



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

19th July 2026

16TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT

Again, this Sunday we have Jesus preaching a parable and then giving an explanation to his disciples. Last week it was the parable of the Sower and this week's parable is also about sowing crops. This time the problem is that someone has come along and sown weed seeds among the good seed the farmer had planted. He tells his men the best thing to do is to let the crops and weeds grow together and separate them out at the harvest. Jesus then applies this to different kinds of people at the end of time.

We can often ask how God allows evil in the world. At the same time, we can often be moved by the good we see, the extraordinary generosity people often exhibit. The world does indeed seem to be filled with wheat and weeds. This is something we come across time and time again in the Old Testament, especially in the Psalms. How is it that wicked people seem to prosper asks the Psalmist. The answer is usually that ultimately good will triumph. God is ultimately on the side of those who are faithful to him.

However, when we come to try and apply this parable to ourselves most of us have a problem. It is not that we fit easily into one category or the other. We are much more like the field. When we look at ourselves we can see good and bad, wheat and weeds. Here it is a bit less clear cut. We do need to work at pulling up some of the weeds in ourselves here and now. However, we have to recognise we are the people we are, with the character we have. We have to accept and work with our weakness, trusting that God will indeed work in us so that we too will "shine like the sun in the kingdom of God".

Chris Pedley, S.J.



Photo by Mathieu Bigard on Unsplash

The prayer for the 16th Sunday asks God to increase
our grace, faith, and charity.

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Wednesday 22nd July is the **Feast of St Mary Magdalene** who was one of the few who remained with Christ during His agony on the Cross. She visited His tomb with two other women and found it empty. It was to her that our Lord first appeared after His Resurrection. He asked her to announce His Resurrection to the Apostles.

PRAYER

*Saint Mary Magdalene,
woman of many sins, who by conversion
became the beloved of Jesus,
thank you for your witness that Jesus
forgives through the miracle of love.*

*You, who already possess eternal
happiness in His glorious presence,
please intercede for me, so that some
day I may share in the same everlasting
joy. Amen.*



STELLA MARIS
SUPPORTING SEAFARERS AND FISHERS
AROUND THE WORLD

Thank you for your donations last
Sunday to **STELLA MARIS** for the help
of seafarers. **£205.95**



St Ignatius Day, Friday 31st July

We will be joining the Stonyhurst/Hurst Green parishes **at St Joseph's School Chapel Hurst Green** for **Evening Prayer at 6pm**, followed by pizza made to order and drinks. Please put the date in your diary.

Volunteers needed urgently!

Please can you help serve tea/coffee after 10.15am Mass on Sundays? Please see Shelagh if you can lend a hand.

CATHOLIC HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

During August & September Castlerigg Manor in Keswick is open to families, groups of friends, individuals looking for an affordable stay in the Lake District. Breakfast & evening meal provided, Mass is celebrated on site. For info: castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us or 017687 72711



SPUC Preston have booked a coach to the March for Life, tickets are on sale now available on Eventbrite, search 'Coach from Lancaster and Preston to M4LUK'. For the itinerary/queries contact the secretary on 07523 183758 or spucpreston@gmail.com



Society for the **Protection** of Unborn Children



**MARRIAGE
SUPPORT
Need help?**

www.retrouvaille.org.uk
07887 296 983 or 07973 380 443



**PRAY as you Go LISTEN TO GUIDED
PRAYER, EVERY DAY, FOR FREE**

<https://prayasyougo.org>

Daily prayer session for portable devices.

THE TRADITIONAL ROMAN RITE

STUDY WEEKEND, 11 - 13 SEPTEMBER 2026

Join us in the beautiful setting of Stonyhurst to explore the key elements of the Roman Church's liturgical tradition. The weekend is intended to offer a deeper understanding of both the Traditional Rite specifically as well as of the New Rite of the Mass, which draws principally on the same heritage of the Church's worship over the centuries.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-traditional-roman-rite-study-weekend/>

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ernest Ezeani, Andrew Dawson,
Jen Murphy, Margaret Nelson,
Lee Unsworth, Maria Hall,
Ruth White, Anjana Linus,
Fr Chris Pedley SJ & Fr Hugh Duffy SJ
The Council meets monthly.

LITTLE CHURCH

will be taking a summer break after Sunday 19th July. So 19th will be the last session.

Little Church will resume in September.
Wishing you all a very happy summer holiday!



DONATE TO JESUIT MISSIONS

jesuitmissions.org.uk/donate/
11 Edge Hill London SW19 4LR



DONATE TO JRS

www.jrsuk.net/donate/
The Hurtado Jesuit Centre,
2 Chandler Street, London,
E1W 2QT

Gift & Card Shop **OPENING TIMES**

After 10.15am Sunday Mass
Monday & Friday 11.30am to 1pm
Cash/cards taken

Donate by debit/credit card



There are 2 machines in the Narthex

Online Donations to St Wilfrid's can be made via the **PARISH WEBSITE**
www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk
Click on the **DONATE** button & follow the instructions. It's easy!

**DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS
UNATTENDED IN CHURCH**

PARISH PRIEST: FR. CHRIS PEDLEY SJ **01772 555244** cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk
 Parish Administrator: **01772 554396** stwilfridspa@gmail.com
 Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara McLaren **07986940883** barbara@hornworks.co.uk
 Superior of the Jesuit Community: Fr. Hugh Duffy SJ **01772 554387**
 Newsletter Items to stwilfridspa@gmail.com

CHURCH OPEN 8AM-6PM



PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE stwilfridspreston.org.uk

Sunday 19 July 16th Sunday Ordinary Time

Wisdom 12:13,16-19 Psalm 86 Romans 8:26-27 Matthew 13:24-43

Mass 7am **Mass 10.15am** with Choir **LITTLE CHURCH DURING MASS**
 Parish Centre 11.15-12.30 Tea/coffee Gift & Card Shop open

Mass 4.30pm

Mon 20 July

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

11.30am-12noon
 Exposition

11.30-1pm Gift & Card
 Shop Open Tea/coffee

Micah 6:1-4,6-8 (Ps 50) Matthew 12:38-42

Tue 21 July

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia
 Hot Meal Drop In

Micah 7:14-15,18-20 (Ps 85) Matthew 12:46-50

Wed 22 July

ST MARY
 MAGDALENE

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

5.15-5.45pm
 Adoration

6.30pm Metanoia
 Clothes Drop In
 (Narthex)

Song of Songs 3:1-4a (Ps 63) John 20:1-2,11-18

Thu 23 July

ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN
 PATRON OF EUROPE

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

Galatians 2:19-20 (Ps 34) John 15:1-8

Fri 24 July

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15 Requiem

11.30-1pm Gift & Card
 Shop Open Tea/coffee

Jeremiah 3:14-17 Jeremiah 31:10-13 Matthew 13:18-23

Sat 25 July

ST JAMES

Confessions 11-12.10 **Mass 12.15**
Confessions 5-5.30 **VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

2 Corinthians 4:7-15 (Ps 126) Matthew 20:20-28

WE PRAY FOR

Those who died recently: Angelina Di Palma Requiem 24/7 @12.15pm

Anniversaries: Monica Brierley

Those who are sick: Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn,
 Agnes Partington, Janet Hadfield