



JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

12th April 2026

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

A philosophy teacher once told me that a very good way to understand what a book or an article was about was to go to the end and read it first. (Strange people, these philosophers, I thought, but maybe there is something to be said for it.) The end of Saint John's gospel, apart from an appendix added later, tells us that it has been written so that we can believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this we can have life through his name.

Belief and life, two very common threads running through John's gospel. The belief that he speaks about is usually a very gradual growth rather than a sudden illumination. This is surely very good news for us since sudden illuminations are usually in rather short supply in our lives. The slower but steady growth in belief involves also an aspect of trust in the person who is inviting our belief and since in this case that person is God himself we can be sure that our trust will not be misplaced or betrayed.

The life that the risen Christ is offering us is not just something that will be tacked on to the end of our earthly existence, though it will certainly come to its total fulfilment then, but it has already started with our baptism. The Christian life, if we respond to the working of God's grace in us, is the means whereby we let that divine life grow in us until, like the disciples in today's gospel, we can be filled with joy when we encounter the risen Lord, accepting his offer of that peace which only he can give.

Hugh Duffy SJ

BELIEF AND LIFE



Photo by Joshua Earle on Unsplash

12th April Sunday of Divine Mercy

is celebrated on the
Second Sunday of Easter.

All sins and punishment are removed by the grace of Divine Mercy Sunday when we fulfil the conditions of:
Sincerely repent of all our sins.
Place our complete trust in Jesus.
Go to Confession, preferably before the Feast.
Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast (or its Vigil).

Origin

The Feast of Divine Mercy was recorded in the diary of St Faustina granting the biggest promise of Grace from the Devotion of Divine Mercy.



Saint Faustina Kowalska was a Polish nun who received visitations and visions of Jesus, where he asked specifically for a feast of Divine Mercy to be founded on the Sunday after Easter. She wrote about her vision of the feast of Divine Mercy being attended by

innumerable participants and the pope in 1937. The first Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday was held on 23 March, 1937. St Faustina was canonized on April 30, 2000, by Pope John Paul II on the Sunday after Easter of that year and it became an official Catholic holiday.

Image of Divine Mercy

The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls.



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,
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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 PRAISE!
24th April 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

Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst **CALLED TO LOVE, 2 - 3 May 2026**

A retreat for singles, dating & engaged young adults who want to think more deeply about relationships and the call to marriage. A relaxed weekend with input, prayer, discussion and social, as well as the opportunity to meet like-minded others! This year's retreat will have as its theme masculinity and femininity. Runs from Saturday 2nd to Sunday 3rd May, with the option of staying Friday night. To book see <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/called-to-love/>

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



WELCOME!

It was a busy but special Triduum here at St Wilfrid's culminating in a joy-filled Easter Vigil during which we witnessed 6 Baptisms, 4 Receptions into the Church, and 1 Confirmation. What a great inspiration for the rest of us to recommit ourselves to Christ with new fervour.

Welcome and congratulations to Amy, Ash, Blessing, Caitlin, Daniel, Jack, Jordan, Keeley, Michael, Rachel, and Scott.

Please keep them in your prayers.



PARISH PRIEST: FR. CHRIS PEDLEY SJ **01772 555244** cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk
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 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 12 April

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47 (Ps 118) 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

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 **NO** Music Group **NO** Student Group Meeting

Mon 13 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

11.30am-12noon
 Exposition

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

Acts 4:23-31 (Ps 3) John 3:1-8

Tue 14 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

6-7.30pm Metanoia
 Hot Meal Drop In

Acts 4:32-37 (Ps 93) John 3:7b-15

Wed 15 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

5.15-5.45 Adoration
 of Blessed Sacrament

6.30pm Metanoia
 Clothes Drop In
 (Narthex)

Acts 5:17-26 (Ps 34) John 3:16-21

Thu 16 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

11-12noon
 Life Ascending
 (Coffee 10.30am)

Acts 5:27-33 (Ps 34) John 20:29

Fri 17 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15

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

Acts 5:34-42 (Ps 27) John 6:1-15

Sat 18 April

EASTER FERIA

Confessions 11-12.10
Confessions 5-5.30

Mass 12.15
VIGIL MASS 5.35pm

10-11am First Holy
 Communion Class

Acts 6:1-7 (Ps 33) John 6:16-21

WE PRAY FOR

Those who died recently:

Anniversaries: James Berry, Mary McSharry, Sheila Huyton, Paul & Kevin Rawsthorn

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