



Newsletter

10th August 2025

19TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

On Friday, 15th August, we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven.

Fr James Hanvey SJ, a British Jesuit priest and theologian who currently serves as Secretary for the Service of Faith at the Jesuit General Curia in Rome, wrote: "One way of understanding why the Church speaks of Mary with a loving and devotional boldness is to recognise that in speaking of her, the Church is always speaking about Christ and the life of grace in us as it comes into its eternal plenitude....

Mary is the guarantor of the incarnation, guarantor of the reality of Christ who lived in a time, a place, a family, a people, with a God, a history and a hope.....

Mary illuminates what it means to live a life totally alive to Christ and to God's purpose for our world... Mary's faith stands in the same line as that of Abraham and



Assumption Of Mary, 1642 Guido Reni

draws on the total faith of her son. In her we can begin to see something of the way in which the life of grace makes us more human, not less so. In the very fullness of her faith and womanhood, Mary shows us that faith does not close us off from the world but makes us more open to it. With her 'yes' she stands in solidarity with the poor and the victims, with all those who, like her, have had to hold a dead child in their arms, or flee their home to protect their family. This woman of Nazareth is in solidarity with all those who, in the midst of the precariousness and toil of an unrecognised domestic life, have never stopped believing that somehow, even in the darkness of suffering and death, God was

working".

Friday's holy day of obligation gives us a chance to reflect on what Mary means for us and our understanding our faith. You might want to read the full article:-

<https://www.thinkingfaith.org/articles/reflections-assumption> Chris Pedley, S.J.

St Ignatius' Day, 31st July

Thank you very much to all those who worked so hard to make our St Ignatius' Day celebration a success.



Patrick Rooney RIP



We are greatly saddened to learn of the recent death of Patrick, a long time parishioner at St Wilfrid's, who contributed greatly to parish life through his service, at various times, in such roles as Lector, Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council and support of these living on the margins of our society especially through the Tuesday Food Drop In. One of the service users of the latter has written the following.

"I can't really remember how I met Patrick. I just remember him being there and seeing him most days before he became ill a couple of years ago. He always seemed to be on the toughest cases for helping those in need. People like I was, drug addicts and the homeless who were very difficult for services to support due to mental health issues, or housing conditions, or other circumstances. For quite a few years I helped Patrick in caring for John Calligan RIP and it was a daily task, with continual cleaning in his home whilst he was in hospital or rehab. Patrick was always there for him come what may, taking John to the doctors or for frequent hospital stays. John was beyond help but Patrick was there for him right up to John's death at the age of 43. He made John's life bearable and added at least five years to his survival, greatly improving his quality of life, as Patrick did also for many others. He supported many men I know who grew up as children in troubled homes and difficult backgrounds. We had a few short lived fallouts over the years but I spoke to him every day on WhatsApp to stay in touch. I have spoken to some who have heard about Patrick's passing and I have witnessed from them shocked looks and a few tears from some hardened characters. We had many laughs with the lost and unwanted in the Tuesday Soup Kitchen. His passing will affect the lives of many as he lived a life of service to God. Patrick truly lived out the Gospel and the words, 'what you did for the least of your brothers, you did for me.' He certainly did that. God Bless you Paddy. You are a character, loved by characters. See you in Paradise."

The arrangements for Patrick's funeral are still to be confirmed but we do know it has been requested to take place at St Wilfrid's towards the end of August. Please see next week's newsletter for the details. May Patrick rest in peace.

GLOBAL CHURCH PETITION FOR THE GLOBAL DEBT CRISIS



54 countries from Kenya to Sri Lanka are facing debt distress by being forced to spend on payments to big banks, wealthy nations and global institutions rather than on their health, education and life saving climate measures. Debts are paid at the expense of hiring doctors, teachers, schools, hospitals and sewage systems. Interest rates are often extortionate. We need to cancel unfair debts and implement fairer laws to prevent future debt crises.

Act now! 2025 is a Jubilee Year of Hope and the Bible calls for debt cancellation to restore justice and human dignity. People are uniting in solidarity across the world to demand action. Pope Francis said, "More than a question of generosity, this is a matter of justice."

Please support this Global Appeal by signing the petition at the back of Church after each Sunday Mass.



VIOLENCE IN NIGERIA On Friday, 3th June, more than 200 Christians were tragically killed in Yelewata, a rural village in the Diocese of Makurdi. Deeply moved by the news of the massacre, Pope Leo offered prayers for the victims during the following Sunday Angelus:

"I pray that security, justice and peace prevail in Nigeria, a beloved country that has suffered various forms of violence. I pray in particular for the rural Christian communities in the state of Benue, who have unceasingly been victims of violence".

LET US JOIN THE POPE IN PRAYING FOR PEACE IN NIGERIA.

THE CHURCH IN NIGERIA CAN BE SUPPORTED THROUGH AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED.

Photo by Emmanuel Ikwuegbu on Unsplash



**St Wilfrid's Day,
12th October.
Please put our
patronal feast
in your diary.
Further details
to follow.**



**Feast of The Assumption of
The Blessed Virgin Mary**

Friday 15th August

Masses at 12.15pm

& 5.30pm

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

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 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
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 Superior of the Jesuit Community: Fr. Hugh Duffy SJ 01772 554387
 Deacon (Retired): Rev. Bill Adams 07866 104144
 Newsletter Items to stwilfridspa@gmail.com



PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE stwilfridspreston.org.uk

Sunday 10 August 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 18:6-9 (Ps 32) Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19 Luke 12:32-48

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 11 August

ST CLARE

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

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

Deuteronomy 10:12-22 (Ps 147) Matthew 17:22-27

Tues 12 August

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia Hot Meal Drop In

Deuteronomy 31:1-8 Deuteronomy 32:3-4,7-9,12 Matthew 18:1-5,10,12-14

Wed 13 August

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

5-5.45 Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

6.30pm Metanoia Clothes Drop (Narthex)

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (Ps 65) Matthew 18:15-20

Thu 14 August

ST MAXIMILIAN KOLBE

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

Life Ascending on summer break

Joshua 3:7-10a,11,13-17 (Ps 113a) Matthew 18:21-19:1

Fri 15 August

ASSUMPTION OF BLD VIRGIN MARY

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15 & 5.30pm **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

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

Apocalypse 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab (Ps 44) 1 Corinthians 15:20-27 Luke 1:39-56

Sat 16 August

FERIA

Confessions 11-12.10

Mass 12.15

Confessions 5-5.30

VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

Joshua 24:14-29 (Ps 15) Matthew 19:13-15

WE PRAY FOR Those who died recently: Patrick Rooney RIP
Anniversaries: Catherine Roe, Eileen Sutcliffe, Fr Hugh Ross SJ,
 Francis Peter Melvin, Stella Guest

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

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