

Parish of St Wilfrid, Widnes

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



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE (YEAR A)

14th May 2023

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Responsorial Psalm

'Cry out with joy to God all the earth'

Independent Catholic News

Independent Catholic News (ICN) is published daily online, in other words, on your tablet or phone. It is put together by one person, a woman, somewhere in the London region. I get it on a daily basis. You can make a financial contribution if you want. It is a wonderful source of important news, mainly for this country. Mostly about church people and their impact on the country/world. Pope Francis features prominently.

Each day begins with the Gospel of the day, a thought about it, and a painting that speaks to it. And it ends with the saint of the day. In between can be all sorts of things. So, today it gives the full text of the Archbishop of Canterbury's very thoughtful speech in the House of Lords yesterday. Snippets of that are used in most of today's papers, either to praise or attack what he said. It is a fine example of what Pope Benedict called for when he spoke to our politicians in Westminster Hall, Gospel values being part of public discourse, in this case the debate on the Asylum Bill.

Then there is an article by a priest in Ireland on public, peaceful protest. He bases it around the two American priest brothers, the Berrigans, who along with other Catholic peace activists broke into a recruitment centre during the war in Vietnam and took 378 draft files and burnt them in the car park outside, reciting the Our Father while waiting to be arrested. The previous week, 562 young Americans had died in Vietnam. And people were being attacked with napalm. Do you remember the photograph of the little girl, her clothes burnt off her, running towards the camera. The two priests made it onto the front page of Time magazine. A whole new conversation began in the US about the war, revealing what people were thinking but not yet saying.

There are all sorts of peaceful protests in our country at the moment. How do we see them?

Do they just annoy us, or do they make us think?

And there is lots more in today's Independent Catholic News. Well worth a look.

+ John

Votive Candles

The custom of lighting votive candles before images of the saints is an ancient and laudable devotion that unites us with the Communion of Saints in Heaven. However, the lighting of votive candles should not take place during Holy Mass or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, when the sole focus of our prayer should be Our Blessed Lord truly present in the Eucharist.

Private Prayer

St Bede's Church is open for private prayer Monday to Friday from 10.00am until 13.00pm, except for funerals.

You are encouraged to come in and spend some time in prayer for your own needs, the needs of the Church and the world.

Painting continues at St. Michael's

If you are free on Friday 19th from 9am – 3pm, Saturday 20th from 12.30pm or Monday 22nd from 9am and can paint please come along and lend a hand! We are starting to decorate the sacristy and porch and need help!

St. Helens Singers Concert in aid of Mary's Meals

Saturday 24th June at 7.30pm

Penketh Methodist Church, Chapel Road, WA5 7NB

Adults - £8, Children - £4

Family of Four - £18

Tickets available from 07974 189 132 or

Union of Catholic Mothers

Sunday 21st May 2023

St John Fisher Hall

Book Sale after 10:30am Mass

All proceeds will go to UCM Charities

Parish Procession in honour of the Blessed Sacrament and Our Blessed Lady

Sunday 21st May at 3pm at St. Bede's Church

Please come and walk and pray during this special month of May!

'Bring flowers of the rarest, bring blossoms the fairest.'

Walsingham

25th – 27th November 2023

Our pilgrimage to Walsingham, which includes a full pilgrimage itinerary, Christmas Dinner, and great tickets for the Christmas Extravaganza Show at Thursford is going ahead again this year!

If you would like to secure a place, please complete a booking form which are at the back of church and return it with a deposit of £50 to the Parish Office for the attention of Susan Warburton as soon as possible.

Price for En-suite is £255 and for single room the price is £230.

Please note there are only a very limited number of single rooms available, so be quick!

Our time together is a true pilgrimage of faith, friendship, fun and fellowship. If you haven't been to Walsingham before, please think about coming, you will have a great time!

Requiescant in pace

Mary Teresa Topping,
Irene Clarke, Rita O'Neil, Edward Andrew,
Paul Roberts and Edward Duffy

May the Angels lead them into paradise!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp burns for 7 days for your intentions.

St Bede	Tom Cabe
St Michael	Private Intention
St John Fisher	Baby George O'Grady
St Basil	Our Catholic Schools

Lourdes Pilgrimage

For those parishioners joining us on the Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July, full payment is due immediately.

You may have already received an email payment request from Paylands, which enables you to pay online.

Alternatively, you can pay by cheque. Cheques must be made payable to Northern Star Travel and posted to 46/48 Long Street Manchester M24 6UG.

If you wish to pay by Bacs Payment, the Account Name is Northern Star. Sort Code 77-19-09. Account Number: 00031486.

You **MUST** put your booking reference on all payments.

Thanksgiving Mass for Bishop Tom Williams

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will celebrate a Holy Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Tom Williams' 20 years' ministry as Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool on Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 7.00pm in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King.

Everyone is invited to the Mass and the Drinks Reception which will follow.

Catechesis for Adults

Christ is Risen!

Please come and join the Neo- Catechumenate Community each Monday & Thursday evening 7.30pm for next 7 weeks.

St John Fisher Community Hall
55 Moorfield Road WA8 3JA

St Marie's Bingo 2-4pm Saturday 20th May

Spring into Summer with St Marie's Prize Bingo 2pm-4pm Saturday 20th May at St Marie's church, Lugsdale Rd, Widnes.

All are welcome to join us with free hot drinks and biscuits. two as well. Email heritage@haltonsthelensvca.org.uk or call 01928 592405 to let us know you'll be coming along.

Social Group News

Trip to Manchester to see 9 to 5, The Musical

Wednesday 17th May

There are still a few tickets left to see this great show, coach and ticket is £20pp.

If you would like a ticket, please pass name, and telephone number into the Parish Office.

Coach will leave St. Bede's at 6pm on Wednesday evening!

Parish Liturgy

Sunday	14th May	Sixth Sunday of Eastertide	
9.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Gerald & Stephen O'Connor, B'day Rem
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael	Parishioners
10.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	George O'Grady, Lately Dead
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Ann Brennan, Birthday
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	James Meaden, Birthday Remembrance
Monday	15th May		
9.00am	Exposition	St Basil	
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Basil	Gaynor Meredith, Lately Dead
12 Noon	Requiem	St Bede	Doreen Freeman
Tuesday	16th May		
10:45am	Funeral Service	St Bede	William Hewitt
11.30pm	Exposition	St Bede	
12 noon	Holy Mass	St Bede	Colette Leake, Anniversary
Wednesday	17th May	NO 7PM MASS THIS WEEK	
10:30am	Funeral Service	St Bede	Kathleen Parry
Thursday	18th May	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)	
7.00am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Nancy Spencer, Lately Dead
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Basil	Margaret Ann Fairhurst, Lately Dead
12 Noon	Holy Mass	St Michael	Wilf Murphy, Lately Dead
19.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	William Cullerton, Remembrance
Friday	19th May		
9.00am	Exposition	St John Fisher	
9.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Deceased Members of The Kirwan Family
10.00am	Requiem	St Bede	William Fay
13.00	Funeral Service	St Bede	Keith Dignall
Saturday	20th May		
10:00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Special Intention for Mum and Baby
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	St Bede	Hugh Brennan, 3 rd Anniversary
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	St Basil	April Murphy, Anniversary
Sunday	21st May		
9.00am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Cecelia McMullen, 1 st Anniversary
9.30am	Holy Mass	St Michael	Patricia Quinn, Anniversary
10.30am	Holy Mass	St John Fisher	Elizabeth Vera Murty
11.15am	Holy Mass	St Bede	Parishioners
16.00	Holy Mass	St Bede	Pat Tomlinson, Lately Dead