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 28 December Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 (Ps 128) Colossians 3:12-21 Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Mass 7am **Mass 10.15am** with Choir. **LITTLE CHURCH DURING MASS**
Parish Centre 11.15-12.30 Tea/coffee
Mass 4.30pm

Mon 29 Dec *ST THOMAS BECKET*
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

Colossians 1:24-29 (Ps 34) Luke 22:24-30

Tue 30 Dec *OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY*
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15
6-7.30pm Metanoia Hot Meal Drop In

1 John 2:12-17 (Ps 96) Luke 2:36-40

Wed 31 Dec *OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY*
Confessions 11-12.10 & 2-4pm
Mass 12.15

1 John 2:18-21 (Ps 96) John 1:1-18

Thursday 1 January 2026
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

Numbers 6:22-27 (Ps 67) Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21

Fri 2 January *STS BASIL & GREGORY*
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

1 John 2:22-28 (Ps 98) John 1:19-28

Sat 3 January *Most Holy Name of Jesus*
Confessions 11-12.10 **Mass 12.15**
Confessions 5-5.30 **VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

1 John 2:29-3:6 (Ps 98) John 1:29-34

WE PRAY FOR
Those who died recently:
Anniversaries: Roy Macuras, Malcolm Roebuck, Pauline Bennion, Joe Clancy
Those who are sick: Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn, Agnes Partington, Janet Hadfield.

St. Wilfrid's Presbytery, 1 Winckley Square, Preston, PR1 3JJ
Jesuits in Britain Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered No. 1207742

JESUITS IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

28th December 2025

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

MARY TREASURED UP ALL THESE THINGS HER HEART

Over the next few days, we focus on Mary and the Holy Family. Today is the feast of the Holy Family and on New Year's Day we celebrate Mary the Holy Mother of God. The Gospel tells the story of the life of the Holy Family forced into exile in Egypt and, once Herod is dead, settling in Nazareth. It is a family who undergo great challenges. Matthew has quoted Isaiah calling the child born into this family "Emmanuel, God with us". He comes to share the realities of the human lives including the difficulties and suffering. This enables us to see Christ as being with us in our own difficulties. It also enables us to see Christ in those who experience the worst circumstance, including the thousands of refugees in our world today.

The Holy Family gives us an example of faithfulness to God, not only in the extraordinary events of our lives but also of that kind of ordinary life which characterised much of the life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. As we celebrate today's feast we can ask the Holy Family prayers for our own families and for those families who are struggling.

I wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful 2026. Let us pray for one another that we may recognise God with us in our own lives and the lives of those around us.

Chris Pedley, S.J.

Image Grant Whitty on Unsplash

The Feast of the Holy Family

Image Moondance from Pixabay

This feast celebrates Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as a model for Christian families, occurring on the Sunday after Christmas. Veneration of the Holy Family grew from the 17th century and was formally instituted into the Roman Calendar by Pope Benedict XV in 1921.
It moved to its current date within the Christmas season in 1969.

It's a time for families to reflect on their faith, virtues like love and patience, and find inspiration in the Holy Family's humble, God-centered life, offering prayers for family unity, challenges, and blessings. Give thanks today for your own family members and the blessings of family life.

Refreshments after Sunday 10.15am Mass will continue as usual even though the Gift Shop will be closed over the holiday period.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Ernest Ezeani, Andrew Dawson, Jen Murphy, Margaret Nelson, Lee Unsworth, Maria Hall, Ruth White, Fr Chris Pedley SJ & Fr Hugh Duffy SJ.
The Council meets approximately once a month.

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 very easy!

MARRIAGE SUPPORT Need help?
www.retrouvaille.org.uk
RETROUVAILLE
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES
Tel: 07887 296 983

Sacramental Preparation for Adults

Are you interested in understanding the Catholic faith more fully, being received into the Church, or receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation?
If so, you are invited to join the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) programme which will begin in early January.
Adults are usually received into the Church at the Easter Vigil, so over the next few weeks, we would like to meet with individuals to discuss your journey and determine everyone's availability so we can form a group.

Please contact Joe White
07481188102 joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk
or speak to Fr. Chris.

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2026

For prayer with the Word of God.

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

Gift & Card Shop Cash/cards taken

Sunday OPENING TIMES : After 10.15 Sunday Mass open by request only until normal Sunday opening resumes on Sunday 11 January.

MIDWEEK OPENING TIMES

CLOSED

Reopening Monday 5 January 11.30am to 1pm

PRAY *as you* GO LISTEN TO GUIDED PRAYER, EVERY DAY, FOR FREE
https://prayasyougo.org Founded as a Work of the British Province of Jesuits, Pray As You Go has existed as a podcast for 18 years. It is a daily prayer session, designed for use on portable devices, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling.

THE CHURCH COURTYARD IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL PARKING
YOU ARE KINDLY ASKED NOT TO PARK YOUR VEHICLE IN THE CHURCH COURTYARD.

DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS UNATTENDED IN CHURCH