



Newsletter

29th December 2024

THE HOLY FAMILY

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

MARY TREASURED UP ALL THESE THINGS HER HEART

Over the next few days, we spend time thinking about Mary and the Holy Family. Today is the feast of the Holy Family and on New Years Day we celebrate Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Today's Gospel tells us about the finding in the Temple and it ends with them going back to Nazareth. It tells us, "He went down with them to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man".



William Holman Hunt

As we come to the end of the year it is a chance for us to look back. Like Mary we can treasure up in our hearts the things that have happened to us in the year, even if these have been difficult, like Mary's experience of losing Jesus in the Temple, or having to go into exile in Egypt. We can ask ourselves, "Where has God been in these events? What are the gifts I have received?" Again, we need to look at the difficult moments as well as the joyful ones.

The new year is also a time to look forward. In this new year we will continue to celebrate the Holy Year and the centenary of the Diocese. We will also need to reflect on the outcome of the Synod on Synodality and what it means for us in the parish. There are also some technical changes coming up which will take a certain amount of attention and we are looking at how to develop the Parish Centre.

I wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful 2025. Let us pray for one another that we may recognise God at work and treasure up the things of this new year.

Chris Pedley, S.J.

Fr Chris is away on retreat and will return on 4 January.
In his absence you are asked to contact the Parish Administrator,
Chris Lloyd 01772 554396.

Next Sunday is Gift Sunday

Each year at all the Epiphany Masses we have a collection of gifts which we bring to the crib.

Next weekend on the **Feast of the Epiphany January 4th/5th** we will do the same. We ask you to bring gifts/money **to be placed in the crib at the end of Mass** which will be given to local charities.

The Ace Project run by Recycling Lives works with men on their first days out of prison, trying to set them up with the basics to restart their lives. They house and train homeless men and support ex offenders and their families.

Metanoia Project has an outreach to the homeless each Wednesday evening in St Wilfrid's Narthex at 6.30. Volunteers are on hand to provide support in the form of sleeping bags, clothes, shoes and toiletries. As well, we try to spend time listening to those who have come along, treating them with the dignity they deserve as Children of God and sharing the Good News whenever possible. You can help us with donations of: our main need is **Sleeping bags and new men's underpants and thick socks** New or used (but in a reasonable condition) of all sizes for Men: Thermals, Tracksuit Bottoms (with elasticated ankles are best), Jeans, Trainers, Boots, Shoes, and Rucksacks are also needed.

Any women's clothes/ toiletries donated will be given to local charities.

**Can anyone offer accommodation (a room) in Preston to a young man studying for a PhD at UCLan and working part time for the BBC.
Please contact Ken Vance SJ 07703 163295.**

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's intention for January

For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected

Please note most of the normal activities of the church will be taking a New Year break and will reopen the week beginning the 6th January

A Big Thank You

As the year ends it is a good time to thank all the people who make our parish work well and who enhance our spiritual lives. We thank our priests especially Fr Chris, Fr Hugh, Fr John & Fr Adrian. Thanks to the Parish Administrator, Chris, our organist Maria, all the members of choirs, altar servers, readers and Ministers of the Eucharist.

Thanks to Monica and those who help with Little Church, those who provide refreshments on Sunday. To Peter, Jim & Tony who organise different Masses.

Thank you to Metanoia whose work in the parish is invaluable.

Thank you to Chris Bradley who reliably and efficiently cleans the Parish Centre every Wednesday.

Thanks to Shelagh & her sister Mary for help in the shop and anyone not on this list who helps. We are so grateful.



Thanks to the backroom boys led by Jim who arrive every Saturday morning to clean the church. Here we have Jude, Steven, Francesco (visiting), Gabriel, Ayesha and Jim.

Congratulations, Thank you & Goodbye



Many of you will have met Mary in the shop in the last year. Mary is an architect from Ghana who graduated at UCLAN last week.

She soon returns home.

We will miss her but she goes with our best wishes for the future.



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
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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 29 Dec HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28 (Ps 83) 1 John 3:1-2,21-24 Luke 2:41-52

Mass 7am **Mass 10.15am** with Choir & Little Church during Mass

Parish Centre 11.15-12.30 Tea/coffee

Mass 4.30pm with Music Group

Monday 30 Dec **Confessions 11.50-12.10**

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS **Mass 12.15**

1 John 2:12-17 (Ps 95) Luke 2: 36-40

Tuesday 31 Dec **Confessions 11.50-12.10**

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS **Mass 12.15**

1 John 2:18-21 (Ps 95) John 1:1-18

Wednesday 1 Jan **Confessions 11.50-12.10**

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD **Mass 12.15**

6.3pm Metanoia
Clothes Drop In
(Narthex)

Numbers 6:22-27 (Ps 66) Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21

Thursday 2 Jan **Confessions 11.50-12.10**

STS BASIL & GREGORY **Mass 12.15**

1 John 2:22-28 (Ps 97) John 1:19-28

Friday 3 Jan **Confessions 11.50-12.10**

HOLY NAME OF JESUS **Mass 12.15**

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

1 John 2:29-3:6 (Ps 97) John 1:29-34

Saturday 4 Jan **Confessions 11-12.10** **Mass 12.15**

CHRISTMAS FERIA **Confessions 5-5.30** **VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

1 John 3:7-10 (Ps 97) John 1:35-42

WE PRAY FOR

Anniversaries at this time: Pauline Bennion, Joe Clancy

Those who are sick: Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn,
Deacon Jim Maguire, Deacon Bill Adams