



St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

Newsletter

19th January 2025

2ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

THERE WAS A WEDDING AT CANA IN GALILEE

Today's Gospel starts with something very common, a wedding. Very important for the couple and their families but an everyday event. Mary has been invited and Jesus and his disciples are there too. It is almost as if they are just tagging along. Then something goes wrong, they run out of wine. What follows gives the event a whole new significance, so significant that the Gospel tells us that Jesus manifested his glory and "his disciples believed in him".

The idea of a wedding feast is a familiar one in the scriptures. The coming kingdom of God will be like such a feast. There will be an abundance of food and wine. God's relationship with his people is often compared to that of a bridegroom to his bride. What Jesus does in response to the couple's potential embarrassment is to produce that kind of abundance. If we look at the quantity described, it adds up to 120-180 gallons or around 600-800 litres. It is also the best quality.

Only Mary, the servants and the disciples really know what has happened, but the disciples recognise in this abundance that the kingdom of God is here. Jesus is indeed the Word made flesh, as the previous chapter has told us. This is why, in John's Gospel, this is the first of Jesus miracles.

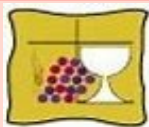
This idea of the relationship between God and his people as being like that between husband and wife is why the Church takes marriage so seriously, why it is a sacrament. St Paul goes on to make it clear that this image applies to Christ and his Church.

There is one other thing we might take away from today's Gospel. Those words of Mary to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you". This scene show us we can do that with confidence.



Bernat Martorell (1390-1452)

Chris Pedley, S.J



THIS SATURDAY 18th January 10:30-12noon

Meeting of formation and reflection for
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.



Jesuit Missions Parish Appeal at St Wilfrid's Parish, Preston Saturday 25th – Sunday 26th January

Jesuit Missions is the international mission and development organisation for the Jesuits in Britain, supporting partners in over twenty countries on three continents. Our partners work with some of the most marginalised communities on a range of projects including anti-human trafficking, women's empowerment, education and environmental sustainability.

Next weekend Lynn McWilliams from Jesuit Missions will be speaking at all Masses.



Please give generously! Your donations help to improve the lives of thousands of people around the world. You can also donate using this QR code and please make certain to Gift Aid your donation. Donating through Gift Aid means we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th-25th January

A week of online prayer

www.cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/christian-unity/



As we celebrate 1,700 years since the Council of Nicaea, this worship service has at its heart, the Nicene Creed. Reflecting this, the scripture readings for this year focus on belief.

At this service the gathered community is invited to reflect on the story of Martha's confession of faith in Jesus as narrated in John 11:17-27. Each is called to sit with Jesus' provocative question to Martha: "Do you believe this?"

If any family would like their child (Y3 or older) to make their
First Holy Communion & Reconciliation at St Wilfrid's Church in 2025

please contact Fr Chris Pedley cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk or
Monica Holdsworth holdsworthmonica@gmail.com by email.

Lessons will usually be on Saturdays in the Parish Centre. Dates to be advised.

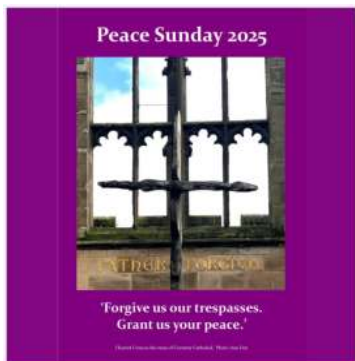


DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS AND VALUABLES UNATTENDED IN CHURCH



Pope Francis' Message for Peace Sunday (excerpt)

The celebration of the Jubilee spurs us to make a number of changes in order to confront the present state of injustice and inequality by reminding ourselves that the goods of the earth are meant not for a privileged few, but for everyone. We do well to recall the words of Saint Basil of Caesarea: "Tell me, what things belong to you? Where did you find them to make them part of your life? ... Did you not come forth naked from the womb of your mother? Will you not return naked to the ground? Where did your property come from? If you say that it comes to you naturally by luck, you would deny God by not recognizing the Creator and being grateful to the Giver". Without gratitude, we are unable to recognize God's gifts. Yet in his infinite mercy the Lord does not abandon sinful humanity, but instead reaffirms his gift of life by the saving forgiveness offered to all through Jesus Christ. That is why, in teaching us the "Our Father", Jesus told us to pray: "Forgive us our trespasses" (Mt 6:12).



Peace Sunday 19th January

will be focused on the liberating justice of God during the Jubilee Year and movement towards achieving peace, with the theme

Forgive Us Our Trespasses:
Grant Us Your Peace".

Sr Katrina Alton CSJP, national chaplain to Pax Christi England and Wales, said,

"In a world hungry for revenge and where 'sorry' really does seem to be the hardest word, Pope Francis has boldly chosen 'forgiveness' as the central theme for World Peace Day 2025. This is in stark contrast to the

calls for 'revenge' and 'an eye for an eye' that are currently played on repeat by our politicians and amplified by the media. But are we being naïve and foolish to look at the challenges facing us today through the lens of forgiveness? Do we really have the faith to believe that when we choose to forgive then God will grant us peace?"

For more information and a full copy of the Pope's message go to Paxchristi.org.uk

Deacon Bill Adams

thanks everyone who has been in touch with him at his new address

Bushell House, Church Lane, Goosnargh, Preston, PR3 2BJ.

He very much welcomes telephone calls (07866 104144), letters, cards and visits.



Groups and events for students and young adults provided by The Metanoia Project. Please see Joe White UCLan Chaplain joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk 07481188102



PARISH PRIEST: FR. CHRIS PEDLEY SJ 01772 555244 cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk

Parish Administrator: 01772 554396 stwilfridspa@gmail.com (& for newsletter items)

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara Maclaren 07986 940883 barbara@hornworks.co.uk

Superior of the Jesuit Community: Fr. Hugh Duffy SJ 01772 554387

Deacon (Retired): Rev. Bill Adams 07866 104144

Newsletter Volunteer: Margaret Nelson margaretnelson418@gmail.com



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday 19 Jan 2nd Sunday **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE**

Isaiah 62:1-5, (Ps 95) 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, John 2:1-11

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 **followed by Student & Young Adult Group**

Monday 20 Jan **Confessions 11.50-12.10**

FERIA ST FABIAN

Mass 12.15

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

Hebrews 5:1-10 (Ps 109) Mark 2:18-22

Tuesday 21 Jan

ST AGNES

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11-12 Led Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

6-7.30pm Metanoia Hot Meal Drop In

Hebrew 6:10-20 (Ps100) Mark 2:23-28

Wednesday 22 Jan

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

5-5.45 Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

6.30pm Metanoia Clothes Drop In (Narthex)

Hebrews 7:1-3,15-17 (Ps 109) Mark 3:1-6

Thursday 23 Jan

FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11am Life Ascending (Coffee 10.30)

Hebrews 7:25-8:6 (Ps 39) Mark 3:7-12

Friday 24 Jan

ST FRANCES DE SALES

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

Following 12.15 Mass

Lectio Divina with...

11.30-1pm Gift & Card Shop Open Tea/coffee
..Soup Lunch after Lectio Divina

Hebrews 8:6-13 (Ps 84 Mark 3:13-19)

Saturday 25 Jan

CONVERSION OF ST PAUL

Confessions 11-12.10

Confessions 5-5.30

Mass 12.15

VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

Acts 2:3-16 (Ps 67) Mark 16:15-18

WE PRAY FOR Those who died recently: Malcom Roebuck RIP, Ralph Swarbrick RIP, Michael Watkinson RIP, Francis B. Roberts RIP

Anniversaries at this time: Fr Ron Darwen SJ, Elizabeth Kirby, Barbara Lydiate, Robert Rawsthorn, Joan Rawsthorn, John Rawsthorn, Teresa Possamai.

Those sick: Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn, Deacon Bill Adams, Agnes Partington