

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.

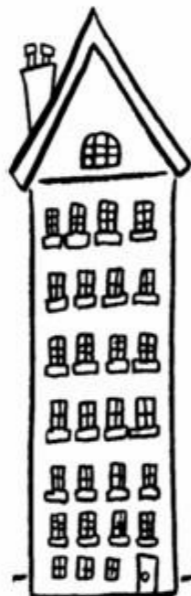
For the Sacrament of Baptism - Deacon Tom Chrisp is available after the 10 am Sunday Mass. He can also be contacted by telephone (M: 07925 072270). Baptisms take place after the Sunday 10 am Mass.

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

T	H	F	E	C	A	L	P	E	R
S	T	R	A	E	H	Y	R	P	T
T	U	R	H	T	A	E	E	E	U
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HEARTS
TROUBLED
TRUST
ROOMS
HOUSE
TRUTH
BELIEVE
FATHER
LIVING
EVIDENCE
REASON
PERFORM

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
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**



DIOCESE of SHREWSBURY
Reg. Charity No. 234025

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 3rd May, 2026: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

	St Pius X, Alderley Edge	St Benedict’s, Handforth	Sacred Heart & St Teresa’s, Wilmslow
Saturday 2 nd May <i>St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor</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 3 rd May <i>The 5th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am <i>Rodney Roberts</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> 7.00 pm Holy Hour: Praise & Worship
Monday 4 th May <i>The English Martyrs</i>	No Mass	No Mass	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>John Henesy RIP</i>
Tuesday 5 th May <i>Ferial</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	No Mass	6.30 pm (Adoration 6 pm) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i> with sung missal tone in English
Wednesday 6 th May <i>Ferial</i>	No Mass	9.30 am (Adoration 9 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	11.30 am Requiem Mass for Ian Anthony Lewis RIP (No Prayer Group)
Thursday 7 th May <i>Ferial</i>	No Mass	9.30 am <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Dorothy Hillier RIP</i>
Friday 8 th May <i>Ferial (Friday Abstinence)</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	No Mass	No Mass
Saturday 9 th May <i>Ferial</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 10 th May <i>The 6th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>	10.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i> 5.30 pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	11.00 am First Holy Communicants & their families



St Pius X Alderley Edge Notices

Sister Janet Arrowsmith died on Easter Sunday in the Convent in Bowdon. She had been a teacher at Mount Carmel School for many years. Her Requiem Mass will be on 12th May at 12:15 in St Vincent's Altrincham. May she rest in peace.

St Pius X's May Coffee Morning will be held on Sunday 3rd May after the 9.00am Mass. The occasion will also be a wonderful celebration for those taking their First Communion. Please do stay. Cakes already looked after by Sheila but helpers most welcome!

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:

Eggs, Tinned Meat, Squash, Toilet Rolls, Long life milk (semi skimmed), Plastic 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*



St Benedict's Handforth Notices

Marian Procession The Marian Procession to our shrine for prayers and devotions will immediately follow the 10 am Mass on Sunday 17th May.



Sacred Heart & St Teresa's Wilmslow Notices

First Holy Communion – Sunday 10th May 2026 Our group of children from the parish are receiving their First Holy Communion at 11 am Mass next Sunday morning (10th May), in the company of their families and friends. Congratulations to Isabelle, Niamh, Anna and Sophia! Please pray for them.

Prayer Group Please note that owing to the funeral on Wednesday next week (6th May), there will be no prayer group meeting that day.

Notices All Parishes



He is Risen, just as He said, Alleluia!

You are welcome to a Holy Hour with Scripture and Worship Music in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart and St Teresa's in Wilmslow at 7 pm on Sunday 3rd May followed by refreshments in the hall.

EASTER FAITH FORMATION: ST BENEDICT'S PARISH HALL, HANDFORTH

From 7.00 – 8.15 pm; starting Wednesday 6th May 2026

Session 1: THE BIBLE (WEDNESDAY 06TH MAY 2026)

- *What is the Bible?* • *Can we trust the bible?* • *How the bible can change your life*

Session 2: THE COMMUNITY OF THE CHURCH (WED 13TH MAY)

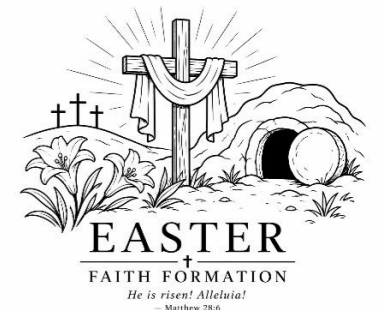
- *Why do we need the Church?* • *The special place of the Catholic Church*
- *Being Catholic today*

Session 3: THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH (WED 20TH MAY)

- *How the Holy Spirit can change your life*
- *No one gets into heaven alone*
- *Why we need signs, symbols and sacraments?*

Session 4: THE SOCIAL TEACHING OF THE CHURCH (WED 27TH MAY)

- *The dignity of the human person and the right to life* • *Christian teaching about family and society* • *Speaking the truth and following conscience*



Parish Mission Appeal – Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ

The recent mission appeal raised the following totals in our parishes: St Pius X: £591.00; St Benedict's: £772.26; Sacred Heart & St Teresa's: £705.40. Sister Mary Sebastian has passed on her most grateful thanks for your generosity.

Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality are holding a day of reflection on Saturday 23rd May at Shrewsbury Cathedral Chapter House. The day will include reflections from Father Sean Henry and Dr Kieran Moriarty. There will also be Mass and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. All Hospitality members and their guests are welcome to attend. Please confirm your attendance to secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

Diocese Vacancy A vacancy has arisen for a Lay Pastoral Assistant in the parish of St Hugh & St John, Timperley. This specialised role will provide pastoral support to the Parish Priest with particular emphasis on faith formation and some liturgical ministry. Hours: 15 per week @ £15 per hour, afternoons and evenings, with occasional Sundays. Further details can be found via the Diocese website <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> If interested, please send CV and covering letter to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org. **Closing date Friday 29 May 2026.**

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

Sunday 3rd May 5th Sunday of Easter
Ravenna & The Holy House of Loreto: Two Sacred Places in Italy
(2) The Holy House of Loreto



In the beautiful but little-known Marche region of Italy, near the Adriatic Coast and about one and a half hour's drive from Assisi, is the small town of Loreto perched on a hill. The magnificent Renaissance Basilica dominates the Piazza della Madonna. In the Basilica under the dome is a rectangular shape, the size of a modest room, the outer walls of which are flamboyantly created in exotic Italian style, which gives the Basilica its name: *The Santuario della Santa Casa*. Inside is the room which pilgrims have visited over the centuries, together with an altar. Here, it is said, is the original tiny house in Nazareth where Our Lady was brought up, where the Annunciation took place and where the Holy Family lived subsequently until Jesus began His missionary work. The house measures some 30 feet x 13 feet and is composed of stones and mortar, hand chiselled in a style consistent with that of the time of Jesus

How and when did the house arrive in Loreto? The first evidence of Loreto being a place of worship goes back to 1294 when, according to tradition, it was brought by angels from the Holy Land as the Saracens attacked. It arrived after a short stay in Dalmatia (Croatia) and landed on the Adriatic coast in a wood of laurels. The Latin for a laurel grove is 'Lauretum' and so, according to tradition, when the house finally came to rest a few miles away and around its simple walls grew a town, it became known as Loreto. According to the Catholic Encyclopaedia, there is evidence that the type of stone and mortar of the walls of the house is unknown in the neighbourhood of Loreto and is the same as those used in 1st century Palestine; also, the house has never had foundations. Thus, there is support for the house dating from the time of Christ and having been transported from the Middle East. However, there is substantial dispute based on the lack of evidence of such a house in the Holy Land prior to the 13th century, and of any sudden appearance of the house in Loreto at that time. One hypothesis in support of the transportation is that it occurred, not miraculously achieved by angels, but by the Angeli family. A recently discovered document shows that Niceforo Angeli gave a dowry to the Prince of Naples including *"the holy stones taken from the Home of our Lady the Virgin Mother of God"*.

Despite the tradition that the holy house arrived in 1294, it was not until 1468 that work began on the basilica and, in 1507, the Church finally approved Loreto as a place of pilgrimage. To what extent the legend is historically accurate is difficult to say, but on entering the house there is a real sense of peace and awe at its simplicity and holiness. In 2019 Pope Francis pronounced a decree that 10th December should be a new optional memorial feast day for the universal church to celebrate Our Lady of Loreto. In the decree the Pope said: *"That sanctuary recalls the mystery of the Incarnation and prompts all those who visit it to consider the fullness of time, when God sent his Son, born of a woman, and to meditate on both the words of the angel in the Gospel and the words of Virgin who answered the divine call.The ... sanctuary... has been able to illustrate in an excellent way, over time, no less than Nazareth in the Holy Land, the evangelical virtues of the Holy Family."*

Stephen S.