



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

17th August 2025

20TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston



Photo by Music Meets Heaven on Unsplash

FIRE ON THE EARTH

In today's Gospel we have Jesus' shocking statement that he has come to bring division rather than peace to the earth.

Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem and to the Cross, that is the baptism he is about to undergo. What is more he has not simply come with a comforting message that we can just sit back and God will take care of everything. Jesus is a challenging message, a call to repentance, a call for us to be trans-

formed.

Already Jesus is facing opposition from those whose comfortable position is challenged by his message. It is not just the scribes and the pharisees, the religious leaders, but even the people in the towns where he has been preaching. They are happy to accept his miracles and a pride that they have been chosen to hear the message but they have not taken it seriously, it has not produced any change.

This Gospel is not just about Jesus and his message. It was written for early Christians who shared that experience of rejection. Their acceptance of the Gospel put them at odds with those around them, their family, friends and neighbours. We can imagine how the first converts must have experienced exactly the kind of division that Jesus describes.

That rejection has been experienced by those who seek to live out the Gospel down the ages. We have recently been celebrating the martyrs of this part of the world who laid down their lives for the faith in the 16th and 17th centuries. Christians in various parts of the world today experience persecution. The attacks on church congregations in DRC and Nigeria are examples of this. **AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** is trying to bring help to those congregations and we may wish to support that effort ...

Website acnuk.org Email acn@acnuk.org Tel **0345 646 0110** or **020 8642 8668**

Chris Pedley, S.J.



Patrick Rooney RIP 13.11.1948 to 2.8.2025
Requiem at St Wilfrid's Church
on Tuesday 26th August at 12.15pm
Followed by burial at Hill Road Cemetery
TUESDAY DROP IN VOLUNTEERS WRITE:

It was a privilege for us to volunteer and work alongside Patrick.

Patrick is remembered by many people, over many years, for his commitment and devotion to the users who enjoyed the Tuesday Food Drop In, which was originally initiated and run by Luv Preston. On a weekly basis Patrick would turn his hand to any task to ensure people were given a hot meal and made to feel welcome. We really got to know Patrick when a group of ladies gathered to peel vegetables for the evening's hot meal and he certainly kept us in check! He would spend hours on the phone/computer assisting those who struggled to access the right paperwork, or helping them fill in forms, or contacting Council departments in order to improve the lives of the Drop In users in any way, particularly when he felt an injustice had been done. Patrick judged no one and showed patient, untiring, interest in bettering the lives of others. He will be sadly missed.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.

ACCOMPANYING HOPE "We need to be capable of being a people who stand at the side of others, listening to them, becoming a Church that accompanies all people," Pope Francis. In response to the Synod and in preparation for the

Jesuit Parishes Conference in November we will be holding **a series of sessions, open to everyone of the Parish, after the 12.15pm Mass on 21st & 28th September and 5th October.** Look out for further details.



Gift & Card Shop
OPENING TIMES

After 10.15 Sunday Mass

Monday and Friday 11.30am—1pm

THE CHURCH COURTYARD IS
NOT AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL PARKING.
YOU ARE KINDLY ASKED NOT TO PARK
YOUR VEHICLE IN THE COURTYARD.

Annual Pilgrimage to the
DIOCESAN SHRINE OF
OUR LADY OF LOURDES
at Cleator CA23 3AB
Sunday 7th September

3pm Mass & Blessing of the Sick.
Celebrant Bishop Paul Swarbrick
Tea/coffee provided.

Bring your own packed lunch.
Tel 01946 810324 for info.

The Martyr-Saints of the North-West

12 – 14 September 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

CASTLERIGG OPEN DAY

Castlerigg Manor annual Open Day on Sunday 14th September. Open at midday.
Mass with Bishop Paul will be at 2pm. Come and see the place, meet the team, take part in some activities, and enjoy afternoon tea. **Keswick CA12 4AR 017687 72711**



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 & DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Christians are being massacred in Nigeria and the DRC

LET US PRAY FOR PEACE

THE CHURCH IN NIGERIA & DRC CAN BE SUPPORTED THROUGH AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED



Aid to the
Church in Need

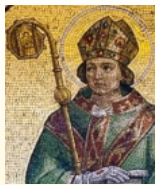
ACN UNITED KINGDOM

Be part of
**Preston
Volunteers**

Preston Volunteers are looking for a bilingual English/Spanish speaker. If you can help please contact Joseph Cooper for more information.
joseph.cooper@communitycvs.org.uk or Tel. 07947 935006

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

Next course: 17-19 October



St Wilfrid's Day 12th October

Please put our
patronal feast
in your diary

Further details to follow



Jesuit Missions

extend sincere gratitude for
the gift of **£456.63**
from St Wilfrid's Parish

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
 Parish Administrator: 01772 554396 stwilfridspa@gmail.com
 Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara Maclaren 07986940883 barbara@hornworks.co.uk
 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 17 August 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10 (Ps 39) Hebrews 12:1-4 Luke 12:49-53

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 18 August **Confessions 11.50-12.10**
 FERIA **Mass 12.15**

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

Judges 2:11-19 (Ps 105) Matthew 19:16-22

Tues 19 August **Confessions 11.50-12.10**
 FERIA **Mass 12.15**

6-7.30pm Metanoia
 Hot Meal Drop In

Judges 6:11-24a (Ps 8) Matthew 19:23-30

Wed 20 August **Confessions 11.50-12.10** 5-5.45 Adoration of
 ST BERNARD **Mass 12.15** Blessed Sacrament

6.30pm Metanoia
 Clothes Drop
 (Narthex)

Judges 9:6-15 (Ps 20) Matthew 20:1-16

Thu 21 August **Confessions 11.50-12.10**
 ST PIUS X **Mass 12.15**

*Life Ascending on
 summer break*

Judges 11:29-39a (Ps 39) Matthew 22:1-14

Fri 22 August **Confessions 11.50-12.10**
 QUEENSHIP OF **Mass 12.15**
 BLD VIRGIN
 MARY

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

Ruth 1:1,3-6,14b,16,22 (Ps 145) Matthew 22:34-40

Sat 23 August **Confessions 11-12.10** **Mass 12.15**
 FERIA **Confessions 5-5.30** **VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

Ruth 2:1-3,8-11,4:13-17 (Ps 127) Matthew 23:1-12

WE PRAY FOR **Those who died recently:** Patrick Rooney RIP Requiem 26 August 12.15pm
Anniversaries: Kath Donnelly, Veronica Gray, Jean Hothersall
Those who are sick: Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn,
 Deacon Bill Adams, Agnes Partington, Janet Hadfield.

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