

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

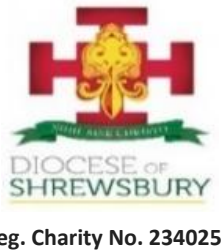
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JUDAS
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 CHILDREN
 LOVE
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 DISCIPLES
 JESUS
 MAN
 GOD
 HIMSELF
 LONGER
 ANOTHER

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 18th May, 2025: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

	St Pius X, Alderley Edge	St Benedict’s, Handforth	Sacred Heart & St Teresa’s, Wilmslow
Saturday 17 th May	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 18 th May <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am <i>Pope Leo XIV</i>	10.00 am <i>Pope Leo XIV</i> 5.30 pm <i>Pope Leo XIV</i>	11.00 am <i>Pope Leo XIV</i>
Monday 19 th May <i>St. Milburga</i>	No Mass	No Mass	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>
Tuesday 20 th May	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	9.30 am <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	6.30 pm (Adoration 6 pm) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>
Wednesday 21 st May <i>The Dedication of the Cathedral</i>	No Mass	9.30 am (Adoration 9 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i> Prayer Group 11.15 – 12.15
Thursday 22 nd May	No Mass	9.30 am <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	No Mass
Friday 23 rd May	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Vocations to the Priesthood</i>	No Mass	No Mass
Saturday 24 th May <i>Our Lady Help of Christians (Principal Patron of the Diocese)</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 25 th May <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am <i>Louise Dunkerley</i>	10.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i> 5.30 pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	11.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>

Advance notice of funerals - Let us pray for those in our parishes who have recently died

• **Anne Mary Grace** who died on 28th April. Her requiem Mass will be offered at St Pius X at 12 noon on Thursday 29th May. Please contact Susie Burrows if attending on 07971 276111 • **David Marsden** who died recently. His requiem Mass will be offered at St Teresa's at 11 am on Monday 2nd June.

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s and 30s) Discerning God's Call in your life: 23rd - 25th May, Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). **Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.** If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org To register: <https://bit.ly/FCJVocationWeekend>

Retreat Day – Why Get Married

A **Retreat Day** has been organised with the title '**Why Get Married**' on Saturday 28th of June 2025 at Our Lady and the Apostles, Stockport. The retreat is aimed at anyone wondering about the marriage vocation, including young adults who may be dating but not living together, cohabitees and those who are unmarried and seeking baptism for their child. See flyer or poster in Church for more details.



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 - we require several people to join the church cleaning team at St Benedict's. The commitment is only for an hour once a month (usually on a weekday morning). Please contact Moira on 07870 467078 if you can help to serve your parish in this way. Thank you

HELP urgently needed for collection of flowers on a Friday from Wilmslow (takes around 1 hour). Also we need flower arrangers and church cleaners. Please let one of the stewards know if you can assist with these key roles.

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: long life milk, packet soups, tinned meat, tinned ravioli, baked beans, toilet rolls & eggs. 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

New Sunday Car Parking Charges at the Cheshire East Car Parks in Wilmslow from 26th May Please note that from Monday 26th May, parking charges will apply on Sundays – these will be based on the weekday tariffs for each car park. The car parks include the Rex/Hoopers car park & Broadway Meadow car park.

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

Celebrating the Jubilee Year for Easter 2025

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

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 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

St Joseph's Football Tournament Update: Due to unforeseen circumstances, this event has been postponed and will now take place on Saturday 30th August 10 am-3 pm. We are still in need of teams, referees, marshals to help with the day, so please get in touch stockportshrine@gmail.com if you are able to help. Thank you.

Day of Formation in Liturgical Prayer & Sacred Music: A day of study, prayer, music and reflection. Led by Fr Guy Nicholls, Director of the St John Henry Newman Institute of Liturgical Music. Saturday 28th June at St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine, Tatton Street, Stockport, SK1 1EJ. A practical day course on understanding the Liturgy and use of Sacred Music within Mass. Begins at 11am and ends with a sung Mass at 5pm. Cost £5 per person (suggested donation payable on the day). Bring a packed lunch. Tea/coffee and biscuits provided. To book or for more information, please email stockportshrine@gmail.com

Pilgrimage to the North East A reminder that booking forms with non-refundable deposit of £150 per person should be returned to Christ Church Parish office by Sunday 25th May to secure your place. Cheques should be made payable to Christ Church Heald Green. Please mark your envelopes 'Pilgrimage.'

Diocesan Mass for Marriage The 2025 Diocesan Mass for Marriage will be held at 12 noon on Saturday 21st June at Holy Angels, Hale Barns, followed by a buffet lunch for invited guests. Parishioners celebrating a significant marriage anniversary can apply for an invitation from the Bishop's Office via their parish administrator or by emailing wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com

Youth ministry job opportunity // Castlerigg Manor Castlerigg Manor is a Catholic retreat Centre in the Lake District run by the Diocese of Lancaster Youth Service. They are looking for a Programme Leader to help look after the residential team of young interns and to lead programmes both at Castlerigg and occasionally around the area. Competitive salary, as well as accommodation and food provided. Anyone interested can contact jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk

An Evening Talk on The Shroud of Turin with Michael Kowalski Author and Editor of The British Society for the Turin Shroud Including a full-sized replica of the world-famous Shroud of Turin
Entry Fee: By donation; Refreshments are Included. Thursday 26th June 2025. Talk starts at 7.30pm doors open at 7pm. St Peters Church, Green Lane, Hazel Grove, SK7 4EA

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

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

Sunday 18th May 2025: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Jewish Views of Gentiles at the Time of Jesus:

(1) Universalism versus Separatism

This short series of articles is aimed at providing an overview of the Jewish attitude towards Gentiles in the Jewish society in which Jesus lived. It is based on just one of the essays in a fascinating book (1), written by Jewish academics, among whose aims is that all readers will gain a deeper appreciation of the New Testament.

The essay "Jewish views of Gentiles" (2) is divided into sections, the first of which is the title of this article, namely "Universalism versus Separatism". The essay begins with a reference to Acts 10:28 where St Peter says to people: *"You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit any one of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean"*. The author says that there were, however, diverse and sometimes contradictory attitudes towards Gentiles. There are passages in the Torah (3) which prohibit the abuse of Gentiles, mandate providing for their welfare and even permit them to participate in divine worship; however, there are also passages which warn against interaction with Gentiles because of the risk of abandoning God in favour of foreign deities. Some of the Old Testament prophets describe what perhaps would these days be called an 'inclusive' attitude to Gentiles. The premise for this universalism is the assumption of the Gentiles' future acknowledgement of Israel's God and the abandonment of false Gods. These texts suggest that the Gentiles will come to worship Israel's God, but they are not expected to convert to Judaism. The separatist stance, seen in Ezekiel, Ezra and Nehemiah, is based on an understanding of the exiled Jewish community in Babylon that they were a 'holy seed' accessible only by birth and thus not open to the Gentiles.

Dr. Ben Shafar says that the reality was more complex than either of these conceptions. Attitudes were influenced by the exigencies of life, by Jewish-Gentile coexistence inside and outside the land of Israel, and by political events. Jews had economic dealings with Gentiles, including partnerships and co-ownership of land and cattle. Nor were the ties just economic. Even the 'separatist' Ezra/Nehemiah stress the Persian kings' involvement in the construction of the second Temple after the Babylonian exile. The Jewish author, Josephus, relates that the Gentile Antiochus III (223-187 B.C.) undertook to fund the Temple's activities and that Gentile rulers brought sacrifices to the Temple: e.g. Marcus Agrippa, the emperor Augustus' son-in-law, visited the temple in 15 A.D. and sacrificed 100 bulls. Dr. Ben Shafar's essay then considers the Jewish attitude to Gentiles at the time of Jesus under the headings

of: 'Social Contacts and Legal Boundaries', 'Prohibited Relationships', 'The Impurity of Gentiles' and 'Conversion'. This exposition will form the basis of the following articles in this series.

To return to what St Peter says in Acts, one commentator (4) puts it into this context: *"St. Peter speaks from the standpoint of traditional Pharisaism rather than from that of the Law itself; but the feeling was widely diffused, and showed itself in forms more or less rigorous wherever Jews and heathens came in contact with each other. The strict Jew would not enter a Gentile's house, nor sit on the same couch, nor eat or drink out of the same vessel..."*

- (1) *The Jewish Annotated New Testament* Second edition 2017, Levine & Brettler. (2) Written by Dr. Meir Ben Shahrar (3) The first five books of the Old Testament, central to Jewish teaching (4) Ellicott's commentary for English readers.

Stephen S.