

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

28th January 2024

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Parish Clergy:

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Responsorial Psalm

R. 'O that today you would listen to His voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Who do you think you are?

I was looking at a very interesting programme on BBC iPlayer the other day called 'Who do you think you are'. Have you ever watched the series? The person whose life was in the spotlight was 40-year comedian, presenter and actor, 'Josh Widdicombe', no relation to the politician, Ann Widdecombe.

Josh, like most people, considered himself and his family as ordinary but he was soon to discover through the different layers of his family tree that his family was anything but ordinary.

What he discovered was nothing short of a mind-blowing revelation. His journey led him back in time to the 15th century discovering that one of his maternal grandmothers was Mary Boleyn, sister to Queen Anne Boleyn, the second wife of King Henry 8th. Going back even further Josh discovered that he is a direct descendant of King Edward 1st and Queen Margarita of France.

How is that for a bloodline?!

Can you top that for a journey of surprises? I couldn't! When I tried to research my own Irish family tree, I could only search back three generations to 1850. All Irish civil records were burnt in the great explosion and fire at the Four Courts on the river Liffey in 1921.

If only circumstances had been different, I might have been able to go back in time with my family tree and maybe I'd find some mind-blowing discovery too!

Fr Bill

Belle Vale Passion Play

There is an amazing opportunity for anyone who wishes to get involved in the Belle Vale Passion Play. This community project will bring the Easter Story to the local community and build friendships and nurture talents and skills. The Passion Play will take place on Easter Saturday, 30th March at 12noon.

Please visit the website: www.bellevalepassion.co.uk for more information or see the poster at the back of Church.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2024

We now invite all our young people of Year 8 age upwards who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the summer, to book onto the diocesan system at:

www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk before 15 March 2024.

We will be in touch, later in the spring to share the arrangements as we prepare for this joyous day in the life of our parish.

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of Thy love.
Send forth Thy Spirit and they shall be created and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth!*

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Mass

On Saturday the 10th February we shall have the diocesan celebration for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of Prayer for the Sick.

The Mass will be celebrated at Christ the King, Queens Drive at 12noon and +Tom Neylon will be the principal celebrant.

All are welcome to attend!

Parish Choir

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

**Monday 26th February, Tuesday 5th March,
Monday 18th March & Monday 25th March,
All at 7pm, St. Bede's.**

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!

Irenaeus - An insight into trafficking

On Wednesday 7th February, the Irenaeus Centre, Great Georges Road, L22 1RD, will be hosting an afternoon of reflection.

This will begin with a light lunch, followed by a talk from Petra Smrckova of the Medaille Trust, where she will share some of her experiences working with Trafficked people.

For more information, please email Jenny@Irenaeus.co.uk.

Requiescant in pace

Damian Percival, Joseph Hudson,
Colin Parry, Anita C'ailceta,
Hilda Mary Ogburn,
Violet Ann Williams,
Marie Fitzpatrick, Eileen Doan & Paul Dean

May the Angels lead them into Paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Diane Ferris
	Marjorie Higginson
St Michael	Private Intention
St John Fisher	Successful Operation
St Basil	Paul Dean

St Wilfrid's Vision Group/Team

The practice of a decision-making body, made up of parishioners and clergy, is not new within St Wilfrid's Parish. Over the years this has had different titles and been made up of different people.

The current Vision Group/Team has been born out of the Synod 2020 initiative. The current group/team is made up of the Widnes members of the Deanery Synodal Council. Our collective task is to keep at the heart of all that we do and are, the person of Jesus Christ and the Synodal call to mission.

What is the role of the Vision Group/Team?

1. Have an overview of the pastoral need across the parish.
2. Listening to voice/views of the parish.
3. Linking in with the Deanery Synodal Council.
4. Linking with the Archdiocesan Synodal Council
5. Keeping the Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan in mind, with reference to our own parish development.

We are all aware that our parish, like others in the Archdiocese, is operating in an environment of change. As such, there will be a need for the Vision Group/Team members to meet with representatives of the many parish groups to listen and respond to their joys and their concerns. Parishioners also have the freedom to speak and correspond to individual group/team members at any time. This will be brought back to the group/team and a response will be given.

Current membership of St Wilfrid's Vision Group/Team from Easter 2023 (*rolling programme of membership renewal*)

Peter McCann, Fr Mark Moran, Denise Roberts, Pauline Rolt, Dcn Paul Rooney and Susan Warburton.

As an Archdiocese we are rooted in the Synodal Process. Future membership of the Vision Group will be open to people who understand the Synodal Process and the context of our parish within that.

Eucharistic Ministers Retreat

Each Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist are expected to attend a retreat or be given specific training every few years to give them the time and the space to reflect upon their wonderful ministry. We have approached the Irenaeus Ministry in Crosby and they have agreed to lead a day just for St. Wilfrid's Parish Ministers.

Saturday 24th February

Leaving St Bede at 9.15am and return at 4.30pm

Irenaeus Centre, Waterloo, Crosby

To book yourself onto the retreat, please pass your name and telephone number into the Parish Office. This should be a priority for all ministers, so please attend, if possible.

A coach will be provided to take you to the Irenaeus Centre and then bring you back to Widnes.

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	28th January	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Denis O'Keefe (70 th B'day Rem)
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Family & Friends of The Rimmer Family
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Irene Glynn & Margaret Platt (Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Tommy McCarthy (Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
Monday	29th January	Ferial	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Doris & Leslie Bold (100 th B'Day Rem)
Tuesday	30th January	Ferial	
10.15	Funeral Service	St Bede	Winifred May Dooley
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Mary & Patrick Hammond
Wednesday	31st January	Memorial of St John Bosco, Priest, and Doctor	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Diane Ferris (Ann)
Thursday	1st February	Ferial	
11.30	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
12noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Sarah Loftus
Friday	2nd February	Feast of the Presentation of The Lord	
09.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
09.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Richard Beesley (LD)
12noon	Requiem Mass	St Bede	Margaret (Pat) Walker
Saturday	3rd February	Memorial of St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr	
10.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Barbara Gilligan (LD)
10.30	Confessions		
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Taylor & Jones Family
17.00	Vigil Mass	St Basil	Eileen La Cruz
Sunday	4th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Mike Lyle
09.30	Holy Mass	St Michael	Audrey Fallon (Ann)
10.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Eddie Burke (26 th Ann)
11.15	Holy Mass	St Bede	Florence Rogerson (Ann)
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Sean Geelan (LD)