

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



**Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Next Weekend: 2nd Collection, CAFOD**

1st October 2023

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Responsorial Psalm

R. 'Remember your mercy, Lord'

The Birth of CAFOD

In 1960, the Catholic Women's League and Union of Catholic Mothers, encouraged by what they had seen Catholic women's organizations in Austria doing the previous year, held a Family Fast Day and encouraged people to give what they would have spent on food to a collection to help with a project in Dominica. It was a great success.

Arising out of this, the Bishops of England and Wales in 1962, registered a new Catholic overseas aid project to be called, CAFOD, which would be our part of the international federation of Catholic aid organizations, most of which are called Caritas followed by the name of the country. England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland are unusual in having our own special names, CAFOD, SCIAF and TROCAIRE. But all part of Caritas Internationalis, with presence worldwide.

Over the years, CAFOD has developed a great experience in working in countries where there has been some sort of disaster and will sometimes be asked by Caritas to take the Catholic lead in a particular situation. It is a member of the British Disasters Emergency Committee and of the British Overseas Aid Group. The present Director of CAFOD, Christine Allen, who, as a young graduate, was the Secretary of our diocesan Justice and Peace Commission. She attended Sacred Heart High School in Crosby.

CAFOD grew out of two Family Fast days a year and they are still a key source of funding for its work and link our families closely to that work. Our schools are all great supporters and learn so much about the world and it's needs, through their connection with CAFOD with serious focus on the environment these days. It is the poor who suffer most from the environmental degradation.

CAFOD worked with St Oscar Romero in El Salvador and he is their patron saint.

Bishop John

St Michael's Church Volunteers

If anyone is free on Saturday 14th October at 10am to help tidy up the grounds at the side of St Michael's Church, please come and lend a hand! Bring a shovel, hoe, or rake to help the job go smoothly! A skip has been ordered; we will attempt to clear anything that needs to be cleared from Church too!

Thank you for your Generosity

People here in our parish are so generous and this is just a note to say thank you to all those who give so generously each week for the upkeep of our churches and the mission outreach in our community. To those who give each week, thank you, to those who give anonymous donations, thank you, to those who fundraise, thank you! May God bless you!

St Bede's Church: The Next Chapter

At last, after many years, we have reached the stage of appointing an Architect/Surveyor to supervise the restoration of St Bede's. Work will begin at St Bede's in the very near future, and we are busily trying to clear away what needs to be cleared to give the contractors as much help as we can. We are studying the criteria for grants with the local authority, so that the overall cost is kept to a minimum. We are in touch with the Historic Churches Commission and other relevant bodies to ensure that we are not contravening the integral fabric of this sacred space, and we always take professional advice whenever something is restored or moved as we wish to make prudent decisions that honour this historic place of worship. Much work is happening behind the scenes as we try to safeguard St Bede's for future generations.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will all need to be ready to adapt and change; we will have to endure inconveniences and things will not be as they were before. I suggest that we all try to keep focused on the bigger picture and when we see things changing, let us be the voice of positivity and hope and never the voice of complaint that undermines the good that is happening in our midst.

Fr Mark and the Buildings Committee

St Bede's Church Volunteers

The grounds and gardens around St Bede's Church are kept beautifully by a small group of volunteers. But like everywhere else, with all the rain and then bursts of sunshine the weeds around the church building are taking hold! Could anyone who is free on Saturday 7th October at 10.30am meet outside Church with a hoe or shovel or spade, (can you tell I am not a natural gardener!) and we will attempt to have a tidy up before winter comes!

Fr Mark

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of every single person in this parish community. Our Church community must be a safe place for all who enter, and we must be safe as we go out in the name of the church community. This parish is committed to following 'best practice', yet to do this we must be aware of what to do if we have a safeguarding concern or question. Posters are on each church noticeboard relating to safeguarding procedures.

St Wilfrid's Safeguarding Representative: Mrs Pauline Ruth, 01514221772 or safeguarding246@rcaol.org.uk

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officers: Mark, Claire or Angela, 01515221103 or safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

"Safeguarding is the action taken by the church to promote a safer culture for all in our church communities".

Requiescant in pace

All deceased priests and people of the Parish of St Wilfrid, Nora Abraham.

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Rose O'Callaghan & Aunt May
St Michael	Declan Smith
St John Fisher	Claire Lawson
St Basil	Children of the Parish

Bene Merenti Award

Pauline Ruth

It is with great joy and with the warmest of congratulations that I can announce that Pauline Ruth has been awarded the *Bene Merenti* medal by His Holiness, Pope Francis. This award is a 'Gold Medal' for 'Exemplary Christian Service'. Pauline does so much to safeguard our community and we know her work with refugees and migrants is at the heart of her Christian vocation of service. Pauline, we applaud you! Bishop Tom Neylon will join us on **Wednesday 11th October at St Bede's Church, at 7pm** to celebrate Holy Mass and bestow the award on Pauline. Please make a note of this date and make every effort to attend.

After Mass there will be a reception in the presbytery with cake and bubbles!

Fr Mark

LGBTQ+ Mass

The next gathering for LGBTQ+ Catholics will be on **Sunday 8th October at 2pm** at St. Bede's Church, Appleton Village, WA8 6EL. All are welcome to attend and after Mass there will be refreshments served in the Guild Hall.

Feast of St Wilfrid

Wednesday 12th October is the feast day of our holy patron, St Wilfrid. I encourage you all to attend Mass on this day at St. Michael's Church at 7pm. On his feast day we can implore St. Wilfrid to intercede for our parish community, that it may flourish and attract others to Christ and His Church.

"A quick walker, expert in all good works, with never a sour face", such was the great St Wilfrid, whose glory it was to secure the happy links which bound England to Rome.

We hope you can attend!

Urgent Appeal for Help

We have received an urgent call for help from 'Share Knowsley', who work with vulnerable refugees and migrants. The *young men* who have arrived in Knowsley are desperate for clothes and toiletries. They especially need.

Trousers, Underwear, Toothbrushes and Toothpaste, Jogging Pants, T shirts, Deodorant, Jumpers, Socks, Shower Gel/Soap.

ONLY if you are able, could you purchase **ONE** thing of the list and bring it to church next weekend, **Saturday 7th/Sunday 8th October**. We are only collecting **for one week**, the items donated will be collected on Monday 9th October. Thank you for your generosity of heart!

Gift of Life

The 'Gift for Life for Zambia' group are planning another trip! We are going to see a Christmas Carol at the Brindley on Saturday November 18.

We shall leave St Basils at 1pm for the 2pm performance cost £24.00 if interested please phone Terri on 07368208943 or Angela on 424 8668.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	1st Oct	Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ken Gibbons (Birthday & Ann Rem)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Fr James Moore
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Nicola
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Rowena Plant (Hart) (Sick)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Jim Burke (100 th Birthday Rem)
Monday	2nd Oct	Memorial of The Guardian Angels	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Rita Kiely
Tuesday	3rd Oct	Ferial	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Martin Quinn
Wednesday	4th Oct	Memorial of St Francis of Assisi	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Andrew Barrow (LD)
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO MASS TIME			
Thursday	5th Oct	Ferial	
NO MASS TODAY			
Friday	6th Oct		
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Mary Hewitt
Saturday	7th Oct	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	
10.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Carmen Begley (LD)
10.30	Confessions		
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Charlie Stevens
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Brian Mercer (LD)
Sunday	8th Oct	Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Renee Lunt (LD)
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	William Jones (1 st Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tommy Douglas & Margaret Wilson
14.00	LGBTQ+ Mass	St. Bede	Claire Lawson
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Thomas Edward Walsh