



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

3rd May 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston



Image by James Chan from Pixabay

THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE

This Sunday's Gospel is a favourite for funerals. At the Last Supper Jesus tells his disciples he is going to prepare a place for them in his Father's house. He also tells them that in that house there are many rooms. This is a message for us too. We have the reassurance that Jesus has prepared a place for each of us and for our loved ones. That there are many rooms suggest there is a place for each of that great diversity of people who have died, especially all those we would particularly want to commend to the Lord.

In John's Gospel Thomas comes across as a very down to earth character. He wants clarity and evidence for things. After the

resurrection he asks for physical proof when the others tell him they have seen Jesus. Here it is Thomas who responds to Jesus telling them that they know the way to the place where he is going. Jesus tells him that, he, Jesus, is the way, the truth and the life and that to have seen him is to have seen the Father. As we hear this Gospel in the context of Easter we are called to renew our faith in Jesus, the Jesus who tells us not to let our hearts be troubled. That faith not only gives us confidence that Jesus will give us the gift of eternal life with him but also enables us to respond here and now. The Gospel ends with one of those extraordinary statements of Jesus where he takes things which might be said about himself and says them about his disciples. Here he tells them that they will do even greater works than he himself has done because he is going to the Father. Let us ask for a deeper trust in the risen Jesus so that we can do the works he calls us to do in this world and have confidence in the place he has prepared for us in the next.

Chris Pedley, S.J.

Please note:

NO Adoration on Wednesday 6th May

Tuesday 5th May
Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse

The theme for the day in 2026 examines the scourge of domestic abuse which causes pain and fear that prevents its victims from living the life Jesus came to bring.

Jesus said, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10
Immediately before the much-loved part of this verse from the Gospel of John we hear Jesus's words: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy." This is how abuse feels to those who experience it – their dignity and value as a unique child of God is stripped away and destroyed.

The physical danger domestic abuse presents to life is clear. A woman is murdered by a partner or ex-partner every five days in the UK. Between three and ten women die by suicide each week due to domestic abuse. Abusers can also perpetrate spiritual and coercive abuse, disrupting their victims' relationships with God and the Church. This can lead victims – adults and children – to feel guilt and shame that push them away from the support that the Church has to offer.

At its best, the Church can – and should – be a safe haven where support is available for victims and survivors so that they can live life without fear and begin to experience the life in abundance Jesus came to bring. This hope is what we pray for this year.

The Catholic Church
Bishops' Conference of England & Wales



Scan me

STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS
The Parish of St. Wilfrid welcomes University of Lancashire students. There will be food and prayer in St Wilfrid's Parish Centre after the 4:30pm Sunday Mass weekly.

JOE WHITE,
UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC
CHAPLAIN

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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.



UNVEILED
8th May 7.30-9pm
in St Wilfrid's Church

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!

Gift & Card Shop OPENING TIMES
After 10.15am Sunday Mass
Monday & Friday 11.30am to 1pm
Cash/cards taken

Important message from the
Diocesan Finance Office
to all Gift Aid Donors

A Gift Aid tax reclaim will be submitted shortly to HMRC. Please notify me if you are no longer a tax payer or you paid insufficient tax during 2020/21 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations given under Gift Aid to all charities during the tax year. If you have moved house during the tax year please ensure you notify your Parish Priest or Parish Administrator.

Julie Parkinson
Lancaster Diocesan Finance Office
julie.parkinson@lrcd.org.uk 01524 596056

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

Our annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, the National Shrine to Our Blessed Lady, will take place 28 September to 1 October 2026.

Some of you are familiar with Walsingham. For others, it will be your first visit. **The theme for this year's pilgrimage is "Mary, cause of our Joy."** During our days in Walsingham, we will consider the causes of John Bradburne, Servant of God and Ann Fenwick, who is intimately linked with the Catholic mission of Hornby. Also, we will spend some time reflecting on the life of St Carlo Acutis and Eucharistic miracles.

The all-inclusive cost is £360.00–£420.00 (dependent on accommodation type). Coach collection/drop off will take place in Workington, Carlisle, Penrith, Lancaster, Preston.

Information and booking contact the pilgrimage organiser Deacon Charlie Conner **07711 345 176** or email charlie.conner@lrcd.org.uk

The places will be limited, so please book in good time.

+Rt Rev Paul Swarbrick, Bishop of Lancaster



Pentecost Sunday 24th May



Photo by Serge Taeymans on Unsplash

There will be a

PENTECOST GATHERING

in the Parish Centre after the 10.15 Mass on Sunday 24th May.

Pentecost is a time to reflect on the Holy Spirit in our own lives, to pray to be able to hear the voice of God as the apostles did and it is a time to celebrate in community, to pray for peace, and to ask the Spirit to enlighten us to where we should go. We will have activities for all ages to help us be guided and to share on how the Holy Spirit is moving and joyfully celebrate as a community the birthday of The Church.



DONATE TO JRS

www.jrsuk.net/donate/

The Hurtado Jesuit Centre,
2 Chandler Street, London E1W
2QT

**THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY
THAT EVERYONE MIGHT HAVE FOOD.**

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



DONATE TO JESUIT MISSIONS

jesuitmissions.org.uk/donate/

11 Edge Hill
London SW19 4LR

**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 Maclaren **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 3 May Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7 (Ps 33) 1 Peter 2:4-9 John 14:1-12

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 Music Group After Mass in the Parish Centre: **Student Group Meeting**

Mon 4 May

ENGLISH MARTYRS

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11.30am-12noon

Exposition

11.30-1pm Gift & Card

Shop Open Tea/coffee

Acts 7:55-60 (Ps 31) Matthew 10:17-22

Tue 5 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia

Hot Meal Drop In

Acts 14:19-28 (Ps 145) John 14:27-31a

Wed 6 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

NO Adoration today

6.30pm Metanoia

Clothes Drop In

(Narthex)

Acts 15:1-6 (Ps 122) John 15:1-8

Thu 7 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11-12noon

Life Ascending

(Coffee 10.30am)

Acts 15:7-21 (Ps 96) John 15:9-11

Fri 8 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

After 12.15 Mass

Lectio Divina

Followed by...

11.30-1pm Gift & Card

Shop Open Tea/coffee

...Soup lunch

Acts 15:22-31 (Ps 57) John 15:12-17

7.30-9pm Unveiled

Sat 9 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11-12.10

Confessions 5-5.30

Mass 12.15

VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

10-11am First Holy

Communion Class

Acts 16:1-10 (Ps 100) John 15:18-21

WE PRAY FOR **Those who died recently:** Christine Knight RIP Requiem 13 May 12.15pm

Anniversaries: Fr T Shufflebotham SJ, Joan Maxwell, Mary Bell

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

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

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