



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

# Newsletter

4<sup>th</sup> February 2024

5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

## THAT IS WHY I CAME



There is a great busyness and energy in today's Gospel. Jesus starts the day in the synagogue, goes to Peter's house and cures his mother-in-law. Then, in the evening, the house is surrounded by the whole town bringing people to be cured. It must have been very late when they eventually went away but Jesus is up before dawn to pray. When Peter and the others find him and tell him the crowds are

back again, Jesus tells them that they need to move on to the other towns so he can preach there too. He says to them, "that is why I came".

That sense of purpose, which Jesus shows, is a complete contrast to our first reading which begins, "Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service". It can be easy for us to lose sight of the purpose in our lives, or we can feel overwhelmed by the demands that life makes. Perhaps that becomes more so as we get older.

Today's Gospel challenges us to reflect on the purpose of our lives, especially the task given to us in our baptism. We are called to share with the Church in Christ's mission. We are called to share in Jesus' mission to proclaim the Good News and bring healing and comfort to those in need. We might ask for the Holy Spirit to give us something of that energy we see in Jesus. For this to happen we need to take notice of the other thing which we see Jesus doing, which is spending time with his Father in prayer. Prayer and action go together, one feeds into the other. So let us pray for that sense of purpose in our lives so that we might live out the call of our baptism.

Chris Pedley, S.J

## PARISH QUIZ NIGHT for the JUDE CHRISTIAN ORPHANAGE, ZAMBIA

Sincere thanks to everyone who helped at, attended or sent donations to the parish quiz last Friday. The total raised was **£585**. This has already been sent to Zambia to buy furniture for the new dormitory. Special thanks to Pat, Ann and the parishioners who prepared the delightful supper!



**Our next event is a Bingo night coming soon!**

**Cathedral of St Alphonsa  
St Ignatius Square, Preston**  
are looking for a part- time  
House-keeper 2-3 hours a day  
cleaning, bed changing, ironing -  
hours to suit. Contact  
Fr Babu 07703422395 or  
Saju Paul 07490254344



If any families would like their child (Y3 or older) to make their **First Holy Communion & Reconciliation** at St. Wilfrid's Church in 2024 please contact Fr. Chris [cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk](mailto:cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk) or Monica Holdsworth [holdsworthmonica@gmail.com](mailto:holdsworthmonica@gmail.com) and we will let you know when lessons are taking place – usually Saturdays in the Parish Centre.

Does anyone have a few hours (11.15-13.30) to spare on Friday morning to help run the shop at St. Wilfrid's? To find out more pop into the shop.

### **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)

### **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 We now have new stock including **St Patrick's Day cards****

**All our profits go to charities.**

**Unfortunately due to staff shortages the shop will be closed on Friday 2nd February.**



Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) will be holding a special Mass for seafarers and fishers, to be celebrated by Bishop Paul Swarbrick, on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 12.15pm** at The Cathedral Church of St Peter, Balmoral Road, Lancaster LA1 3B. It will be followed by a reception.

We are delighted to invite you and your parishioners to this special occasion. We have not held a Mass of this kind in Lancaster Diocese before – so we are keen to extend our invitation to local parish communities such as yours. If some of your parishioners can join us, please confirm attendance by phone: 0207 901 1931, or email to [Roland.Hayes@stellamarismail.org](mailto:Roland.Hayes@stellamarismail.org)

### **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February is the Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita c. 1869 – 1947**



Josephine Bakhita is a Sudanese Saint, kidnapped aged 9 and sold into slavery. She suffered terribly at the hands of her kidnappers who gave her the name *Bakhita* meaning *Fortunate*. Age 35 she was bought by the Italian Consul and, eventually, came under the care of Canossian Sisters in Venice. She became a Catholic in 1890 and joined that order in 1896 as a Sister. Her life then was of simplicity, prayer and service. She suffered haunting memories of her torture whilst in slavery. She died 1947 and was canonised October 2000.

Human trafficking now is the second most profitable worldwide criminal enterprise, after the illegal arms trade.

#### **Prayer for victims of human trafficking**

**We pray for the victims of human trafficking that they may be helped to rebuild their lives after the traumatic experiences they have gone through.**

**We pray that we, as the Church, will continue to defend victims of human trafficking.**

**We pray for our governments that they may make and implement laws that will protect victims of modern day slavery.**

**We pray for those organisations dedicated to eradicating modern day slavery that they will be courageous in the face of challenges.**

**We pray for those caring for the victims of human trafficking, that their efforts to help the vulnerable and traumatised may not go unrewarded.**

**St. Josephine Bakhita Pray For Us**

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 4	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Job 7:1-4,6-7	(Ps 146)	
		1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23		Mark 1:29-39
Mon 5	St Agatha	1 Kings 8:1-7,9-13	(Ps 131)	Mark 6:53-56
Tue 6	St Paul Miki SJ & Companions	1 Kings 8:22-23,27-30	(Ps 83)	Mark 7:1-13
Wed 7	Feria	1 Kings 10:1-10	(Ps 36)	Mark 7:14-23
Thu 8	Feria St Josephine Bakhita	1 Kings 11:4-13	(Ps 105)	Mark 7:24-30
Fri 9	Feria	1 Kings 11:29-32,12:19	(Ps 80)	Mark 7:31-37
Sat 10	St Scholastica	1 Kings 12:26-32,13:33-34	(Ps 105)	Mark 8:1-10

## 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

Eucharistic



For Jesuit Vocations  
every Monday  
11:30 -12 noon

LIFE  ASCENDING

Ascent Goup Thursday  
11am in Parish Centre.  
Coffee 10.45am.

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

**Lately Dead Anniversaries** Dave Hatch,  
Mary Duckworth, John Killeen

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



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



## February's Intention - For the terminally ill

Let us pray that the sick, who are in the final stages of life, and their families receive the necessary medical, human care and accompaniment.

**LITTLE CHURCH**

At 10.15 am Sunday Mass.  
All children welcome

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](mailto:stwilfridsnewsletter@gmail.com)