



St. Wilfrid's Parish, Preston

Newsletter

31st December, 2023

THE HOLY FAMILY

Journeying in Faith



In his pastoral letter this weekend, Bishop Paul reflects upon the Holy Family and on today's Gospel, the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

Our other readings focus on Abraham and his faith in God. Genesis tells us Abraham put his faith in God and the writer of the letter to the Hebrews develops this theme. Faith here is not a question of accepting certain propositions about God, it is a little bit different from what we do when we recite the Creed.

Here faith is about trusting God. It is with this trust that Abraham sets out from his own country to the land to which God leads him, it is with this faith that Abraham and Sarah believed God's promise in the birth of Isaac. It was with this kind of faith that Abraham was ready to offer Isaac, even though it seemed to go against the promises that God had made to him. This faith is a readiness to trust God, even when we do not see the way forward or understand where God is leading us. Often,

we face things we do not understand. It was this faith which enabled Simeon and Anna, in the Gospel, to wait patiently for the coming of the Messiah. It was a faith that was shown to be justified when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus in the Temple and Simeon and Anna recognised that here was the one for whom they had been waiting.



Today's readings call us to wait in faith, to trust in God, especially in those times when we do not see how things will work out, times when faith is difficult. This faith is a gift for which we need to ask as we go through our lives. Let us ask for this faith as we prepare to enter a new year.

Happy New Year to you all.

Chris Pedley, S.J

Sanctuary Gift and Card shop

Open Mon & Fri 11.15-1.15 and during refreshments after 10.15 Mass on Sunday. We offer a large selection of cards for most occasions
Limited number of 2024 Diocesan directories £6

PLEASE NOTE THE SHOP WILL CLOSE FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR & REOPEN ON JANUARY 8TH

The Luv Preston Food Drop In resumes on Tuesday 2 January.

Metanoia Wednesday Clothes Drop In 3rd January.

Ascent Group resumes Thursday 11 January.

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 7th January** we will do the same. We ask you to bring gifts/money **to be placed in the crib at the offertory** which will be given to the following 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 6.30pm. 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.

Please have a New Year sort out and recycle unwanted presents.

Thank you


Chaplaincy Services for Students and Young Adults

Metanoia Project are now officially offering Chaplaincy Services for Students and Young Adults on behalf of the Diocese of Lancaster and St. Wilfrid's Parish. Further info about groups and events please contact joe@metanoiaproject.co.uk

METANOIA PROJECT'S
 Birthday Celebrations
 and Community Commitments

SUNDAY
 7TH JANUARY
 FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

*"The Light shines in the
 darkness, and the darkness
 has not overcome it."
 John 1: 5-6*



**INCLUDES MASS AND A LIVE DRAMA
 PERFORMANCE**
 more details overleaf

WE WILL BE JOINING THE PARISH 4.30PM MASS
 AT ST WILFRID'S, PRESTON
 DURING WHICH WE WILL PROVIDE THE MUSIC AND MAKE OUR COMMITMENTS

THE CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE IN THE PARISH HALL
 PLEASE BRING YOUR CHRISTMAS LEFTOVERS FOR A SHARED TABLE.

IN HONOUR OF METANOIA'S 13TH ANNIVERSARY, THE YOUNG ADULTS OF THE
 CATHOLIC SOCIETY (UCLAN CATHSOC) PRESENT THIS PRODUCTION:

TAKING A CONTEMPORARY LOOK AT EVANGELISATION, FOUR STUDENTS BEGIN ON A UNIFIED CALL TO
 FOLLOW IN THEIR MENTOR'S FOOTSTEPS, BUT COULD THEIR PERSONALITIES GET IN THEIR WAY?
 WHAT WILL THESE INDIVIDUALS DO? WILL THEY ANSWER THE INVITATION TO LOVE FROM GOD?
 WILL THEY EVENTUALLY RESPOND TO THE PERSISTENT KNOCKING?
 THIS PLAY ALSO INCORPORATES FOLLOW ALONG SONGS WITH DANCE AND SCRIPTURE READING.

CitizensUK &
 St. Wilfrid's Faith & Justice Group



To strengthen the relationship between St Wilfrid's parish, the members of the congregation and Citizens UK Davinia Jackson, local CitizensUK Community Organiser, will be in the Parish Centre from 11am (after the 10:15 Mass) on Sunday 14th January.

Davina, along with Fr Chris, would like to hear about how we can consider ways in which we can focus on social justice together. If you have previously been involved in the Faith & Justice Group and would like to help shape its future, please do come along.



2024 The Year of Prayer

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee
 Year 'Pilgrims of Hope',
**2024 has been designated a
 Year of Prayer by Pope Francis.**

Lovely to see so many people at the First Mass of Christmas. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Christmas Masses and to Luke Samuel who took the photo.

A Date for Your Diary
 The Quiz Night
 for the Zambian Orphanage will be on
 Friday 26th January
 Further details soon

St Wilfrid's Presbytery, 1 Winckley Square, Preston, PR1 3JJ
(01772) 555244

Parish Priest: Fr. Chris Pedley SJ (555244) cpedleysj@jesuit.org.uk

Deacon (Retired): Rev. Bill Adams (726653) (07866104144)

Parish Administrator: (554396) stwilfridspa@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara MacLaren (07986940883) barbara@hornworks.co.uk

Superior of the Jesuit Community: Fr Hugh Duffy SJ (554387)

Parish Website www.stwilfridspreston.org.uk



Sun 31	The Holy Family	Eccles 3:2-6,12-14 Colos 3:12-21	(Ps 127)	Luke 2:22-40
Mon 1	Mary Mother of God	Numbers 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7	(Ps 66)	Luke 2:16-21
Tue 2	Sts Basil & Gregory	1 John 2:22-28	(Ps 97)	John 1:19-28
Wed 3	The Holy Name of Jesus	Eccles 51:11-17 Philipp 2:1-1	(Ps 8)	Luke 2:21-24
Thu 4	Feria	1 John 3:7-10	(Ps 97)	John 1:35-42
Fri 5	Feria	1 John 3:11-21	(Ps 99)	John 1:43-51
Sat 6	Feria	1 John 3:11-21	(Ps 99)	John 1:43-51

Mass & Confession Times

Saturday

Confessions 11.15am to 12.15pm

Mass 12.15pm

Confessions 5 to 5.30pm

Vigil 5.35pm

Sunday

Masses 7, 10.15am & 4.30pm

Monday to Friday

Confessions 11.50am to 12.10pm

Mass 12.15pm

Eucharistic



**For Jesuit Vocations
every Monday
11:30 -12 noon**

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Lately Dead

Anniversaries Pauline Bennion, Joe Clancy,
Marie Doherty

Those who are sick: Susan Craft, Joyce Lyons,
Brendan Rawsthorn, Fr Joseph D'Ambrosio CSSp,



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



January's Intention -

For the gift of diversity in the Church

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church

LITTLE CHURCH

**during 10.15am Sunday Mass.
All children welcome**

The Parish Newsletter is to reflect what happens in the Parish & news regarding parishioners. If you would like something to be included please send information to the Parish Administrator or email stwilfridsnewsletter@gmail.com