



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

17th May 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

WAITING FOR THE SPIRIT

On this Sunday, between Ascension and Pentecost, we hear about the early church waiting for the Holy Spirit. Here are the Apostles, the ones chosen by Jesus, but they are not alone. With them are the women who had been supporting Jesus and his disciples, here are Jesus' relatives and here is Mary. Here they are joined in prayer waiting as Jesus had told them to do.

In the story of Pentecost, which we will hear next Sunday, it is the Apostles who go out into the market place and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. Perhaps we tend to forget those others. We forget those women whose generosity made Jesus' own mission possible. Among them are those who did not run away but were at the foot of the cross. We see occasional glimpses of such people in the Acts of the Apostles. In them we can see another vision of how to live out our faith in Jesus. Yes, we are called to proclaim the Gospel like the Apostles, to be ready to go out into the marketplace. However, very often our baptismal mission is lived out in more hidden ways. Our mission can be to serve our immediate neighbours or work through other organisations. It can also be the people in the background who enable the

Church to carry out its mission. It can be those who give of their resources to support the Church and for charities working for the poor.

Whatever we are called to do we are joined with Mary, who gave herself so that her son could come into our world. With her we are joined in prayer for all those who are part of the wider mission of God's people.

Chris Pedley, S.J



World Communications Day Sunday 17th May

From the Vatican:

“Preserving human voices and faces” is the theme for the 60th World Day of Social Communication.

A communiqué announcing the theme from the Dicastery for Communication states, “In today’s

communication ecosystems, technology influences interactions more than ever before - from algorithms curating news feeds to AI authoring entire texts and conversations.”

Acknowledging that advances in technology offer “possibilities that were unimaginable just a few years ago,” the Dicastery warns that such tools “cannot replace the uniquely human capacities for empathy, ethics, and moral responsibility.”

Public communication, it says, “requires human judgment, not just data patterns.”

Therefore, “the challenge is to ensure that humanity remains the guiding agent. The future of communication must be one where machines serve as tools that connect and facilitate human lives, rather than erode the human voice...over reliance on AI weakens critical thinking and creative skills, while monopolized control of these systems raises concerns about centralization of power and inequality.”

The Dicastery concludes that “as Catholics, we can and should give our contribution, so that people – especially youth – acquire the capacity of critical thinking, and grow in the freedom of the spirit.”

PRAYER

Loving God, Creator of all things,

We thank you for the gift of communication, which connects us as brothers and sisters.

As we celebrate World Communications Day 2026, we ask for your wisdom in a rapidly changing world.

In this era of artificial intelligence and digital innovation,
Help us to preserve the human voice and face in all our interactions.

Lord, guide us to use technology to serve the human person,
Not to diminish or replace human dignity with artificial creations.

Give us the grace to be discerning, to recognize truth,
And to use digital tools to build bridges rather than walls.

Protect us from the harm of misinformation, deepfakes, and indifference,
And strengthen us to be authentic witnesses to your truth and love.

We pray for all communication professionals—journalists, media creators,
And those guiding technological advancements—

That they may work with integrity, compassion, and a commitment to the common good.

May our communication be heartfelt, nurturing a culture of care and genuine connection.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 18th May is the anniversary of inauguration of Pope Leo XIV (2025)



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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UNVEILED PRAISE!
22nd 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

Job Vacancy

Chaplaincy Team Member

Metanoia Project provide full time Chaplaincy Services to a local Catholic High School, to Students & Young Adults at the University of Lancashire and in St Wilfrid's Parish. We are looking for an enthusiastic, competent person to assist in providing the most engaging, Christ-centred ministry possible in all 3 settings. Accommodation available if required. Salary & benefits are listed in the Application Pack at

metanoiaproject.co.uk/chaplaincy-team-member/

Closing Date Friday 22nd May

Further information contact Ruth White
07878 832457
ruth@metanoiaproject.co.uk



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. 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.
Jen, Metanoia

DONATE TO JRS

www.jrsuk.net/donate/



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

DONATE TO JESUIT MISSIONS

jesuitmissions.org.uk/donate/



11 Edge Hill
London SW19 4LR

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.

**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 17 May

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:12-14 (Ps 27) 1 Peter 4:13-16 John 17:1-11a

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 18 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

11.30am-12noon
Exposition

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

Acts 19:1-8 (Ps 68) John 16:29-33

Tue 19 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia
Hot Meal Drop In

Acts 20:17-27 (Ps 68) John 17:1-11a

Wed 20 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

5.15-5.45pm
Adoration

6.30pm Metanoia
Clothes Drop In
(Narthex)

Acts 20:28-38 (Ps 68) John 17:11b-19

Thu 21 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

Acts 22:30;23:6-11 (Ps 16) John 17:20-26

Fri 22 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 25:13b-21 (Ps 103) John 21:15-19

7.30-9pm Unveiled

Sat 23 May

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11-12.10 **Mass 12.15**
Confessions 5-5.30 **VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

10-11am First Holy
Communion Class

Acts 28:16-20,30-31 (Ps 11) John 21:20-25

WE PRAY FOR Those who died recently:

Anniversaries: Marie Garlington, Kevin O'Connell

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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