

ST WILFRID'S, GARSTON / ALLERTON / GRASSEDALE

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

1 MARCH 2026

Parish Priest : Fr David Potter; Deacon : Revd Paul Whitehead

Tel. 0151 427 4015

MASSES & SERVICES

Saturday 28 February (Vigil Mass)

5.15 pm Confessions

6.00 pm Vigil Mass (Parishioners)

Sunday 1 March (2nd Sunday of Lent A)

8.45 Confessions

9.30 Mass (Patricia Doyle)

11.30 Mass (Intentions of Michael Riley)

12.45 Baptisms

Monday 2 March

8.00 Mass (Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund)

Tuesday 3 March

10.00 School Mass (Intentions of Staff & Pupils)

Wednesday 4 March

8.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.10 Morning Prayer

9.30 Mass (For One Sick MJ)

7.30 Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Thursday 5 March

8.30 Exposition

9.10 Morning Prayer

9.30 Mass (Pauline Ashdown)

Friday 6 March

7.30 pm Mass (For One Sick TF)

Saturday 7 March

9.10 Rosary

9.30 Mass (Aiden Moore)

5.15 Confessions

6.00 Vigil Mass (Tadeusz Kabluczenko)

Next Sunday 8 March (3rd Sunday of Lent A)

8.45 Confessions

9.30 Mass (Parishioners)

11.30 Mass (Terence Foley)

SICK LIST

Sean Armstrong, Linda Barry, Mary O'Neill, Nicholas Cavanagh, Eileen Fowler, Chris Doyle, Keith Garcia, Michael Peter Holmes, Philip Hendrick, Dorothy Lynch, Fred Keegan, Bob Cramsie, Pauline Preston, Pat Threlfall, Stella O'Donnell, Julia Robertson, Pat Craig, Jane Shanley, Peter Jeffrey, Grace Astbury, Gerard Doyle, David Linford, Anne Davies

LENTEN PROGRAMME

Extra devotions and spiritual exercises have been arranged for the season of Lent as follows.

Early Mass : Mondays at 8.00 am (unless otherwise advertised)

Stations of the Cross & Benediction : Wednesday 4 March, and Tuesdays 10/17/24 March

Lenten Rosary & Benediction : 4.00 pm on Sunday 15 March

School Masses : 10.00 am on Tuesdays 3/10/17 March

Penitential Service : 7.30 pm on Tuesday 31 March

"Four Films for Lent" (in the Meeting Room) : 7.00 pm on Mondays 2/9/16/23 March

FOUR FILMS FOR LENT

The "Four Films for Lent" (actually two films and two documentaries) mentioned above are as follows :

1. **"Francis of Assisi"** (2 March) : a feature film about the life of St Francis (**1 hour 41 minutes**)
2. **"Tyburn Convent"** (9 March) : about the Benedictine nuns of Tyburn (**1 hour 30 minutes**)
3. **"Secrets of the Vatican"** (16 March) : a look at the parts of the Vatican which are inaccessible to tourists (**1 hour 25 minutes**)
4. **"Maria Goretti"** (23 March) : a feature film about the life and martyrdom of the Patroness of Modern Youth

KSC SOCIAL EVENT

Council 9 of the Knights of St Columba wish to invite parishioners to join them at their next social event, which is a buffet with bingo, a quiz and a raffle. The date is **Friday 20 March, 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm**, and the venue is Liverpool Cricket Club, Aigburth Rd, L19 3QF. All proceeds are in aid of the Alma Mater Fund, which is associated with SPUC and supports pregnant students. Further details and tickets (£25 each) can be obtained from **Kevin Jones**; tel. **07392 566155**.

YEAR OF GRACE IN HONOUR OF ST FRANCIS

By decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary, at the behest of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, the Church has proclaimed a special **Year of St Francis**, 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, to mark the 800th anniversary of the passage of St Francis of Assisi into heaven. This decree grants, throughout the entire period, the possibility of obtaining a **plenary indulgence**. The plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions : sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer according to the intentions of the Holy Father, with a heart detached from sin. It may also be applied in suffrage for the souls in purgatory. The prayers should be said in a church dedicated to St Francis (such as our own), and should conclude with the Our Father, the Creed, and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Francis, St Clare, and the Saints of the Franciscan Family. The decree establishing this Year of Grace mentions that St Francis remains relevant in our own time, and it encourages everyone to *become saints in the contemporary world, following the example of the Seraphic Patriarch* (a title of St Francis). Thus the Year of St Francis presents itself as a time of favour, a grace offered to all, so that, as the Pope hopes, *feelings of Christian charity towards one's neighbour and authentic desire for harmony and peace among peoples may be reborn in hearts*.

In the context of the Year of Grace, the mortal remains of St Francis are on public display in Assisi until 22 March 2026. Previously they have been displayed on just one occasion, on a single day in 1978, when they were accessible to only a limited number of people.

CELEBRATING ST FRANCIS' 800th ANNIVERSARY

This year sees the 800th anniversary of the death of our church patron, St Francis of Assisi, on 4 October 1226. Our parish celebrations in honour of this momentous occasion will be as follows :

1. The St Francis Crucifix, which was blessed recently, is now hanging on a wall in the Meeting Room.
2. One of four films to be shown in the Meeting Room on Monday evenings in Lent will be a feature film about the life, work and ministry of St Francis. This film will be shown at **7.00 pm** on **Monday 2 March**.
3. Archbishop John Sherrington will preside at our **11.30 am** Mass on **Sunday 4 October**, the Feast of St Francis and also the anniversary of his death. Hopefully there will be lunchtime refreshments in the Meeting Room following this Mass.
4. At **6.00 pm** on **Sunday 4 October**, the **Pilkington Choir** (a St Helens-based mixed-voice choir founded in 1956) will give a concert in our church in honour of St Francis' 800th anniversary. Again it is hoped that there will be refreshments in the Meeting Room following the concert. There will also be a raffle during the evening. Tickets for this event will be available in due course.
5. *Quarant'ore* (the annual prolonged period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, spread over two days), which we normally celebrate on the two days after the Feast of Corpus Christi, will this year be moved to **Monday 5 October** and **Tuesday 6 October**. In this way, *Quarant'ore* will conclude our celebration of the feast and 800th anniversary of St Francis.

