



JESUITS  
IN BRITAIN

# Newsletter

24<sup>th</sup> August 2025

21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

## St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

### PEOPLE FROM EAST AND WEST

In today's Gospel Jesus is travelling towards Jerusalem and the Cross. He is travelling through towns and villages where he is teaching. He is a celebrity and people are drawn to him. However, they do not necessarily take his message seriously. He is calling on them to change and yet his presence seems to be producing a kind of complacency. Jesus' message is a call to action. We have to "strive to enter by the narrow door" by living out the Gospel message Jesus brings.

Jesus makes clear that he has not just come for a limited group of people. He is not just there for the people he meets, or for his Jewish compatriots. The picture of the kingdom of God, the heavenly banquet, in the Old Testament, depicts people from east and west coming to join in.

This inclusivity is picked up by Jesus in what he tells his hearers. It was also a practical reality for the early Church. We read in the Acts of the Apostles the story of how the early Christians came to realise that the Gospel was for everybody, gentiles

as well as Jews. If we look at the Church today we see that it really is a universal Church. It is not simply associated with a European based "Christian" culture. Most people in the Church today are not from Europe or North America and this has implications for the way the Church operates.

As we listen to today's Gospel we ask that we really follow Jesus, that our complacency might be challenged. We also ask that we may recognise our brothers and sisters from around the world with whom we are called to share in the heavenly banquet.

Chris Pedley, S.J.





## Patrick Rooney RIP

13.11.1948 to 2.8.2025

**Requiem at St Wilfrid's Church on  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August at 12.15pm  
Followed by burial at  
Hill Road Cemetery**

**Gift & Card Shop**

**OPENING TIMES**

**After 10.15 Sunday Mass**

**Closed Bank Holiday Monday**

**Friday 11.30am to 1pm**

**TYMPANUM SCULPTURES OVER THE FRONT DOORS**

Phase 1 works scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> September.

May cause some disruption.

**CHURCH OPEN &**

**ALL SERVICES AS USUAL.**



**CAFOD: Response in Gaza** Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). **Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East.**

**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 10.15pm Mass on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September.**

**A Regional Meeting will be held at Stonyhurst  
on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October**

**PLEASE PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY**



## **St Wilfrid's Day Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**To celebrate our patronal feast  
there will be a BBQ after 10.15am Mass**

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

## 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."

**Thank you to those who have signed the petition at the back of Church. This Sunday's Masses are the last opportunity to sign it.**

### A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

Let us remember the people of Ukraine at this time  
of negotiation.

Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.  
We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their  
choices.  
We pray for the world  
that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.  
May we walk in your ways  
so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world. Amen.

Photo by Yuri Khamitskyi on Unsplash



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

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**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE** [stwilfridspreston.org.uk](http://stwilfridspreston.org.uk)

**Sunday 24 August** 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Isaiah 66:18-21 (Ps 116) Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13 Luke 13:22-30*

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

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

**Mon 25 August**

FERIA

**Confessions 11.50-12.10**

**Mass 12.15**

**11.30-1pm** Gift & Card  
 Shop **Closed for the**  
**Bank Holiday**

*1 Thessalonians 1:1-5,8b-10 (Ps 149) Matthew 23:13-22*

**Tues 26 August**

FERIA

**Confessions 11.50-12.10**

**Mass 12.15 REQUIEM**

**6-7.30pm** Metanoia  
 Hot Meal Drop In

*1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 (Ps 139) Matthew 23:23-26*

**Wed 27 August**

ST MONICA

**Confessions 11.50-12.10**

**Mass 12.15**

**5-5.45** Adoration of  
 Blessed Sacrament

**6.30pm** Metanoia  
 Clothes Drop In  
 (Narthex)

*1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 (Ps 139) Matthew 23:27-32*

**Thu 28 August**

ST AUGUSTINE

**Confessions 11.50-12.10**

**Mass 12.15**

*Life Ascending on*  
*summer break.*  
*Resumes 4 Sept*

*1 Thessalonians 3:7-13 (Ps 90) Matthew 24:42-51*

**Fri 29 August**

MARTYRDOM

ST J BAPTIST

**Confessions 11.50-12.10**

**Mass 12.15**

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

*1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (Ps 33) Mark 6:17-29*

**Sat 30 August**

FERIA

**Confessions 11-12.10**

**Mass 12.15**

**Confessions 5-5.30**

**VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

*1 Thessalonians 4:9-11 (Ps 98) Matthew 25:14-30*

**WE PRAY FOR**

**Those who died recently:** Patrick Rooney RIP Requiem 26 August 12.15pm

**Anniversaries:** Dorothy Crabtree, Fr Joe Duggan SJ, Bernadette Crook.

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

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