



# Newsletter

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025

18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

## St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

### VANITY OF VANITIES

Many people struggle to make ends meet. However, even those who most of us would see as very well off often seem never to have enough and to dedicate their lives to acquiring even more. I once heard about a man who had made his money teaching people how to be millionaires. Not how to make the millions, but how to manage the things which went with that lifestyle, for example, where to get your bespoke shirts cleaned (you need a specialist, not just a high street dry cleaner) or how to recruit the crew for your yacht. The man in today's parable is someone with those kind of "problems".

Very few of us are in the billionaire class. However, today's readings can still be a challenge for us. What are the important things in our lives? Do we spend a disproportionate amount of time and effort on things which are, in the end, "vanities"? Do we, perhaps, allow our relationships to be dominated by the kind of resentments felt by the man who asks Jesus to intervene in his dispute with his brother about their inheritance? It does not matter whether we are rich or poor, we still need to ask ourselves the question, "what is at the centre of our lives?" Our example in this is Christ himself, who made himself poor, even to death on the cross, that we might have the abundance of life which God wants to give us. So often in scripture the image of abundance, of the great feast, is used to illustrate the love of God. We see in the Gospel, at the marriage feast of Cana, the miraculous draft of fish for the feeding of the five thousand. As we hear today's readings let us ask that we may focus on the true riches that come from God and respond in love to his generosity.

Chris Pedley, S.J.





## St Ignatius' Day, Thursday 31st July

6pm Mass followed by BBQ

We hope to bring you photos of this event in next week's

Newsletter. **Please email your images to**

**[stwilfridspa@gmail.com](mailto:stwilfridspa@gmail.com)**

Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JB

### A PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Christ, Prince of Peace,  
hear our prayer and lament,  
for our suffering sisters and brothers.  
Our hearts are heavy as we witness lives torn apart,  
as we see the faces of frightened children  
and hear the pleas of those without water or food.  
We pray for the dead and the grieving,  
for the injured and the afraid.  
We pray for courage and perseverance,  
for those working for healing and to bring aid.  
We pray for world leaders,  
that they may strive for a just and lasting peace.  
God of new beginnings,  
in your ways are compassion and hope.  
Open our hearts to dialogue and understanding.  
Lead us all to answer your call  
to become peacemakers  
today, and all the days of our life.  
Amen.

All of us are horrified by the recent news of what is happening in Gaza. The situation is getting worse by the hour. Hunger is spreading across Gaza and families, aid workers and journalists are struggling to survive while being under attack. Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, knows how urgently help is needed: "Humanitarian aid is not only necessary — it is a matter of life and death. Every hour without food, water, medicine, or shelter inflicts profound harm."

**CAFOD**  
Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

**[cafod@cafod.org.uk](mailto:cafod@cafod.org.uk)**

**Answer Pope Leo's plea  
for Gaza**

**Your donation today  
will make a difference.  
Our trusted partners  
are working tirelessly to  
provide food, water and  
medicine to families  
who can't escape the  
violence.**

**As well as donating,  
please also join the call  
for peace and email  
your MP to call on the  
UK government to take  
bolder and more  
decisive action.**

### **THE CHURCH COURTYARD IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL PARKING**

**Any vehicles in the courtyard are booked in and authorised since they are carrying out maintenance or other work for the parish.**

**YOU ARE KINDLY ASKED NOT TO PARK YOUR VEHICLE IN THE CHURCH COURTYARD.**



[www.beunos.com](http://www.beunos.com)

## St Beuno's Jesuit Spirituality Centre

*in rural North Wales warmly invites you to join us for a retreat on the Synodal Church 19-21st September.*

Inspired by Pope Leo XIV's election, we are running a retreat reflecting the Synodal Church and discerning the Spirit's invitation in our own life through prayerful reflection and conversation, 'always seeking peace, charity and closeness, especially to those who are suffering.'  
(Pope Leo XIV)



Main Office: 01745 583444

We invite parishioners, clergy, synodal groups & anyone interested in discerning this exciting and important phase in the life of the Church. The suggested donation is about £200 for the two nights. Bursaries are available.



[info@beunos.com](mailto:info@beunos.com)

### Gift & Card Shop

#### OPENING TIMES

After 10.15

Sunday Mass

Monday and Friday

11.30am—1pm

### The Martyr-Saints of the North-West 12 – 14 September 2025 at The Christian Heritage Centre

Theodore House, Stonyhurst, BB7 9PZ

A weekend studying some of the Reformation-era martyrs of the North-West. Part-retreat, part-biographical.

Led by Mgr John Allen of Salford Diocese.

To book: [christianheritagecentre.com](http://christianheritagecentre.com)

Online Donations to St Wilfrid's can be made via the **PARISH WEBSITE**  
[www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk](http://www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk)

Click on the **DONATE** button & follow the instructions. It's very easy!



#### THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST -For Mutual Coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

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

**PARISH PRIEST:** FR. CHRIS PEDLEY SJ 01772 555244 [cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk](mailto:cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk)  
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**Deacon (Retired):** Rev. Bill Adams 07866 104144  
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**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE** [stwilfridspreston.org.uk](http://stwilfridspreston.org.uk)

**Sunday 3 August** 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Ecclesiastes 1:2,2:21-23 (Ps 89) Colossians 3:1-5,9-11 Luke 12:13-21*

**Mass 7am** **Mass 10.15am** with Choir. *Little Church on summer break.*  
 Parish Centre 11.15-12.30 Tea/coffee Gift & Card Shop Open

**Mass 4.30pm** *Music Group on summer break*

**Mon 4 August** **Confessions 11.50-12.10**  
 ST JOHN VIANNEY **Mass 12.15**

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

*Numbers 11:4b-15 (Ps 80) Matthew 14:13-21*

**Tues 5 August** **Confessions 11.50-12.10**  
 FERIA **Mass 12.15**

6-7.30pm Metanoia Hot Meal Drop In

*Numbers 12:1-13 (Ps 50) Matthew 14:22-36*

**Wed 6 August** **Confessions 11.50-12.10** 5-5.45 Adoration of Blessed Sacrament  
 TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD **Mass 12.15**

6.30pm Metanoia Clothes Drop (Narthex)

*Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 2Peter 1:16-19 (Ps 97) Luke 9:28b-36*

**Thur 7 August** **Confessions 11.50-12.10**  
 FERIA **Mass 12.15**

*Life Ascending on summer break*

*Numbers 20:1-13 (Ps 94) Matthew 16:13-23*

**Fri 8 August** **Confessions 11.50-12.10**  
 ST DOMINIC **Mass 12.15**

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

*Deuteronomy 4:32-40 (Ps 76) Matthew 16:24-28*

**Sat 9 August** **Confessions 11-12.10** **Mass 12.15**  
 ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS **Confessions 5-5.30** **VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

*Deuteronomy 6:4-13 (Ps 17) Matthew 17:14-20*

**WE PRAY FOR** Those who died recently:

**Anniversaries:** Dennis Herbert George, Jimmy Ferry

**Those who are sick:** Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn,  
 Deacon Bill Adams, Agnes Partington, Janet Hadfield.