



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

14th September 2025

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

EXALTATION OF THE CROSS



This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. As you come into our church it is dominated by the figure of Christ on the Cross. This is the core of our faith, that Christ died for us on the cross so that we might have life through him.

Our liturgy picks up two scenes from the Old Testament. The Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer looks back to the story of the Fall in the book of Genesis. Praising the Father, it says, "For you placed the salvation of the human race on the wood of the Cross, so that, where death arose, life might again spring forth and the evil one, who conquered on a tree, might likewise on a tree be conquered through Christ our Lord.

The second scene is that of Moses in the desert, when the Lord has sent serpents among them, raising up the bronze serpent as a sign of healing. This is the scene Jesus picks up in the Gospel, speaking to Nicodemus. He sees this as a symbol of his own Cross, raised up for our healing.

Today's feast celebrates the Cross, which would otherwise be a symbol of horror and death, as a symbol of life and healing. Today we celebrate, as Jesus says in the Gospel, that "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him".

Whenever we come into the church let us take a moment to notice the Cross and to understand its significance for us. Similarly, when ever we see the image of the Cross, whether in our homes or in so many places around us, let us remember it as a sign of life, as sign of what God has done for us. Let us exalt in the Cross of Christ.

Chris Pedley, S.J.



The Season of Creation concludes on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, 4th October.

This ecumenical season is dedicated to prayer and action for the protection of creation. It is a time to renew our relationships with God our Creator, and with all creation, as we join together in prayer.

We give thanks for all that God has made, repent for the damage that we have caused and commit ourselves to take action to protect the earth our common home.

"Peace with creation" is the theme and invitation of this year's Season of Creation, which draws its inspiration from Isaiah 32:14-18. The prophet begins with a portrayal of a desolate creation, wounded by human injustice. Yet there is still hope that creation will find peace and flourish when justice is restored.

ACCOMPANYING in HOPE In response to the Synod and 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 14th & 21st September.

A Regional Meeting will be held at Stonyhurst on Saturday 4th October



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Castlerigg Manor, Keswick CA12 4AR 017687 72711

September 26-28th 2025. £65 all inc. or £40 for students/ unwaged. This is the first in a new series of dedicated training weekends being run at Castlerigg for young adults (18-30). Sign up at castleriggmanor.com/events



Gift & Card Shop

OPENING TIMES

After 10.15 Sunday Mass

Mon & Fri 1.30am to 1pm

Diaries, Calendars and Advent

Calendars are now in stock

UNVEILED



26 September
7.30-9pm

in St Wilfrid's Church

ruth@metanoiaproject.co.uk



DISCERNING TOGETHER, SEEKING JUSTICE

JESUIT MISSIONS CHRISTMAS CARDS & GIFTS

ORDER AT www.charitycardshop.com/JM

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

St Wilfrid's Day Sunday 12th October St Wilfrid needs you! In order to mark our Parish Feast with a fitting celebration, we'd love as many parishioners to be involved as possible, and we'd love to reflect the vibrant, international nature of our Parish. We are looking for volunteers to provide food from their culture and to share different expressions of faith through either a display, a presentation, or an activity. Please pick up a flier for information. Contact: ruth@metanoiaproject.co.uk

PRAY as you Go LISTEN TO GUIDED PRAYER, EVERY DAY, FOR FREE <https://prayasyougo.org>



Founded as a Work of the British Province of Jesuits, Pray As You Go has existed as a podcast for 18 years and now reaches a daily combined audience of almost 200,000 listeners a day, from a variety of Christian denominations.

Pray as you go is a daily prayer session, designed for use on portable devices, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling.

Our Lady & St Edwards Parish Centre, 4 Marlborough Dr, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9UE host friendly movement based sessions for older adults, people living with dementia, carers and people with mobility challenges on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays 12:30-2pm



Marriage support - Does your relationship need some TLC?
Need help with deeper issues?
www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296 983

STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

The Parish of St. Wilfrid welcomes new and returning University of Lancashire students. Joe White, Catholic Chaplain and Metanoia Project, provide chaplaincy services for the University of Lancashire on behalf of the Diocese of Lancaster. From Sunday, 21st September there will be food and prayer after the 4:30pm Mass, as well as other events happening during the week. Metanoia Project and the Catholic Society will be at Masses over the coming weeks to welcome you and to speak to you about upcoming events.



JOE WHITE, UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN
joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk Tel. 07481 188102



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 SEPTEMBER



For our relationship with all of creation.

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

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

CHURCH OPEN 8AM-6PM



PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE stwilfridspreston.org.uk

Sunday 14 September Exaltation of the Holy Cross 24th Week Ordinary Time

Numbers 21:4b-9 (Ps 77) Philippians 2:6-11 John 3:13-17

Mass 7am **Mass 10.15am** with Choir. **LITTLE CHURCH DURING MASS**
 Parish Centre 11.15-12.30 Tea/coffee Gift & Card Shop Open

Mass 4.30pm with Music Group

Mon 15 Sept

OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

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

Hebrews 5:7-9 (Ps 31) John 19:25-27

Tues 16 Sept

*STS CORNELIUS,
 POPE & CYPRIAN*

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia
 Hot Meal Drop In

1Timothy 3:1-13 (Ps 101) Luke 7:11-17

Wed 17 Sept

ST R BELLARMINE SJ

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

5.15-5.45 Adoration
 of Blessed Sacrament

6.30pm Metanoia
 Clothes Drop In
 (Narthex)

1Timothy 3:14-16 (Ps 111) Luke 7:31-35

Thu 18 Sept

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11am Life Ascending
 (Coffee 10.30am)

1Timothy 4:12-16 (Ps 111) Luke 7:36-50

Fri 19 Sept

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

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

1Timothy 6:2c-12 (Ps 49) Luke 8:1-3

Sat 20 Sept

MARTYRS OF KOREA

Confessions 11-12.10

Mass 12.15

Confessions 5-5.30

VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

1Timothy 6:13-16 (Ps 100) Luke 8:4-15

WE PRAY FOR

Those who died recently:

Anniversaries: Molly Fry, Marlene Roebuck, Margaret Wilson

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

St. Wilfrid's Presbytery, 1 Winckley Square, Preston, PR1 3JJ

Jesuits in Britain Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered No. 1207742