

Contacting Us: All Parishes

If you require assistance from a member of the clergy, please speak to them before or after Mass. The parish email for all three churches is wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com and the office number is 01625-533-268. For the Sacrament of Marriage – please see Fr Tony at least six months before the wedding date.

Contacting St. Pius X, Alderley Edge & St. Teresa’s Wilmslow

For the Sacrament of Reconciliation – on request or as noted in the newsletter.
 For the Sacrament of Baptism - Please speak to Father Tony or Father Moses after any Mass. Baptisms take place on Saturdays at 12 noon.
 For the Newsletter – please email the parish using the address above.

Contacting St. Benedict’s Handforth

There is a contact list in the Church entrance for all enquiries.
 St Benedict’s Catholic Primary School: 01625 520207

For the Sacrament of Reconciliation – on request after the 5.30 pm Sunday Mass.
 For the Sacrament of Baptism - Deacon Tom Chrisp is available after the 10 am Sunday Mass. He can also be contacted by telephone (M: 07925 072270). Baptisms take place after the Sunday 10 am Mass.
 For the Newsletter – please email the parish using the address above.

	St Pius X, Alderley Edge	St. Benedict’s, Handforth	Sacred Heart & St. Teresa’s, Wilmslow
Safeguarding Officer	Shaun Steele 07947-605-448	Eithne Lennon 07915-918-056	Cecilia Tinsley 01625-521-520
SVP		SVP Society 07749-453-776	

Weekly Wordsearch

R	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	A	J
E	I	D	H	A	N	D	S	O	I
G	N	I	N	E	V	E	Y	F	N
I	G	S	N	Y	E	H	A	E	W
F	E	C	I	A	N	T	C	A	T
H	R	I	W	D	H	A	S	R	Y
O	O	P	T	E	E	E	L	Y	E
L	O	L	R	P	S	R	O	O	D
E	V	E	I	L	E	B	R	E	J
S	E	S	L	I	A	N	D	O	L

EVENING
PEACE
JOY
TWIN

DAY
HANDS
FATHER
HOLES

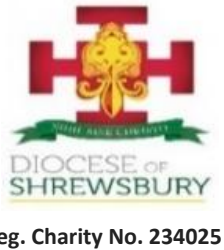
DOORS
SIDE
BREATHED
NAILS

FEAR
DISCIPLES
FORGIVE
FINGER

St Pius X Church, Stamford Road, Alderley Edge, Cheshire, SK9 7NS
 St. Benedict's RC Church, Hall Road, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 3AD
 Sacred Heart & St. Teresa's Church, Green Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 1LD



PARISHES OF
**ST. PIUS X, ALDERLEY EDGE,
 ST. BENEDICT’S, HANDFORTH &
 SACRED HEART & ST. TERESA’S, WILMSLOW**
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Parish Priest: Fr. Tony McGrath / Assistant Priest: Fr. Moses Ibeh
 Retired Priest (St. Benedict’s): Fr. William O’Riordan / Deacon (St. Benedict’s): Rev. Thomas Chrisp
 Telephone (Office): 01625-533-268 / Email: wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com
 Websites: <https://stpiusalderley.com>; <https://stbenedictshandforth.wixsite.com>
www.stteresawilmslow.org

Sunday 27th April, 2025: The Second Sunday of Easter

	St Pius X, Alderley Edge	St Benedict’s, Handforth	Sacred Heart & St Teresa’s, Wilmslow
Saturday 26 th Apr <i>Easter Saturday</i>	No Mass	No Mass	9.30 am Mass (<i>Celeb’s Int</i>) Adoration 10 am – 11 am Confessions 10.15 – 10.45 am followed by Marian devotions Confessions 6 pm – 6.20 pm 6.30 pm (Vigil Mass) <i>Pope Francis RIP</i>
Sunday 27 th Apr <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am <i>Pope Francis RIP</i>	10.00 am <i>Pope Francis RIP</i> 5.30 pm <i>Pope Francis RIP</i>	11.00 am <i>Pope Francis RIP</i>
Monday 28 th Apr <i>St. George, Martyr, Patron of England</i>	No Mass	No Mass	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>
Tuesday 29 th Apr <i>St. Catherine of Siena</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>For the election of a new Pope</i>	9.30 am <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	6.30 pm (Adoration 6 pm) <i>For the election of a new Pope</i>
Wednesday 30 th Apr	No Mass	9.30 am (Adoration 9 am) <i>For the election of a new Pope</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>For the election of a new Pope</i> Prayer Group 11.15 – 12.15
Thursday 1 st May	No Mass	9.30 am <i>For the election of a new Pope</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>
Friday 2 nd May <i>St. Athanasius</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>For the election of a new Pope</i>	No Mass	No Mass
Saturday 3 rd May <i>Ss Philip & James, Apostles</i>	No Mass	No Mass	9.30 am Mass (<i>Celeb’s Int</i>) Adoration 10 am – 11 am Confessions 10.15 – 10.45 am followed by Marian devotions Confessions 6 pm – 6.20 pm 6.30 pm (Vigil Mass) <i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 4 th May <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am <i>Daniel Hickey</i>	10.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i> 5.30 pm <i>People of the Parish</i> 7.00 pm <i>Holy Hour with worship music</i>	11.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>



St Joseph's Football Tournament

St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine in Stockport is holding a men's football tournament on Bank Holiday Monday 26th May (9.30am to 3pm) to raise much needed restoration funds. Our three churches in Alderley Edge, Handforth, and Wilmslow have been invited to join together to form a team of seven players plus the parish priest, a referee, and three stewards willing to support on the day. The event will be held at Cheadle Catholic School in Cheadle Hulme. This is an event for all the family with drink refreshments, an inflatable, face painting etc.. What better way to spend a Bank Holiday supporting your parish - bring a picnic and support your parish. More details to follow. If you would be able to volunteer as a player, referee or steward, please email wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com giving your name and role **before Sunday 4th May**.

The next St Pius X Coffee Morning – All Parishioners from all 3 churches are welcome

This will be next Sunday (4th May, 2025) after the 9.00 Mass and should be a very joyous occasion. John Rylands would be MOST grateful for volunteer helpers to contact him on 07976 361018 or at John.rylands@northernventure.co.uk



St. Pius X Alderley Edge Notices

Food Bank Thank you for your continued support. Items can be left in the box in the church porch. Donations are taken to the food bank in Brownley Green in Wythenshawe. Please note no perishable foods. Thank you.



St. Benedict's Handforth Notices

Help required - Is there a parishioner or two who could kindly provide some drinks in the St Benedict's hall at 8pm after the Holy Hour on Sunday 4th May? If you can help, please speak to Fr Tony or email the parish at wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com

The SVP were busy in the lead up to Easter. They delivered Easter gifts and cards to the people they support. Thanks to St Benedict's School for providing such excellent cards. There were also short Easter Services at Longstone Manor and Wilmslow Manor care homes - also at Oakmere. Thanks to Deacon Tom for helping with these.

FOODBANK items Collection for Foodbank and 'My pantry', Saturdays between 10.00 - 11.00 - St Benedict's Church car park. Priority foodbank items, please help if you can: weetabix, tinned meat, pasta sauce, jars of sandwich paste, toilet rolls, eggs, long life milk, packet soups, tea, NB – no perishable foods. You can also donate direct to the Foodbank (side door at St Chads) from 11.00 - 12.00 on weekdays except Tuesday.



St. Teresa's Wilmslow Notices

Parishioner Appeal for a Lift to Mass One of our parishioners would be most grateful if anyone who attends the Sunday 11 am Mass at St. Teresa's could offer her a lift to Mass. If you are able to help, please leave a note in the sacristy or email the parish and we can provide further details.

FOODBANK Please see Hope Central collection times & needed items above. (Items can also be left in porch box).

Pope Francis RIP (1936-2025)

On Easter Monday morning, 21st April, we heard the announcement of the death of Pope Francis, the 266th Bishop of Rome. The news was delivered by Cardinal Kevin Farrell: 'With deep pain, I must announce the death of our Holy Father Francis. This morning, at 7.35, the Bishop of Rome returned to the house of the Father.' Bishop Mark wrote to the Shrewsbury clergy reflecting 'how fitting it was that Pope Francis's final witness in his frailty was to the joy and victory of Easter.' Pope Francis leaves us with legacy of mission and mercy. May he rest in peace.

Celebrating the Jubilee Year for Easter 2025

in the Catholic Parishes of St Pius X, St Benedict, Sacred Heart & St Teresa.

'The Joy of the Lord is my Strength' (Nehemiah 8:10) a Holy Hour with live worship music and Scripture readings on Sunday 4th May at St Benedict's Catholic Church at 7pm.

The Feast of Our Lady of Fatima on Tuesday 13th May at Sacred Heart and St Teresa, 7pm to 9pm - beginning with the celebration of Holy Mass including a longer homily on the events and message of Fatima, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Holy Rosary, and individual veneration of the relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco.

A Marian Procession on Sunday 18th May at St Benedict's - to the shrine of Our Lady with devotions, immediately following the 10am Mass.

A Day Pilgrimage to Shrewsbury Cathedral on Thursday 22nd May - UPDATE Booking is now complete for our Day Pilgrimage to Shrewsbury Cathedral on Thursday 22nd May - Confessions from 11am, Pilgrim Mass 12.15pm followed by lunch in the Cathedral's Orchard Café, Cathedral Tour 2pm, Jubilee Pilgrim Liturgy 3pm. If you are travelling by train with Fr Tony and Fr Moses, please book your own return train journey to Shrewsbury at 9.47am. After the pilgrim service at 3pm, and weather dependant, Fr Tony hopes to talk a longer route to the train station visiting some of the main attractions in the town and returning in time for the 16.55 train to Wilmslow (purchasing a flexible train ticket is always a good idea).

Other Notices for All Parishes / Diocesan Notices

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage We are planning a joint pilgrimage of six local Catholic churches (including St Benedict, St Pius X, and Sacred Heart & St Teresa) to the North East of England from 29th September to 3rd October. We will be visiting Lindisfarne, Durham, Alnwick and other places of interest. Fr Louis (from the Cheadle parishes) and Fr Tony will be accompanying us. If you are interested, or would like to find out more, there will be a meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 6th May in the hall at Christ Church, Finney Lane, Heald Green, SK8 3DY. All are welcome. If you wish to express interest about the pilgrimage but cannot attend the meeting, please email wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com to ask for more information.

Marriage Help Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 20-22 June www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

Day of Divine Mercy This special celebration will be held on Sunday 27th April 2025 at St. Vincent's Church, Altrincham. The church will be open from 1.30 pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and confession from 2 pm. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be read at 3 pm and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated at 3.30 pm. For more information please contact noel@loughreys.com

PARISHES OF
ST PIUS X, ALDERLEY EDGE, ST BENEDICT'S, HANDFORTH
AND
SACRED HEART & ST TERESA'S WILMSLOW
WEEKLY REFLECTION

Sunday 27th April 2025: Second Sunday of Easter
Marian Prayers: 1 The Ave Maria

How many times in our life have we prayed the Hail Mary? What is its history and significance? It evolved in sections over the centuries until reaching its present, authorised form as a prayer by 1568. The first real evidence of the phrases “Ave Maria” and “*benedicta tu in mulieribus*” is from the mid-11th century. In the British Museum are two Anglo-Saxon manuscripts, one of which possibly dates from about 1030 A.D. They show that the above phrases occurred throughout the Cursus of the Blessed Virgin, an office popular in the monasteries, though it is not clear whether the two phrases were united into a single, simple prayer until shortly afterwards. A monastic document from before 1184 shows that it had become customary to include also the words: “*and blessed is the fruit of thy womb*”. So, by that date people were saying the first part of the prayer up to and including these words. It can be seen that this first section begins with the words of the Angel at the Annunciation, followed by the greeting of St Elizabeth to Our Lady at the Visitation.

The prayer further evolved by adding the Holy Name, “*Jesus Christus*”, so that in the 13th-15th centuries the ending was: “*and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus Christ, Amen*”. It is documented that people in private prayer then began to add a petition, which often included an appeal for sinners and help at the hour of death, though this was neither uniform nor universal. In the late 15th century, a form similar to the present prayer was said to be the prayer of Pope Alexander VI, Rodrigo Borgia - a ‘controversial’ occupant of the Papacy to say the least! By 1514 the present-day version of the Ave Maria is found in the breviary of the Camaldolese monks in Italy. This version made its way into the Catechism of the Council of Trent, completed in 1564, and, shortly after, in 1568, it was officially recognised in the Roman Breviary.

The early 20th century Catholic Encyclopaedia, on which the information in this article is primarily based, relates two, somewhat unusual facts about the prayer. The first is that, although modern Catholic words are “**the** Lord is with thee”, this is a relatively recent development. The more general custom in Victorian days was to say “**our** Lord is with thee”. In the 19th century Cardinal Wiseman expressed strong disapproval of change to “**the** Lord is with thee”, describing it as “*stiff....and destructive of the unction which the prayer breathes*”. The second fact, as recorded

in the Encyclopaedia just over a hundred years ago, is that in some places, and notably in Ireland, the feeling still survived that the Hail Mary was completed with the word 'Jesus'. The author had also been informed that within living memory it was not uncommon for Irish peasants, when required to say Hail Marys in penance, to ask whether they were required to say the Holy Marys too.

Finally, the modern Catechism of the Catholic Church (paras 2675-2676) says this about many hymns and prayers to Our Lady: *"...two movements usually alternate with one another: the first "magnifies" the Lord for the "great things" he did for his lowly servant and through her for all human beings The second entrusts the supplications and praises of the children of God to the Mother of Jesus, because she now knows the humanity which, in her, the Son of God espoused. This twofold movement of prayer to Mary has found a privileged expression in the Ave Maria"*

Stephen S.