JESUITS
IN BRITAIN

Newsletter

11th January 2026

St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. John the Baptist's reaction is one which might be our own, why does Jesus need to be baptised? However, it is the one who is baptised who gives this baptism its significance. Christ's baptism gives the pattern for our own baptism. Out of the Father's love for us, through our baptism "we have been raised to the dignity of adoptive children." (*Pope St John Paul II*)

As Jesus comes up out of the water the Holy Spirit appears in the form of a dove and the voice of the Father reveals who Jesus is, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased". We have already celebrated the revelation of Christ to the shepherds at Christmas and to the wise men at the Epiphany. Our crib will remain until the feast of the Presentation, when we remember Jesus being presented in the temple with Simeon and Anna giving praise to God for the presence of the Redeemer. In John's Gospel it is John the Baptist who points out Christ, "the Lamb of God", to the disciples and then Jesus shows who he is in the miracle at the Marriage Feast of Cana.

As we reflect on these various revelations of Christ we might reflect on our own baptism, reflect on the way we are united with Christ. There is a prayer which is not said out loud as the priest mixes the water and wine at the preparation of the gifts, "by the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity". This feast reminds us of the reality. This feast reminds us that we are called to share in the divinity of Christ and to let that shape our lives.

Chris Pedley, S.J

First Holy Communion

Classes for those wishing to make their First Holy Communion this year will begin on Saturday 7th February.

If you have a child who wishes to join the classes please complete the form available from Monica Holdsworth (including anyone who has already been in touch directly

There will be another opportunity to contribute money or other items to **Gift Sunday** this weekend.

Sunday 11th January

There will be a **MEETING FOR YOUNG READERS** after the 10.15am Mass.

Lord, send us the gift of peace. Turn hatred to understanding, and anger to compassion. Through your love, transform horror to hope.

CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

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

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.

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 begins this month.

Adults are usually received into the Church at the Easter Vigil.

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

St. Walburge's

are offering tours of their church and trips up the spire to help raise funds for their restoration project. This time it will be possible to

See Preston at Night from The Spire.

The dates are: Saturday 10th, 17th and 24th January, 4 - 6.30pm.

Tickets are available online at
https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stwalburgesshrinechurch/1954268

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

OPENING TIMES : After 10.15am Sunday Mass

MIDWEEK OPENING TIMES: Monday and Friday 11.30am to 1pm

DONATE TO JESUIT MISSIONS
jesuitmissions.org.uk/donate/

11 Edge Hill
London SW19 4LR

JRS Jesuit Refugee Service

DONATE TO JRS
www.jrsuk.net/donate/

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

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.

Sign up here for info on all events for Students and Young Adults

JOE WHITE, UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN

joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk Tel. 07481 188102

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

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 11 January **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7 (Ps29) Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17

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 with Music Group After Mass in the Parish Centre: **Student Group Meeting**

Mon 12 Jan *FERIA*
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15
11.30am-12noon Exposition
11.30-1pm Gift &Card Shop Open Tea/coffee

1 Samuel 1:1-8 (Ps 116) Mark 1:14-20

Tue 13 Jan *FERIA*
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15 Requiem
6-7.30pm Metanoia Hot Meal Drop In

1 Samuel 1:9-20 1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 Mark 1:21-28

Wed 14 Jan *FERIA*
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15
5.15-5.45 Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
6.30pm Metanoia Clothes Drop In (Narthex)

1 Samuel 3:1-10,19-20 (Ps 40) Mark 1:29-39

FERIA
Confessions 11.50-12.10
Mass 12.15
Thu 15 Jan
11am Life Ascending (Coffee 10.30am)

1 Samuel 4:1-11 (Ps 44) Mark 1:40-45

Fri 16 Jan *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

1 Samuel 8:4-7,10-22 (Ps 89) Mark 2:1-12

Sat 17Jan *St Anthony, Abbot*
Confessions 11-12.10 **Mass 12.15**
Confessions 5-5.30 **VIGIL MASS 5.35pm**

1 Samuel 9:1-4,17-19,10:1 (Ps 21) Mark 2:13-17

WE PRAY FOR **Those who died recently:** Anna Mai RIP Requiem 13 Jan 12.15pm
Anniversaries: Amanda Jane Hall, Kath Allison, Meg Malinowski, Kathleen Lightfoot, Michael Watkinson, Francis Roberts, Dorothy Sumner
Those who are sick: Brendan Rawsthorn, Norman Gaskell, Doreen Flynn, Agnes Partington, Janet Hadfield.