



St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

Newsletter

3rd December, 2023

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ADVENT



Today we begin a new Church year with the season of Advent. We use this time to prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ. Obviously we think primarily of the coming of Christ in to our world at Christmas. God coming to share our lives,

God-with-us, Emmanuel. However, our prayers and readings also remind us of the need to be prepared for the coming of Christ at the end of time and the need to live our lives here and now in the light of Christ's becoming one of us.

In some places the trappings of Christmas have already been up for the last couple of weeks. We already hear Christmas carols played in the shops and see Christmas decorations all round us. Once Christmas has come many of these signs of Christmas will disappear. On Boxing Day, the day after Christmas, the focus shifts to the sales. However, for us this is a time of preparation. Gradually indications of the coming feast will appear in the church but the key moment will be the celebration of the First Mass of Christmas. From then our church will reflect the arrival of Christ as the babe of Bethlehem. While for most people this will end at the feast of the Epiphany, for us the remembrance of Christmas only ends with the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple on 2nd February. So if people ask you why we still have our Christmas decorations until then you can explain to them.

For us the time until Christmas is indeed a time of preparation. It is not simply about writing cards and wrapping presents. Above all it is a time to prepare ourselves to receive Christ. A time to reflect on ourselves, the changes we need to make in our lives and to hear John the Baptist's message of repentance.

Chris Pedley, S.J.

Sanctuary Gift and Card shop

Open Mon & Fri 11.15-1.15 and during refreshments after 10.15 Mass on Sunday. We offer a large selection of cards for most occasions

Christmas cards, calendars diaries & cribs
Limited number of 2024 Diocesan directories £6



You are invited to
A Christmas Carol Service
With the choirs of
St Wilfrid's, including
our African choir,
Cardinal Newman staff &
Our Lady's High School.
SUNDAY
17th December
@6.30pm

A Date for Your Diary

The Quiz Night for the Zambian Orphanage will be next year on Friday 26th January

Talents

Do you have a talent for cooking? Geoff could always provide food for parish occasions so we need people to carry on this tradition of catering. If you think you can help speak to Fr Chris

1st Sunday of Advent

Paul Swarbrick
Bishop of Lancaster
has sent a Pastoral Letter
Copies available
in the Narthex

Advent and Christmas services

Pick up a leaflet with opening times,
Also available on the website



UNVEILED
Scripture, Talk, Praise and Worship
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.30 pm in Church on Friday
1st & 15th December



This Sunday the Faith & Justice group will provide Christmas cards for you to sign for four parishes in the Holy Land. Each year we send our greetings to let the Catholic minority know we are thinking and praying for them. It is especially important this year as we remember our brothers and sisters in Gaza, the West Bank and Tel Aviv.

Metanoia Project are looking for an office cleaner to work from their offices at 1 Chapel Street. The post is a paid position and would be for 2 hours a week. Please see one of the team or ring Joe on 07481188102 for details.

New Carpet in the Main Room of the Parish Centre

The old floor coverings have now been removed. We are waiting for the new carpet. Apologies for the disruption. Your patience is appreciated.

A Christmas Invitation Day Retreat

Led by Philip McParland
This Saturday 2nd December

10.30am to 4.00pm

JMc Conference Centre
Corpus Christi High School
St Vincent's Road, Preston

Donation: £20

Please bring a packed lunch
Tea/coffee will be provided



Every Thursday
Coffee from 10.45
for an 11am start.

There are a number of Christmas events in the next few weeks locally and online including *A Blessed Messiah is Born – a preparation for Christmas Monday 18th December 2023 at 7pm at St Joseph's Church*



JRS UK Advent Service 2023

Friday 15th December, 7pm
Farm St Church, London

Please check the notice board in the narthex for posters and information

Two events at Stonyhurst Museum in December
Wed 13 Fri 15 Festive Recipes & Illuminated Christmas
Book online www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/christmas



On Wednesday we said farewell to Bill Beetham. We heard about his work as a fireman and after he retired how he led walking and dancing groups. He always had a cheery smile. We knew him for his great devotion to God. He was at daily Mass until his health declined earlier this year. He was also regular

pilgrim to Lourdes. Our prayers go to his son Matthew and his relatives and friends

Rest in peace good and devoted servant.



ANGEL AT MY TABLE

- Each day during December, lay an extra place at your dinner table for an angel
- Set aside an amount of money for each of your angel's meals
- Total the amount and donate it to Jesuit Missions (use the QR code and mention 'Angel at My Table' on the donation form)



--:COP28 AGENDA cutting emissions to limit the rise in global temperatures to 1.5

--:making sure there is the money available to make the changes needed and to support countries already facing irreversible loss and damage

--:putting nature, people, and livelihoods at the heart of climate action

--:making sure everyone's voices are included, especially those who are not usually heard.



We pray that world leaders meeting for COP28 will listen with openness to those most affected by climate change and with courage act urgently and wisely so that our common home may be healed and restored and that people, and generations to come, may delight in it.

Chaplaincy Services for Students and Young Adults

info about groups and events please contact joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk

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Parish Priest: Fr. Chris Pedley SJ (555244) cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk

Deacon (Retired): Rev. Bill Adams (726653) (07866104144)

Parish Administrator: (554396) stwilfridspa@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara MacLaren (07986940883) barbara@hornworks.co.uk

Superior of the Jesuit Community: Fr Hugh Duffy SJ (554387)

Parish Website www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk



Sun 3	1st Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b,64, (Ps 79) 1 Cor 1:3-9-	Mark 13:33-37
Mon 4	Feria	Isaiah 2:1-5, (Ps 121)	Matt 8:5-11
Tue 5	Feria	Isaiah 11:1-10 (Ps 71)	Luke 10:21-24
Wed 6	Feria <i>St Nicholas</i>	Isaiah 25:6-10a (Ps 22)	Matt 15:29-37
Thu 7	St Ambrose	Isaiah :26:1-6 (Ps 117)	Matt 7:21,21-27
Fri 8	Immaculate Conception	Gen 3:9-15,20 (Ps 97) Eph 1:3-6,11-12-	Luke 1:26-38
Sat 9	Feria	Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26 (Ps 146)	Matt 9:35-10:1,6-8

Mass & Confession Times

Saturday

Confessions 11.15am to 12.15pm

Mass 12.15pm

Confessions 5 to 5.30pm

Vigil 5.35pm

Sunday

Masses 7, 10.15am & 4.30pm

Monday to Friday

Confessions 11.50am to 12.10pm

Mass 12.15pm

Eucharistic



For Jesuit Vocations
every Monday
11:30 -12 noon

LITTLE CHURCH

during 10.15am Sunday Mass.
All children welcome

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who died recently: John Brennan RIP
Requiem 12.15 Thursday 14 Dec

Anniversaries

John Calligan

Those who are sick: Susan Craft, Joyce Lyons,
Brendan Rawsthorn, Fr Joseph D'Ambrosio CSSp



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



December's Intention -

For people with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their participation.

The Parish Newsletter is to reflect what happens in the Parish & news regarding parishioners. If you would like something to be included please send information to the Parish administrator or email to stwilfridsnewsletter@gmail.com