



**St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston**

# Newsletter

10<sup>th</sup> December, 2023

**2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

## PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD



Throughout the coming year we will be hearing the Gospel of Mark at Mass on Sunday. Today we have the beginning of his Gospel. Unlike Matthew or Luke we get no account of the infancy of Jesus, no stable, no shepherds, no wise men. Instead, we begin with the appearance of John the Baptist.

John is the one who fulfils the prophecy of Isaiah in our first reading. He is the joyful messenger who prepares people for the coming of Jesus and points him out when he comes, who says, "Here is your God". In John's Gospel, John the Baptist says to the first disciples, "Behold the Lamb of God", when he sees Jesus and those disciples leave John and go off and follow Jesus. Those words of John the Baptist are words which are used at every Mass when the priest holds up the Blessed Sacrament before Communion.



John's message is a message of repentance, a call to change. Again, as we celebrate Advent, we are called to reflect on what we need to do to prepare the way for the Lord. How do we need to change our hearts and our lives to live the Gospel more closely? What is there that needs God's

forgiveness that we need to acknowledge? How do we need to work in our world to share in the mission of John the Baptist and prepare the way for the Kingdom of God?

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**

There will be a table in the narthex with Christmas goods, from the shop, this Sunday before & after 10.15 Mass

**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 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**December**  
**@6.30pm**

**Using your Talents**  
Thank you to all the people who responded to our call for cooks and caterers.

Thank you also to the new readers and Eucharistic Ministers.

We now have an extra pair of hands in the shop. More helpers with church cleaning on Saturday morning would be welcome.

**If there is an area of Parish life you could help with see Fr Chris**

## Advent and Christmas services

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



**7.30 pm in Church on**  
**Friday 15th December**

Thank you to everyone who wrote a Christmas card for distribution to parishes in the Holy Land . We posted 60 cards to the Patriarch in Jerusalem for a parish in Gaza, one in Beit Sabour and one in Tel Aviv which has a large Filipino population, as well as a parish in Jerusalem

## Chaplaincy Services for Students and Young Adults

Metanoia Project are now officially offering Chaplaincy Services for Students and Young Adults on behalf of the Diocese of Lancaster and St. Wilfrid's Parish. Further info about groups and events please contact [joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk](mailto:joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk)



## 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)



Every Thursday Coffee from 10.45 for an 11am start.

*A Blessed Messiah is Born, a preparation for Christmas Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm at St Joseph's Church, Caroline Street.. FREE. Donations welcome*

*Two events at Stonyhurst Museum  
Wed 13 Dec Festive Recipes &  
Fri 15 Dec Illuminated Christmas Book online  
[www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/christmas](http://www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/christmas)*

### JRS UK Advent Service 2023



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

## THE POPE'S MESSAGE TO WORLD LEADERS AT COP28



Sadly, due to ill-health, Pope Francis was unable to go to Dubai but here are some quotes from his hard hitting message.

*"the destruction of the environment is an **offence against God**, a sin that is not only personal but also structural, one that **greatly endangers all human beings**, especially the most vulnerable in our midst and threatens to unleash a conflict*

*between generations."* Climate Change is "a global social issue and one intimately related to the dignity of human life".

He asked the question "**Are we working for a culture of life or a culture of death?**"

*I make this heartfelt appeal: **Let us choose life!** Let us choose the future! May we be attentive to the cry of the earth, may we hear the plea of the poor, may we be sensitive to **the hopes of the young and the dreams of children!** We have a grave responsibility: to ensure that they not be denied their future."*

*"The drive to produce and possess has become an obsession, resulting in **an inordinate greed** that has made the environment the object of unbridled exploitation. "*

St Wilfrid's Presbytery, 1 Winckley Square, Preston, PR1 3JJ  
(01772) 555244

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

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

Parish Administrator: (554396) [stwilfridspa@gmail.com](mailto:stwilfridspa@gmail.com)

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

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

Parish Website [www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk](http://www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk)



Sun 10	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11	(Ps 84)	
		2 Peter 3:8-14		Mark 1:1-8
Mon 11	Feria	Isaiah 35:1-10	(Ps 84)	Luke 5:17-26
Tue 12	Feria <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	Isaiah 40:1-11	(Ps 95)	Matt 18:12-14
Wed 13	St Lucy	Isaiah 40:25-31	Ps 102)	Matt 11:28-30
Thu 14	St John of the Cross	Isaiah 41:13-20	(Ps 144)	Matt 11:11-15
Fri 15	Feria	Isaiah 48:17-19	(Ps 1)	Matt 11:16-19
Sat 16	Feria	Eccles 48:1-4,9-11	(Ps 79)	Matt 17:10-13

## 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



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** Fr Jimmy Langan SJ  
Ian Melling, Frances Platt

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



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](mailto:stwilfridsnewsletter@gmail.com)