lives.

Please be assured of our prayers for you and your parish.

Yours in Christ
Sr Penny

ST BEDE'S CHURCH **A LONG AWAITED RESTORATION**

The Parish Buildings and Finance Committee have the great pleasure of inviting you to a Presentation Evening, in which we will share our exciting plans to restore St Bede's Church, Widnes.

The fruit of thousands of hours of meticulous planning and prayer - informed at every stage by the expertise of nationally respected experts in ecclesiastical heritage and historic buildings maintenance - we have at long last secured the various permissions to proceed and the time has come to present this vision, not just to the parish, but the town at large.

This will take place on **Wednesday 8th May at St Basil's Parish Club, WA8 4SZ, at 19.30.**

Hot drinks will be available, and the bar will be open should you desire something a bit stronger! The presentation will last about an hour and a half, in which time we will hear from various stakeholders in the project, voices from the archdiocese and further afield and some of the dedicated parishioners that make up our committee. It is hoped that you will linger afterwards to meet with our speakers and enjoy some social time together.

Because of the importance of this restoration, not just to the Catholic community, but the broader town of Widnes, we would strongly encourage parishioners from across the parish and not just St Bede's Mass-goers to come along and share in this great event in the life of our parish.

Fr Thomas, on behalf of the Buildings and Finance Committee

Holy Day of Obligation

Next Thursday we celebrate the Soleminity of the Ascension of the Lord. This is deemed a Holy Day of Obligation and all the faithful are obligated to attend Mass. We are offering a Vigil Mass on Wednesday evening and three Masses on the Feast Day. Please make every effort to attend.

'God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast'!

Requiescant in pace

Garry Littler, Helen Hansbury,
Veronica Daniels, Bridget Freel,
Kevin Butler & Ann (Nancy) Carter

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede

St Michael

St John Fisher

St Basil

Baby George O'Grady

Vocations to the Priesthood

Sick and Housebound

Clergy Team

Knock Prayers

St Wilfrid's Parish

Has been enrolled as a member of the Knock Shrine Association and for one year will share in two Masses offered each day at the shrine here in Knock, for the intentions of the members.

Requested by Fr Mark and all Knock Pilgrims

Parish Choir

The next gatherings of the Parish Choir will be on Tuesday 14th May, Tuesday 4th June and Monday 8th July, all at 7pm in St Bede's Church.

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.

All are welcome.

Trinity Safe Space Charity Urgent Appeal

Due to unprecedented large numbers of new arrivals into our charity (people seeking asylum, refugees, and vulnerable migrants) we are struggling to meet demand for items and do not have enough funding to buy as much as we need for them. Most of them are men.

We need the following: men's jeans – sizes 32" and 34" waist, regular or long leg; men's waterproof trainers (not the cloth type) sizes 43, 41 and 44; men's boxer shorts sizes medium and large; hair clippers; stick blenders for food; stockpot style pans. It would be excellent if donations could be new ones, but we will also accept clean second-hand clothes, trainers, and pans if they are in a very good state – no dirty, stained, or ripped ones please and no second-hand underwear. Please drop them off at one of the churches as soon as possible and I will collect them.

Thank you in anticipation of your kindness.

Pauline Ruth on behalf of TSS

Holy Communion Prayers

Next Saturday, 11th May, we continue our Masses of Celebration for our First Holy Communion children. Nearly 180 children have been prepared for this day by our wonderful catechists supported by our Catholic Primary Schools.

Our First Holy Communion Day is such a milestone in our lives, so let us remember the children in our parish, that they may increase in their love for Jesus and His Church.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	5th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	John Watt (B'day Rem)
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Radcliffe Family
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Francis (Frank) Conway (10 th Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	Holy Family	Parishioners & Thomas Rolt
Monday	6th May	Weekday of Easter	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Frank Burrows (Health & Strength)
Tuesday	7th May	Weekday of Easter	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12 noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Eileen Jones
Wednesday	8th May	Weekday of Easter	
12 noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Margaret Gilhooley
18.45	Holy Mass <i>(Vigil Mass for Holy Day)</i>	St Basil	Christine Wilson
Thursday	9th May	Soleminity of the Ascension of the Lord	
		HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION	
07.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	June Dunn
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Derek Skyner
12 noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Private Intention
Friday	10th May	Weekday of Easter	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Josie Dalman (1 st Ann) George Dalman (LD)
Saturday	11th May	Weekday of Easter	
10.00	First Holy Communion Mass	St Bede	Children from St Gerard's School
12 noon	First Holy Communion Mass	St John Fisher	Children from St John Fisher School
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Jean Kiely, George, Nicola & Adam
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Parishioners
Sunday	12th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Jean & Jimmy Finn (Ann)
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	40 th Wed Ann & Thanksgiving
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Colette Leake (Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	Holy Family	Parishioners & Tommy Cuerden