

# Newsletter for the Parishes of **St John Vianney & St Thomas Becket**

## Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Day 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

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<b>Our Lady of Fatima</b> Churchfields, <b>Barnton</b> CW8 4UR	<b>St Bede's</b> Church Lane, <b>Weaverham</b> CW8 3NP	<b>St Thomas Becket</b> 3 Nantwich Road <b>Tarporley</b> CW6 9UN	<b>St Wilfrid's</b> 142 Witton Street, <b>Northwich</b> CW9 5NP
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In these last hours before Christmas, many of us are doing our best to fit in prayer time. It can feel like we're just hanging on for dear life. In the midst of all our activities, though, the Lord remains present to us with the assurance of his coming. It doesn't matter so much what we are doing provided that we look to him who is Son of the Most High. A moment of silence. A simple prayer. On these last few days of Advent, we beseech the Blessed Mother for a share in her openness to the Lord and his grace, so that by her prayers it may be done unto us according to his word.

(Fr. Gregory Pine O.P.)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** ~ John Wallace, Joseph Hayes, Eileen Kelly, Colin Healy and all who have died recently. May they rest in peace.

**JOIN US** ~ Tomorrow evening (Monday) at St Wilfrid's for a Service of Reconciliation 7.00pm.

**A MEMORIAL MASS** ~ For all our loved ones, but especially those who have died during the past 12 months, will be celebrated at St Wilfrid's this coming Friday. 10am.

**THE JUBILEE YEAR** ~ Begins this Christmas Eve. Throughout this coming year we will be reflecting on the Sacraments of the Church, through which Christ is made present to all. This will begin on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January**, the weekend when we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. All are invited to Midday Mass to give thanks for **BAPTISM** through which we have become Children of God. A special invitation to all who have been baptised during 2024. Refreshments will be served after Mass. Come & join us.

**CAROLYNNE & DAVE** ~ Would like to invite you to visit their Outdoor Crib and Christmas Garden at: Hill Cottage, 67 Beach Rd, Hartford. Admission is free, but any donations to Alder Hey Children's Hospital are warmly welcomed. Please park in their drive, not in the traffic light junction!

## TIMES OF MASSES & SERVICES 22<sup>nd</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024

5.30pm ( <i>vigil</i> )	<i>Our Lady's</i>	Denis Fowles Int
6.00pm ( <i>vigil</i> )	<i>St Bede's</i>	Parishioners
9.15am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Mark Sweeney
11.00am	<i>St Thomas Becket</i>	Priest' Int
11.15am	<i>St Bede's</i>	Alan Barlow
4.00pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	<i>Rosary &amp; Benediction</i>
5.30pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Holy Souls

### MONDAY

9.30am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Lyndsay Couve
7.00pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	<i>Reconciliation Service</i>

### CHRISTMAS EVE

9.30am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Jordan Barnes & Families
5.00pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Parishioners
5.30pm	<i>St Thomas Becket</i>	Priest's Int
5.30pm	<i>St Bede's</i>	Parishioners / McGill Int.
8.00pm	<i>Our Lady's</i>	Parishioners
11.30pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Parishioners / Border & Pilling Int

### CHRISTMAS DAY

9.15am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Parishioners
10.30am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Parishioners / Mary Cosgrove
11.00am	<i>St Thomas Becket</i>	Priest's Int
11.15am	<i>St Bede's</i>	Parishioners

### BOXING DAY

	<b><i>St Stephen</i></b>	
10.00am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Margaret Holland
12.00pm	<i>St Bede's</i>	Pauline Atkinson

### FRIDAY

	<b><i>St John</i></b>	
10.00am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	All Our Deceased Family & Friends
12.00pm	<i>St Bede's</i>	Terry Swales

### SATURDAY

	<b><i>The Holy Innocents</i></b>	
11.00 – 11.50am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	<i>Exposition with the Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>
12.00pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Frances & Joe D'Annunzio
5.30pm ( <i>vigil</i> )	<i>Our Lady's</i>	Parishioners
6.00pm ( <i>vigil</i> )	<i>St Bede's</i>	Erna & Lawrence Welsh

### SUNDAY

	<b>THE HOLY FAMILY</b>	
9.15am	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	John Wallace
11.00am	<i>St Thomas Becket</i>	Priest' Int
11.15am	<i>St Bede's</i>	Pat Cummins
4.00pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	<i>Rosary &amp; Benediction</i>
5.30pm	<i>St Wilfrid's</i>	Hodekinson & Burke Families

**JOIN US TONIGHT** ~ (Sunday) 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's for peace & quiet, as we prayerfully listen to Handel's – The Messiah. Don't forget a cushion! Finish no later than 9.45pm.

**A MESSAGE FROM DEACON DAVID** ~ “In recent weeks I have developed noticeable tremors in my hands which has made it extremely difficult for me to control the distribution of the Blessed Sacrament, and in particular, the Precious Blood of Jesus. I have found this quite distressing to the point I have decided for the moment to ask others to do this on my behalf. Ten years ago I was diagnosed with a neurological disorder called ‘cervical dystonia’ and some of you may remember how difficult it was for me to avoid twisting my neck. Thankfully, with the aid of Botox injections in my neck muscles, the disorder is largely absent. Today, Wednesday, I met with the specialist nurse at the Walton Centre in Fazakerley who has given me great hope by referring me to a specialist team for a radically new treatment which hopefully, in time, will address the tremors.

Thank you all for your concern and thank you very much for your prayers.”

David

**DECEMBER 200 CLUB WINNERS** ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Raymond Slee and 2<sup>nd</sup> Judith Burgess.

**THANKS TO ALL** ~ Who help clean, decorate & help our churches run smoothly not just at Christmas, but through out the year, making them such warm & welcoming places. We are always looking for new volunteers to help. A '**Thank You**' Social is planned at St Wilfrid's Hall on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. (Please note the change of date) No charge, but for catering purposes, please pick up a ticket. The evening will begin with Mass at 6.30pm.

**EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES** ~ Have arisen within the Diocese with the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team. Further details can be found on the Diocesan website: [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**'GOD SPEAKS'** ~ You are invited to a Day of Reflection lead by Jordan Kelly (music by Joe Wells - One Hope Project). Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025 10.30am – 3.30pm at St. Edwards Runcorn WA7 5NZ. Lunch provided but please register at: [alphamkruncorn@gmail.com](mailto:alphamkruncorn@gmail.com)

**LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION** ~ £1007.92. Thank you for your continued generosity. Thanks also for a £500 donation towards the new Lectionary and a donation of £85 from the Hong Kong Community for the Mid-Cheshire Foodbank.

**MIDCHESHIRE FOODBANK** ~ Many thanks for your generosity each week.

*“Family life must be filled with the good wine of love, tenderness, and mutual understanding in order to function well... And love – as we know well – makes no noise. We experience it in the hiddenness and littleness of daily gestures, in the care we know how to exchange... This is my wish for you: to be attentive, in your homes and families, to the little things of everyday life, to small gestures of gratitude, to the care and concern for one another.”*

(Pope Francis)

### **CHRISTMAS**

*“God's sign is the baby in need of help and in poverty... God made himself small so that we could understand him, welcome him, and love him. Christmas has become the feast of gifts in imitation of God who has given himself to us. Let us allow our heart, our soul, and our mind to be touched by this fact!”*

Pope Benedict XVI



**On behalf of Sister Phyllis and all the Parish Clergy, may I thank you for the many cards and gifts handed into church over the past few days; sadly too many to respond to individually. Your warmth, friendship and generosity is greatly valued. Wishing you and your families a Happy and Holy Christmas.**

**Fr Paul**