



St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

Newsletter

17th December, 2023

3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



Today is known as “Gaudete Sunday” from the Latin version of the opening antiphon which says, “Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near”, quoting St. Paul writing to the Philippians. It provides a little bit of relief in the penitential season of

Advent and we mark it by using rose coloured vestments at Mass.

Our first and second readings today pick up that theme. In the passage from Isaiah, the one Jesus applies to himself when he preaches at Nazareth, He says he has been sent “to bring good news to the poor”. St. Paul, writing to the Thessalonians, says, “Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God”.



It can be easy to lose sight of what Pope Francis calls, “The joy of the Gospel”. In this season, when the days are short and often wet and gloomy, it can reinforce a sense of despondency. Perhaps that comes from an awareness of our own weakness and sinfulness, or an awareness of negative things in our lives. Perhaps it can come from looking at our world torn by war and injustice. However, this season points towards the reality of Christmas. The good news is that God has come to us, as one of us. The child of Bethlehem is our sign of hope and Joy, the sign above of God’s love for us, his giving of his very self. This gives a fresh

perspective to all the things in our lives and in our world. In the light of Christ we can indeed, “give thanks for all things” and be filled with joy at God’s presence with us.

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

**PLEASE NOTE THE SHOP WILL CLOSE FOR
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR & REOPEN ON JANUARY 8TH**

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.



THIS SUNDAY 17th December @6.30pm

Sunday 24 December Christmas Eve

Church opens 6.45am

Mass 7am

Mass 10.15am

Carol service 7.30pm

First Mass of Christmas 8pm

*Church closes at the end of
Mass*

Please note

There is **no** 4.30pm Mass

Monday 25 December Christmas Day

Church opens 6.45am

Mass 7am

Mass 10.15am

Please note

There is **no** 4.30pm Mass



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



LIFE  ASCENDING

Ascent is taking a Christmas Break
back on 11th January

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)



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

JRS UK Advent Service 2023



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



So COP28 has finished but that is not the end of the matter. The good news was that transition away from fossil fuels was mentioned for the very first time. The bad news was that 2023 will be named as the hottest year ever. Now we must lobby our government and M.P.s for action in 2024.

On Sunday the children who go to Little Church will make Christingles and then bring them up the church before the offertory.

The Christingle consists of

- an orange , its round shape representing the world
- A candle representing Jesus, the light of the world
- A red ribbon representing the blood of Christ
- Sweets or dried fruit representing the fruits of the earth.
- 4 cocktail sticks representing the 4 seasons and north, south, east, & west



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

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

Parish Administrator: (554396) stwilfridspa@gmail.com

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

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

Parish Website www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk



Sun 17	3 rd Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 1 Thess 5:16-24	(Luke 1 46-54) John 1:6-8,19-28
Mon 18	Feria	Jeremiah 23:5-8	(Ps 71) Matt 1:18-24
Tue 19	Feria	Judges 13:2-7,24-25	(Ps 70) Luke 1:5-25
Wed 20	Feria	Isaiah 7:10-14	(Ps 23) Luke 1:26-38
Thu 21	Feria	Son of Songs 2:8-14	(Ps 32) Luke 1:39-45
Fri 22	Feria	Samuel 48:24-28	(2 Sam 2) Luke 1:46-56
Sat 23	Feria	Malachi 3:1-4,23-24	(Ps 24) Luke 1:57-56

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:

Anniversaries Mary Hind

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 stwilfridsnewsletter@gmail.com