



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

26th April 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

ST GEORGE PATRON OF ENGLAND

On Thursday we celebrated the feast of St George, the Patron of England. St George was probably Greek and a soldier in the Roman army who was martyred for refusing to give up his Christian faith some time at the end of third or beginning of the fourth centuries. The flag of England is the St George's cross.

Since the Middle Ages St George has been closely associated with England. It is unfortunate that sometimes his flag is used in partisan, sectarian or racially exclusive ways, especially as he is honoured both in the East and the West and is the patron of a number of other countries beside England. This is even more true as his flag carries the cross of Christ upon it.

Celebrating the national patron leads those of us who are citizens to reflect on our role in the life of our country. As a Vatican document says, "It is a mistake to think that, because we have here no lasting city, but seek the city which is to come, we are entitled to shirk our earthly responsibilities" (The Participation of Catholics in Political Life CDF 2002). As Catholics we have a particular call to do what we can to support policies which serve the Common Good, taking into account, particularly, Catholic Social Teaching and especially the recent writings of Pope Francis and Pope Leo. One of the ways to do this is by exercising our right to vote. There are local elections coming up, so I would encourage you to make sure you are registered to vote and take time to think about the issues involved.

Chris Pedley, S.J.



World Day of Prayer for Vocations

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS
POPE LEO XIV

“Guided and protected by the
Risen Jesus, we celebrate on
the fourth Sunday of Easter —

also called “Good Shepherd Sunday” —
the 63rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

It is an occasion of grace in which we
share some reflections on the interior
dimension of vocation, understood as the
discovery of God’s free gift that blossoms
in the depths of our hearts. Dear brothers
and sisters, dear young people,

I encourage you to cultivate your personal
relationship with God through daily prayer
and meditation on the Word. Pause, listen
and entrust yourselves. In this way, the gift
of your vocation will mature, bringing you
happiness and yielding abundant fruit for
the Church and the world.

May the Virgin Mary, model of the interior
acceptance of divine gifts and expert in
prayerful listening, always accompany you
on this journey!”

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Loving Father,
you called each of us by name through the
Sacrament of Baptism to holiness.

Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, you
made us the temples of the Holy Spirit.

Help us to listen to the cry of our
Lord Jesus from the Holy Cross ‘I thirst’
and respond to the call

‘Go out to the whole world and proclaim
the good news to all the nations’.

Guide us in every step we take in life
and lead us in every decision we make in
responding to your call.

Make us and mould us into the living
images of Christ your Son,
who was always close to those in need.
We make this prayer through Christ our
Lord, Amen.



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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Tel. 07481 188102



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



STAND WITH SUDAN. GIVE MONTHLY.

On the 3rd anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, **CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help:**

"So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger, and disease. That is why today, **I'm asking you to consider setting up a monthly gift** to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support.

Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbours, a way of saying: we will not abandon you, we will stand with you until peace is restored."

Donate at cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan



CATHOLIC FAMILY HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

Castlerigg Manor in Keswick is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August & early Sept. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, lounges and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families or groups of friends.

Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk
or **017687 72711**



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 McLaren **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 26 April Fourth Sunday of Easter -Day of Prayer for Vocations

Acts 2:14a,36-41 (Ps 23) 1 Peter 2:20b-25 John 10:1-10

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 27 April

ST P CANISIUS SJ

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11.30am-12noon

Exposition

11.30-1pm Gift & Card

Shop Open Tea/coffee

Acts 11:1-18 (Ps 42) John 10:11-18

Tue 28 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia

Hot Meal Drop In

Acts 11:19-26 (Ps 87 & 116) John 10:22-30

Wed 29 April

ST C OF SIENNA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

5.15-5.45 Adoration
of Blessed Sacrament

6.30pm Metanoia

Clothes Drop In

(Narthex)

1 John 1:5-2:2 (Ps 103) Matthew 11:25-30

Thu 30 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10

Mass 12.15

11-12noon

Life Ascending

(Coffee 10.30am)

Acts 13:13-25 (Ps 89) John 13:16-20

Fri 1 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 13:26-33 (Ps 2) John 14:1-6

Sat 2 May

ST ATHANASIUS

Confessions 11-12.10

Confessions 5-5.30

Mass 12.15

VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

10-11am First Holy

Communion Class

Acts 13:44-52 (Ps 98) John 14:7-14

WE PRAY FOR **Those who died recently:** Christine Knight RIP

Anniversaries: Agnes Bedford

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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