



# Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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

## Third Sunday of Easter (Year C)



4<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### Parish Office:

St Bede's Presbytery  
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### Parish Clergy:

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### Office Manager:

Sylvia Cawley

### Administrator:

Deborah Kenna

### Psalm Response

**'I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up'**

## **'Mary – Signpost to Jesus'**

The year seems to be passing by so quickly or is that just me? We enter the month of May, a beautiful month of Holy Communion and pilgrimages and rededication to Our Blessed Lady, for May is her special month!

So often we turn to Mary and plead for her intercession, her help. Why? Why don't we just go straight to Jesus? Of course we can, yet sometimes we need a mother's mind and heart, sometimes we need to go to another before we go the 'main man', sometimes we just need the intercession and the understanding of a woman. And at those times, Mary is there.

One of the most beautiful titles of Our Lady I have ever heard is '**Mary – Signpost to Jesus**'. This title reminds me of Mary's place in our lives, in our Church, it reminds me of who Mary is. For Mary seeks nothing for herself, she only seeks to point hearts and souls to her Son, Jesus. She does not want glory for herself, only glory for her Son. Mary always points to Jesus!

When we pray to Mary, she will direct us to Jesus and then she will happily fade into the background, her work is done. Ask Our Blessed Lady to direct your heart towards her Son during this month of May, that you may be united with Him through Her powerful intercession.

**Mary, Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May – pray for us!**

**Fr. Mark**

## **Congratulations to our First Holy Communion Children**

Next Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, all the children from across the parish who have completed their sacramental preparation will receive Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion. What a wondrous day for them all! Please keep the children in your prayers, that they may know the closeness of Christ in their lives.

## **Trinity Safe Spaces Appeal**

Trinity Safe Space Charity which supports asylum seekers, refugees and vulnerable migrants in Widnes and Runcorn, is currently very short of unrestricted funding but is constantly being asked for the following by many of our newcomers.

**Men's bicycles in a roadworthy condition, working 2<sup>nd</sup> hand laptops /tablets, working 2<sup>nd</sup> hand smart phones (please take off all personal information from the phones and laptops/tablets), men's t-shirts, hoodies, jog pants and summer coats - sizes small to XL, men's new boxer shorts sizes small to XL, men's trainers in good condition sizes 7 upwards, men's socks and men's toiletries.**

Donations can be brought to St Michael's Catholic Presbytery on **Mondays 10.15am – 1pm** or **Wednesdays 1.30pm - 3.30pm** or dropped off at our churches from where they will be picked up.  
Thank you.

**Pauline Ruth, Chair of Trustees**

## **Relics of St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Columba and St. Andrew**

The Knights of St Columba wish to thank all the parishioners of St. Wilfrid, for the tremendous support and interest shown at our recent presentation of the saints relics. We also wish to offer our sincere thanks to Fr Bill Murphy, Fr Mark Moran and all the clergy team for their continued support for our efforts.

**John Hamilton Past Grand Knight**

## **Invocation to the Holy Spirit – Praying for Wisdom in the Upcoming Conclave**

Please join in saying this prayer each day as the Conclave to choose our new Pope opens on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May.

*'Come, Holy Spirit, Divine Counselor, enter the hearts of the Cardinals gathered in sacred duty. Dispel all fear and division: kindle in them the fire of Your love. Grant wisdom beyond words, clarity beyond sight, that they may choose a shepherd after Your own heart. Guide them gently but surely, that through their discernment, Your Church may be renewed in faith and unity. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen'.*

## **Welcome to the Spiritan Fathers**

On the weekend of the **17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> May** we welcome Fr. Peter Otuonkpaikhian and Fr. Benedict Ogbuevule to our parish as they make their appeal on behalf of their religious congregation.

Founded in 1703, **The Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers)** are a Roman Catholic Religious Congregation dedicated to sharing hope and love worldwide. For over 300 years, our mission has been clear: to evangelize the poor and the needy, pursue justice, foster peace, care for creation, inspired by **Luke 4:18** and advance God's kingdom here on earth.

Today, more than 3,000 Spiritans from all continents bring this mission to life in over 60 countries, serving where the need is greatest—hospitals, parishes, prisons, schools, and refugee communities. We also support integral development for young people and work for justice globally.

As Pope Francis reminded us in May 2023, we serve "in simplicity of life, respecting peoples and cultures," embracing the most abandoned with fraternity and prayer.

**Your support and prayers keep our mission alive. Together, we carry the Spiritan light to the world's darkest corners.**

### **Medjugorje Pilgrimage Meeting**

There will be a meeting for all those pilgrims travelling to Medjugorje on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in St. John Fisher Church**. Please make sure that you have sent your passport details to JW Tours before the meeting. Also, if you have booked a place on the coach to take us and bring us home from the airport, please **bring £32** to the meeting so that we can pay the coach company before we go.

**Susan Warburton and Fr. Mark**

### **Petitions and Candles in Medjugorje**

The parish is going on pilgrimage to Medjugorje on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May. If you would like Fr. Mark to take a petition or light a candle for you in this Marian Shrine, please pass them into the Parish Office asap. Please keep the donation for a candle separate from intentions.

**Our Lady, Queen of Peace – Pray for us!**

### **Deanery Jubilee Event**

To mark this year's Jubilee of Hope, the Archbishop will lead a May Procession for all the parishes in the deanery on **Sunday 18 May at 3.30pm** beginning in St Mary's Shrine on Buttermarket Street, Warrington. The procession won't be long and will conclude with Benediction and refreshments. The event is suitable for all ages and will be a great way of gathering us all together.

### **Lourdes Thank You**

*I would like to thank you all for your amazing support in helping with the funding for my pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. I will light a candle and pray for you all. Thank You.*

**Christopher Roberts**

### **Parish Choir**

If you have not sung before, or not sung for years, or haven't been part of this group previously, or are only able to come along occasionally, it doesn't matter, you would be most welcome. Sadly though, at this time, all members of the choir must be over 18 due to safeguarding guidance. Our next practices are on Monday 12th May, Tuesday 3rd June, Monday 30th June and Tuesday 22nd July, all at 7pm in St. John Fisher Church.

### **Welcome to the Archdiocesan Lourdes Hospitality**

Next Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May we welcome the members of the Archdiocesan Lourdes Hospitality to our parish for their meeting and for Mass at the Parish Hall and St. John Fisher Church. We pray for their work in Lourdes with the sick and vulnerable and may Our Blessed Lady bless them in their efforts

### **Lourdes Collection – Thank you**

Due to your generosity on Easter Sunday, and through the kindness of the Knights Choir we were able to give Chrissie, Caolan, Christopher and Hannah a sizeable contribution towards their pilgrimage to Lourdes this summer. I am sure that those four young people will remember us all in their prayers at the Grotto!

### **Fr. Bill Murphy – 50 years of Priesthood**

Fr. Bill would like to invite you all to a Mass of Thanksgiving as he celebrates 50 years of Priesthood. There will be Holy Mass celebrated on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm at St. Basil's Church** and then refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to come and celebrate with Fr. Bill!

## Parish Liturgy

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Maragret Cassidy
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Paul Derbyshire
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Margaret Jean Rimmer
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
<b>Monday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Week 3 of Easter	
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	<b>St Bede</b>	Mandy Stephens
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Week 3 of Easter	
<b>10.00</b>	<b>Funeral Service</b>	<b>St Basil</b>	<b>Philip Lynch</b>
11.30	Exposition and Rosary		
12noon	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Honor Evans
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Week 3 of Easter	
<b>12noon</b>	<b>Requiem Mass</b>	<b>St Michael</b>	<b>Peter Alan Barber</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Week 3 of Easter	
<b>11.30</b>	<b>Exposition and Rosary</b>		
<b>12noon</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<b>St. Basil</b>	June Nicholls
<b>12noon</b>	<b>Funeral Service</b>	<b>St Michael</b>	<b>Dean Tiernan</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Week 3 of Easter	
9.00	Exposition and Morning Prayer		
9.30	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Dennis & John Heaton
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> May</b>		
10.00	<b>First Holy Communion Mass</b>	St Michael	Edward (Ted) Jones
10.00	<b>First Holy Communion Mass</b>	St John Fisher	Chrissy Owens
12noon	<b>First Holy Communion Mass</b>	St Michael	Rita & Harold Dawson
12noon	<b>First Holy Communion Mass</b>	St Basil	John Buckley
16.30	Holy Mass	St Basil	Steven Bate
18.00	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Gerald Quinn
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>	
09.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ruth Bibby
10.15	Holy Mass	St Michael	Brian (Successful Operation)
11.30	Holy Mass	St Bede	Celia Morris
<b>15.00</b>	<b>Lourdes Hospitality Mass</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>	Lourdes Pilgrims
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ann Fallon

### Sanctuary Lamp

*The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.*

<b>St Bede:</b>	Margaret Colford
<b>St Basil:</b>	50 Years of Priesthood
<b>St John Fisher:</b>	Pope Francis
<b>St Michael:</b>	Joan Moran

### Rest in Peace

Robert (Bob) Sherman,  
Mary (Marie) Morris & Bridget Donaghy

**May the Angels lead them into Paradise!**