

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	Merry Lylyana 07501-696-768
SVP	SVP Society (All Parishes) 07541-946-670		

Weekly Wordsearch

E	L	T	H	U	S	B	A	D	N	SAMARITAN	SYCHAR	JACOB
S	E	L	L	E	W	O	M	A	N	JOSEPH	WELL	WOMAN
W	Y	L	E	B	L	E	T	H	E	WATER	DRINK	JEW
A	E	C	W	O	I	I	J	P	T	BUCKET	CATTLE	HUSBAND
T	E	A	H	C	R	N	Y	E	E			
E	L	T	T	A	C	H	K	S	S			
R	R	H	M	J	R	C	N	O	O			
D	N	A	B	S	U	H	I	J	J			
I	S	Y	C	B	S	A	R	A	O			
D	E	T	K	C	U	B	D	C	B			

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
 S T. PIUS X, ALDERLEY EDGE,
 ST. BENEDICT’S, HANDFORTH &
 SACRED HEART & ST. TERESA’S, WILMSLOW**



Reg. Charity No. 234025

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: www.wilmslowcatholic.com

<https://stpiusalderley.com>; <https://stbenedictshandforth.wixsite.com>; www.stteresawilmslow.org

Sunday 8th March, 2026: The Third Sunday of Lent

	St Pius X, Alderley Edge	St Benedict’s, Handforth	Sacred Heart & St Teresa’s, Wilmslow
Saturday 7 th Mar <i>Ferial</i>	No Mass	No Mass	9.30 am <i>Celebrant’s Intention</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 8 th Mar <i>The 3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>	10.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i> Stations of the Cross 4.30 pm 5.30 pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	11.00 am <i>Noel McMahon</i>
Monday 9 th Mar <i>Ferial</i>	No Mass	No Mass	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>
Tuesday 10 th Mar <i>Ferial</i>	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> with sung missal tone in English
Wednesday 11 th Mar <i>Ferial</i>	7.30 pm Holy Hour & Confessions	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 12 th Mar <i>Ferial</i>	No Mass	9.30 am <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	No Mass
Friday 13 th Mar <i>Ferial</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Vocations to the Priesthood</i>	No Mass	<i>Stations of the Cross</i> 7.30 pm
Saturday 14 th Mar <i>Ferial</i>	No Mass	No Mass	9.30 am <i>Celebrant’s Intention</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 15 th Mar <i>The 4th Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>	10.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i> Stations of the Cross 4.30 pm 5.30 pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	11.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>



St Pius X Alderley Edge Notices

Weekly Reflections Volunteer A volunteer is urgently sought to take over the editing and printing of the Weekly Reflections for St Pius X from early May 2026 onwards. This involves liaising with the writing team, simple formatting, proof-reading and printing the reflections and delivering them to church prior to Sunday Mass. It is not a particularly time consuming task by any means. Please contact Rachel on contact@musiclessonscheshire.co.uk if you are able to assist. Regretfully, the reflections will come to an end in May if no one comes forward.

Moira Ainsworth RIP The Requiem Mass for Moira Ainsworth will be at 12pm on Tuesday 17th March at St Pius X; may she rest in peace.

Presbytery Cleaning We would be grateful for a volunteer to help with the house cleaning at the presbytery which would involve 45 minutes to an hour once a week. Please speak to Fr Moses if you can help or please email the parish. Thank you.

Churches Together in Alderley (CTiA) Many thanks to Stephen Stewart who has now ended his term, after some 5 years, in the role of St Pius X lay representative for the CTiA. We would be grateful for a member of our congregation to volunteer as our lay representative on the committee. Stephen would be available to speak by phone to anyone about the role but assures me that it is not an onerous task. Please speak to Fr Tony or send an email for more info.

Food Bank 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.

FOODBANK St Benedict's Handforth and Sacred Heart & St. Teresa's Wilmslow

Collection for Hope Central Foodbank & 'My pantry,' Saturdays between 10 am – 11 am at St Benedict's Church car park. Priority foodbank items for this week, please help if you can:

Tinned Ravioli, Weetabix, Long life Milk (Semi-skimmed),

Mayonnaise, Toilet Rolls...also any spare plastic carrier bags

NB – no perishable foods. You can also donate direct to the Foodbank (side door at St Chads) from 11 am –12 pm on weekdays except Tuesday.

Items can also be left in the box in St Teresa's church porch. *Thank You*



Sacred Heart & St Teresa's Wilmslow Notices

Church Choir Appeal - Do you love to sing? Share your gift with our church choir and lift hearts in worship every Sunday! Whether you're an experienced singer or just love the sound of harmonies, your voice will be a blessing. We particularly need new members for Holy Week! Please speak to a member of the choir after Mass if interested or please send us an email.

Churches Together: Our next prayer walk is on Tuesday 10th March, gathering at 10 am ready to start walking at approx. 10.15am. The meeting point is at the junction of Barlow Road and Lacey Green, SK9 4BE - local parking available. It would be great if you were able to join us to pray for the people of our town and affect the atmosphere with the love of Jesus along the route. We will walk for an hour and then finish with a drink at a local coffee shop (optional). Next prayer walk: Tues 14th April. More info: Lynne Leng (Life Church) - Tel: 07870 959379.

Notices All Parishes

Attention all Gift Aid Donors

The tax year 2025/26 is coming to an end on 5th April 2026 and the Parish will be claiming a tax refund on donations made during the tax year. If you no longer pay sufficient tax (Income or Capital Gains) or your personal details have changed, please let your parish gift aid secretary know (details below) otherwise it will be assumed that you have paid enough tax for the parish to reclaim Gift Aid on your donations made in the year.

St Pius X: Louise Jones louise.jones@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or leave a note in the sacristy.

St Benedict's: Tina Poucher tinapoucher@aol.com or leave a note in the sacristy.

St Teresa's: Michael Marsden wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com or leave a note in the sacristy.

Fr Moses' Mother – Mrs Charity Adaure Ibeh - Requiem Mass

On Thursday 19th March at 6 pm at St Benedict's, Handforth all parishioners are invited to a Requiem Mass in memory of Mrs. Charity Adaure Ibeh, mother of Fr Moses.

SVP Thanks & Appeal

SVP Thanks for contributions of furniture (chests of drawers and wardrobe) for the single mother. Now complete.

SVP Appeal The SVP are appealing alongside the Mini Vinnie group at St Benedict's school for those ladies who are released from Styal and who have nowhere to go. The team who oversee such situations try to provide a pack of toiletries. Before Christmas we helped with toothpaste; during Lent there will be boxes for roll on deodorant and shower gel donations - both retail at about £1. Many thanks for your help.

Healing Service led by Fr Frankie Mulgrew at St Bede's in Weaverham, Northwich at 7pm on Monday 16th March.

South Manchester Catholic Young Adults - Poland Pilgrimage - Open to young adults aged 18–30. Please email by **14th March** if interested: southmanccatholicyoungadults@gmail.com

Pro-life Conference for men - Calling men of all ages and states of life: book your place at 'Commissioned', the National Men's Pro-life Conference, on April 18th at Birmingham Christian College. Through compelling talks on fatherhood, marriage, post-abortion healing, spiritual warfare and sexual responsibility learn to live out your vocation with humility, courage and integrity. For more info including speakers or to book your place go to <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/commissioned-pro-life-mens-conference/> or please contact info@marchforlife.co.uk

LENTEN FAITH FORMATION COURSE – All Welcome Venue: St Benedict's Church, Handforth; Time: Wednesdays 7.00 - 8:15 pm. WEEK 3: Wednesday 11th March FORGIVENESS, HEALING AND MISSION: Forgiveness & the Sacrament of Confession. Healing and the Sacrament of the Sick. Christian mission and the call to share our faith.

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

Sunday 8th March 2026 Third Sunday of Lent
The Way of the Cross
Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry the Cross

"A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross." Mark 15: 21

"Without beauty, without majesty, we saw him, no looks to attract our eyes." Isaiah 52:14

He was worn out already. His friends had been no help, falling asleep - they couldn't even watch one hour. Pleading with his father, in his humanity, to take the cup away. Scourged, thorns twisted into a crown pushed onto his head, spat upon, mocked. This once vibrant man, this perfect man, looked appalling - his face was so disfigured, he seemed hardly human. But the soldiers didn't care about that. They couldn't have him dying too soon. That wouldn't do at all - a public spectacle of crucifixion on Golgotha was required.

Simon was only there for the Passover. He didn't volunteer to get involved in any of this. The soldiers forced him. They forced him to carry the cross and to head to Golgotha. They forced him to give Jesus comfort and relief. They forced him to play a role in Jesus's mission of salvation for mankind. Do we have to be forced to share the weight of His Cross?

The only way to heaven is the Way of the Cross (Matthew 16:24). The only way to see God face to face is the Way of the Cross (Rev 12:11). The only way to union with Christ is the Way of the Cross (Rev 7:14-17) We know this as truth and we can believe this intellectually, but in our hearts it is very hard to accept.

We don't like sacrifice; we don't like suffering. We certainly don't like being told what to do. We like easy. We like to stay in our Hobbit holes - its comfortable there; it's safe. But that isn't the way of Christ; it isn't the way of the Cross. We know death in this life is inevitable. We cannot escape the Cross; Golgotha is for everyone.

The paradox of Christianity - why so few people can accept it, particularly in contemporary culture - is that suffering, sacrifice and love are totally intertwined; they are inseparable. In His sacrifice for our sins, in His suffering and His total self giving for us, Jesus shows a love that goes to the end. A great audacious, reckless love that goes beyond any other love we can ever experience. And the only response to that is to love Him back, to open our heart to His heart.

When we agree to follow Him we die to the world. We are in it for the long term. And to the world it looks like madness, because this is His command:

"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it." Matthew 16: 24

The hills of Jerusalem were scattered with crosses and our lives are too. We have our own cross, our friends and family have their crosses. War torn nations and suffering peoples have huge crosses. And often they seem too heavy for us to carry or to help others to carry. But every time we show mercy, kindness, compassion, forgiveness, patience, forbearance, humility, gentleness we help to carry those crosses because we show something of Jesus's love.

We bear our own suffering and the sufferings of others out of love for Him. By ourselves this would be impossible. But He gives us the grace to do this and to be able to bear all for His name. He calls us to be fearless, not timid. If we ask, he will fill us with His Holy Spirit as he filled the disciples at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4) and when we become docile to the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives we begin to become like Christ.

Can we bear one another's burdens? (Gal 6:2)

**Lord by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Rachel Grayson