

**THE RIBBLE VALLEY PARISHES OF  
ST WILFRID, LONGRIDGE: ST MARY, CHIPPING:  
ST PETER AND ST PAUL, RIBCHESTER.**

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***Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

***Year A***

***Sunday 9th August 2026***



*“Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”*

| <u>Day</u>                                  | <u>St Wilfrid</u>                                     | <u>St Mary</u>          | <u>Ss. Peter &amp; Paul</u> |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Monday<br/>10<sup>th</sup> August</b>    | <b>Priest's Day Off</b>                               | <b>Priest's Day Off</b> | <b>Priest's Day Off</b>     |
| <b>Tuesday<br/>11<sup>th</sup> August</b>   | <b>Mass 10.00am</b>                                   |                         |                             |
| <b>Wednesday<br/>12<sup>th</sup> August</b> |                                                       |                         | <b>Mass 10.00am</b>         |
| <b>Thursday<br/>13<sup>th</sup> August</b>  |                                                       | <b>Mass 9.30am</b>      |                             |
| <b>Friday<br/>14<sup>th</sup> August</b>    | <b>Morning Prayer<br/><i>St Paul's</i><br/>7.45am</b> |                         |                             |
| <b>Saturday<br/>15<sup>th</sup> August</b>  | <b>Mass 5.30pm</b>                                    |                         |                             |
| <b>Sunday<br/>16<sup>th</sup> August</b>    |                                                       | <b>Mass 9.30am</b>      | <b>Mass 11.00am</b>         |

### **Autumn Gathering – Save the date**

After the success of our Autumn Gathering last year, we have once again booked for the Cross Keys at Whitechapel on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2026 – 12pm for 12:30pm. Put the date in your diary and menu and costs will follow shortly – watch this space!

### **Missionaries of St Paul - Appeal**

Kindly note that next weekend on the Feast of the Assumption we will be welcoming a visiting priest who will be making an appeal on behalf of the Missionaries of St Paul.

### **Parish of St Peter and St Paul Ribchester**

### **Parish Notices**

#### **The Faithful Departed**

We pray for our departed loved ones and for those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again. We especially remember:

Ronald Jackson, Mary Bell, Winifred Isherwood, Fred Alton and Edith Henshaw. May they rest in peace.

#### **Recent Offertory Donations:**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2026:**

**£178.00**

**Thank you.**

**Parish of St Mary Chipping**  
**Sunday Missal page 381**

**Parish Notices**

**Book Stall**

The book stall continues to be very popular and any books in good condition to keep it stocked up would be gratefully received. Many thanks.

**Bicentenary Meeting**

The Community Centre will be the location of the next Bicentenary Meeting being held at 7pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. All are most welcome.

**Chipping in Bloom**

Please note that the "North West in Bloom" Judging Day for Chipping will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August in the Community Hall.

**Food Bank**

The food bank welcomes all donations from parishioners and in particular baby products, toiletries, long life milk, juice, tea and coffee. Please note that there will be a container at the back of the church so items can be left at any time.

**The Faithful Departed**

We pray for our departed loved ones and for those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again. We remember especially:

James Furlong and Francis Marsden.

May the Risen Lord grant them a share in his Resurrection.

**Recent Offertory Donations:**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2026:      £286.80**

**Thank you.**

**Parish of St Wilfrid Longridge**

**Parish Notices**

**Sunday Missal page 381**

**The Faithful Departed**

We pray for our departed loved ones and for those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again. We especially remember:

Brian Cox, Lisa Libby-Inman, John Michael Barber, Margaret Parker, William Patrick Rogers and Cecilia Margaret Rigby.

May they rest in peace.

**Longridge Foodbank**

Kindly note that Longridge Foodbank is currently in short supply of the following items: Coffee, Tea, Tinned Meat, Savoury Snacks and Chocolate. If you can donate any of these items in the collection box at the back of church, it would be greatly appreciated.

### **A thought on the Gospel**

To the ancient people, the seas represented chaos. Fishermen and sailors, then, as well as now, know all too well the sudden turmoil caused by stormy waters. If you've ever seen the movie, *The Perfect Storm*, you might understand why water is often associated with chaos.

The sea can hit us from all sides, and in the midst of a storm, far out at sea, there can be little respite. That is chaos.

But we believe in a God who has the mastery of the seas. The disciples certainly witnessed and testified to the fact that Jesus walked on the water. And he continues to walk on water, especially in the storms that threaten the comfort and security of our own lives.

As he reached out to Peter who began to sink beneath the waves, so too he lifts us from the chaos that can threaten to engulf us, often caused by things that are beyond our control. Life itself can sometimes be unpredictable and chaotic. Just when everything seems calm, a loved one might suddenly die, an incident occurs that disrupts our normal routine, or we are met by unforeseen calamities that bring great distress.

Jesus comes to us to conquer the chaos that is brought about by sin. The times we may have made bad choices, in our deeds, our words, and even our thoughts that may well have initiated a course of action resulting in disastrous consequences.

It makes no difference whether we bring about the chaos or whether we suffer from the chaos caused by others. Jesus still walks on the water and reaches out. He calls out and asks us to walk towards him. "Come Peter." Peter walked on the water. At least for a bit.

And what if we fail? What if we lose sight or let go of our faith, and sink as Peter did? "Don't be afraid," the Lord says. He is there to reach down and lift us out of the water, from the chaos. It's good to acknowledge that faith can sometimes take us out of our comfort zone, or even to places we would rather not be.

The Lord knows that we are not saints, not yet anyway. He knows that we are weak. He accepted Peter, often impetuous but well-meaning, at times a man of little faith as today's gospel portrays him, but ultimately, one who became the Rock of the Church. The Lord accepts us for who we are, and walks alongside us, even if that storm becomes a hurricane.

He walked on the waters, and He calls us too, to have the faith to step out and walk towards him.