

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

R	E	H	T	A	F	D	E	I	S	EVENING	FIRST	DAY
D	D	G	N	I	N	E	V	E	R	DOORS	CLOSED	DISCIPLES
Y	I	E	F	I	T	R	Y	J	O	PEACE	SIDE	FATHER
O	S	E	H	I	N	I	S	A	O	BREATHED	FORGIVE	RETAIN
J	C	V	R	T	I	E	T	A	D			
D	I	I	P	E	A	C	E	Y	E			
I	P	G	E	Y	T	E	O	D	S			
S	L	R	J	O	E	R	R	O	O			
C	E	O	T	S	R	I	F	B	L			
E	S	F	O	J	Y	O	D	A	C			

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**



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 24th May, 2026: Pentecost Sunday

	St Pius X, Alderley Edge	St Benedict’s, Handforth	Sacred Heart & St Teresa’s, Wilmslow
Saturday 23 rd 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 24 th May <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	9.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>	10.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>	11.00 am <i>Maria Passagno RIP</i>
		5.30 pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	
		7.00 pm Holy Hour: Praise & Worship	
Monday 25 th May <i>Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	No Mass	No Mass	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Lucille Fredericks RIP</i>
Tuesday 26 th May <i>Our Lady Help of Christians</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Audrey Jones</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 27 th May <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	No Mass	9.30 am (Adoration 9 am) <i>Celebrant’s Intention</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>With the wedding of Matt and Imogen</i> Prayer Group 11.15 – 12.15
Thursday 28 th May <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest</i>	No Mass	9.30 am <i>Mike & Christine Connolly (Golden Wedding Anniversary)</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Special Intention</i>
Friday 29 th May <i>Ferial</i>	10 am (Adoration 9.30 am) <i>Vocations to the Priesthood</i>	No Mass	No Mass
Saturday 30 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>Louise Dunkerley RIP</i>
Sunday 31 st May <i>The Most Holy Trinity</i>	9.00 am <i>For the repose of the soul of Merwyn Rasquinha</i>	10.00 am <i>James Lally RIP</i>	11.00 am <i>People of the Parish</i>
		5.30 pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	



St Pius X Alderley Edge Notices

Reflections The next six weeks will see a series of reflections on Sinning Saints. Our thanks are due to Stephen Stewart for his kind work. We also thank Rachel Grayson for her long stint coordinating the St Pius X Reflections. If anyone would like to join Stephen, Bernard and Kevin in writing future Reflections, please contact John Rylands on 07976 361018.

Coffee Morning 7th June Please could we have extra volunteers to join the team for the next Coffee Morning on 7th June 2026. Owing to John's absence, help is definitely needed!. Please contact John on 07976 361018.

St Pius X Church Choir A group of parishioners sing at Mass at St Pius X on the first Sunday of each month, accompanied by Catherine on the piano. We would love more people to join the choir – if interested please arrive early to Mass for a practice on the first Sunday of the month.

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, Squash, Packet Soup, Tinned Meat, Milk, Honey, Tinned Ravioli, Cereal, Cordial, Pot Noodles, Toilet Rolls, Fabric Conditioner, Carrier Bags (Plastic)

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

Children's Liturgy Notice Please note - No children's liturgy at 10 am Mass until 31st May.



Sacred Heart & St Teresa's Notices

Parish Flower Patch We would be grateful for a new volunteer to take over the maintenance of the small flower patch by the church entrance. Please speak to Michael (our administrator) if you can help or please email the parish at wilmslowcatholic@gmail.com

Notices All Parishes

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

From 7.00 – 8.15 pm

Session 4/4: 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*



Notices All Parishes



'...and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'

You are welcome to join us for a Holy Hour for Pentecost. A time of prayer with worship music and scripture in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament at St Benedict's, Hall Lane, Handforth, SK9 3AD on Sunday 24th May at 7 pm. *Followed by refreshments in the hall.*

Screening of the film "Unplanned" on Thursday 4th June at 6.30 pm in St Teresa's Hall, Wilmslow. This 2019 film is a biographical drama based on the memoir of Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director who become an outspoken Pro-Life worker. Running Time 1 hour 46 minutes. All adult parishioners are welcome to attend. Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be available.

Upcoming Visit of the Relics of St Gerard Majella to the Diocese In the last week of May, our Diocese will be privileged to host the relics of St Gerard Majella on their tour of England and Wales. This is to mark St Gerard's 300th anniversary. He was a Redemptorist lay-brother from Southern Italy who died at 29. There will be four locations across the Diocese; The Cathedral, Chester, New Brighton, and Stockport (Friday 29th May St Joseph's Stockport: 7pm Mass). Please see the poster for details. St Gerard is popularly invoked as the patron of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026 There are still some spaces available to travel over land by coach. For further information, please go to: <https://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk/> If you plan to travel independently and organise your own accommodation in Lourdes, you will still need to register with our pilgrimage, especially if you wish to volunteer or join us for our pilgrimage Masses, liturgies and events. You can register via our new online booking system at the following link: <https://shrewsburylourdes.fillout.com/application>

St Ambrose College, Hale Barns Open Day will be on Saturday 27th June 2026 from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm for those in Years 4 & 5. <https://www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk/> Tel: 0161 980 2711

Update: The SVP are looking to help a single Mum to equip a flat. Thanks you for all the offers of help; all items have been provided. Just a wardrobe for the children still needed. Contact Maurice 07541946670 or Mark 07770443893

Please also have a look at the posters on the notice board as to how we support SVP communities in India and Guyana.

ST PIUS X WEEKLY REFLECTION

Sinning Saints (1)

St Augustine of Hippo (354 – 430)

In this series of six sinning saints I will overlook the most famous of these, he who persecuted Christians and was seemingly complicit in the murder of St Stephen, namely St Paul. Yet the first in the series, St Augustine of Hippo, is, apart from Paul, perhaps the most famous saint with a sinful history. This was despite his upbringing in the Faith by his devout mother, St Monica. His father was a pagan Roman citizen who converted to Christianity on his deathbed.

Augustine benefited from a good education first in his home town of Tagaste (North Africa) and finally at Carthage. An excellent scholar, he began teaching rhetoric at Carthage until, in 383, he went to Rome and, in 384 to Milan, then the most important city of the Western Empire, where he became Imperial Professor of Rhetoric. Augustine by now was 30 years old.

His private and spiritual life had meanwhile been far from exemplary. Aged 17 in Carthage, he began a 13-year relationship with a woman who bore him a son, Adeodatus. Also while in Carthage, he became a zealous Manichean, a heretical religion which (among other things) denied the omnipotence of God. He adhered to this religion for some 10 years and, indeed, it was through Manichean connections that the academic posts in Rome and Milan opened up to him. St Monica followed her son to Milan and persuaded him to marry a young woman, whereupon he reluctantly renounced his long-term concubine and mother of his child. His fiancée was, however, underage, such that Augustine had to wait a couple of years to marry her. In this interim period, he took another concubine but then broke off that relationship and also his engagement to marry. It was about this time that he made his most famous quote: *“Lord give me chastity and continence but not yet”*

In Milan Augustine met the Bishop, St Ambrose, who was also a rhetorician. They became good friends, though at first Augustine was still not attracted by Christianity saying that he had entirely despaired of finding faith in the Catholic Church but, in due course, he became more and more under Ambrose’s influence. In 386 Augustine was ready to embrace the Faith. He said that he had opened a book on St Paul and there read, at Romans 13:13-14: *“let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.”* This was what finally led him away from his previous life and to the path of priesthood and the saintly life. Augustine, and his son, Adeodatus, were baptised by Ambrose at Easter 387.

Augustine returned with Adeodatus to Africa. St Monica died soon after and father and son then led a life of some comfort underpinned by their inheritance. However, Adeodatus died soon after. This prompted Augustine to give all his possessions to the poor and embark on the path of priesthood, becoming ordained in 391. He became Bishop of Hippo (in modern day Algeria) in 395. From then on Augustine

ST PIUS X WEEKLY REFLECTION

spent much of his life writing and struggling against the many heretical versions of Christianity which were then prevalent in North Africa. His bishop friend, Possidius, described him as a man who ate sparingly, worked tirelessly, despised gossip, shunned the temptations of the flesh, and exercised prudence in the financial stewardship of his See. Such was the intellectual input of his spiritual writings that he has been made a Doctor of the Church. He crystallised many of Catholicism's fundamental doctrines, including those concerning original sin and divine grace. The historian Diarmaid McCullough said of him: *"Augustine's impact on Western Christian thought can hardly be overstated"*.

Pope Leo XIV is of course an Augustinian. In 2025 he said: *"Augustine's journey was full of trial and error, like our own lives." Yet through grace, the prayers of his mother Monica, and the witness of the community around him, he discovered "the way to peace for his restless heart"*

SS (24th May 2026)

