



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

20th September 2026

25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston



IT ISN'T FAIR

The parable of the labourers in the vineyard in today's Gospel is a challenging one. Our immediate sympathies are likely to be with those who worked in the heat for twelve hours. In the immediate context the message, "the last will be first and the first last" is the familiar one that the Gospel is for the gentiles, the poor, the tax collectors but will be rejected by the

obvious people, the scribes and the pharisees. However, it is worth asking ourselves what this overturning of expected values might mean for us.

One message is that we do not earn our way into heaven. God's love and mercy is there for everyone. It is not dependent on our piety or good works. It is there for those who recognise their need of God. That is the kind of compassion that our first reading from Isaiah talks about. It reminds us of the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke's Gospel and we can resent God's generosity just like the elder son in that parable.

The parable can also be a challenge to our ordinary way of thinking. The labourers who started first thing in the morning are comparing themselves to others and making judgements about what they deserve. They are disgruntled because they are not getting what they think is their due. That is something most of us can probably recognise in ourselves. Are we resentful or do we give thanks to God for his generosity to others?

We might also think about the story from the point of view of the ones who come at the eleventh hour. They have been idle and have missed out because no one has hired them, not because they are lazy. They and their families are in just as much need of the denarius as the others. In that way too the parable gives us a different perspective on life.

Chris Pedley S.J.

Sunday 20 September is Home Mission Sunday when we are asked to pray for the work of evangelisation & to witness to Christ in daily life: at home, at work & in the community.

Prayer



O God, our Heavenly Father, You have called us to be witnesses to Your love & mercy in the world. We pray for the work of evangelisation across our lands. Fill us with the joy of the Gospel, that we may boldly proclaim Your word at home, at work & in our communities.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon our parishes & give us the courage to invite others into a relationship with Christ.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



**Family Fast Day
Friday 2 October**

**A collection will be taken at
Masses on Sunday 4 October**

GIFTS IN WILLS fund a third of CAFOD's work, helping us respond quickly to emergencies, stay committed to communities overcoming poverty, and challenge the structures that stop them from flourishing.

Jess Boniface, CAFOD Gifts in Wills team email legacy@cafod.org.uk or call me on 020 7095 5367.



STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS

The Parish of St. Wilfrid's welcomes new & returning

University of Lancashire students.

JOE WHITE,

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN &

METANOIA PROJECT

provide

chaplaincy services for the

University of Lancashire

on behalf of the

Diocese of Lancaster.



There will be food and prayer after the 4:30 p.m. Mass at St Wilfrid's in the Parish Centre, as well as other events happening during the week. **Metanoia Project & the Catholic Society** will be at Masses over the coming weeks to welcome you and we will be delighted to speak to you about upcoming events.



Scan me

JOE WHITE

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

YOUNG LECTORS

There will be a meeting for young Lectors and those interested in becoming a young Lector, after the 10.15am Mass on Sunday 27th September.

ROAD CLOSURES NEAR THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026, 7AM TO 2PM, due to an official temporary traffic regulation for the Preston Half Marathon, affecting several streets around St Wilfrid's, which **will prevent parking and vehicular access for**

7am & 10.15 am Masses.

Road Closures include: Chapel Street, Winckley Square, Ribblesdale Place, East Cliff, Garden Street, Fishergate, Lune Street, Syke Street, Glover Street & Avenham Lane. Full details can be read at <https://publicnoticeportal.uk/notice/traffic-and-roads/6aa345ee6753f5b85e6d1481>

You will need to park further away and walk to the church so allow yourself extra time.

LITTLE CHURCH

**CANCELLED for Sunday
27th September due to access
restrictions detailed above.**

PREPARE FOR A LIFETIME TOGETHER

Residential Marriage Preparation course
8-10 January 2027, offering engaged couples
a theological and spiritual reflection on the
Sacrament of Matrimony.

christianheritagecentre.com/events/marriage-preparation/

**THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR
SEPTEMBER FOR THE CARE OF WATER.** Let us
pray for a just and sustainable management
of water, a vital resource, so that everyone
may have equal access to it.



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

Donate by debit/credit card



to St Wilfrid's

**There are
2 machines
in the
Narthex**

**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 easy!**



DONATE TO JRS

www.jrsuk.net/donate/
The Hurtado Jesuit Centre,
2 Chandler Street, London,
E1W 2QT



DONATE TO JESUIT MISSIONS

jesuitmissions.org.uk/donate/
11 Edge Hill London SW19 4LR

Gift & Card Shop

OPENING TIMES

**After 10.15am Sunday Mass
Monday & Friday 11.30am to 1pm
Cash/cards taken**

RCIA Sacramental Preparation for Adults

Are you interested in the Catholic faith,
being received into the Church, or re-
ceiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Eu-
charist or Confirmation? **The RCIA (Rite
of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

programme begins this Autumn. Adults
are usually received into the Church at
the Easter Vigil. To discuss your journey
contact **Joe White 07481 188102** or
email joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk
Or speak with Fr Chris Pedley for info.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Ernest Ezeani, Andrew Dawson,
Jen Murphy, Margaret Nelson,
Lee Unsworth, Maria Hall,
Ruth White, Anjana Linus,
Fr Chris Pedley SJ & Fr Hugh Duffy SJ**
The Council meets monthly.

**DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS
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 McLaren **07986940883** barbara@hornworks.co.uk
 Superior of the Jesuit Community: Fr. Hugh Duffy SJ **01772 554387**
 Newsletter Items to stwilfridspa@gmail.com

CHURCH OPEN 8AM-6PM



PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE stwilfridspreston.org.uk

Sunday 20 September 25th Sunday Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:6-9 (Ps 145) Philippians 1:20c-24,27a Matthew 20:1-16a

Mass 7am **Mass 10.15am** with Choir **LITTLE CHURCH**

Parish Centre 11.15-12.30 Tea/Coffee Gift & Card Shop open

Mass 4.30pm Music Group After Mass - **Student Group Meeting in Parish Centre**

Mon 21 Sep

ST MATTHEW

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11.30am-12noon

Exposition

11.30-1pm Gift & Card

Shop Open Tea/coffee

Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13 (Ps 19) Matthew 9:9-13

Tue 22 Sep

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia

Hot Meal Drop In

Proverbs 21:1-6,10-13 (Ps 119) Luke 8:19-21

Wed 23 Sep

ST PIUS OF
PIETRELCINA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

5.15-5.45pm

Adoration

6.30pm Metanoia

Clothes Drop In
(Narthex)

Proverbs 30:5-9 (Ps 119) Luke 9:1-6

Thu 24 Sep

OUR LADY OF
WALSINGHAM

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10 Luke 1:46-55 Luke 1:26-38

Fri 25 Sep

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11.30-1pm Gift & Card

Shop Open Tea/coffee

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 (Ps 144) Luke 9:18-22

Sat 26 Sep

FERIA

Confessions 11-12.10 **Mass 12.15**

Confessions 5-5.30

VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8 (Ps 90) Luke 9:43b-45

WE PRAY FOR

Those who died recently:

Anniversaries: Agnes Edna Whittaker, Fr Michael Ashworth SJ

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

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

Jesuits in Britain Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered No. 1207742