

The Catholic Parishes of St. Chad, Cheadle, St. Ann, Cheadle Hulme and Christ Church, Heald Green

St Chad's: 0161 428 2480, St Ann's: 0161 485 1685, Christ Church: 0161 437 5042

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Priest: Fr. Louis Charuvila Pappy, **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Samuel Libu

Parish Secretary/LMA Coordinator – Victoria Holmes: 07905 519322

Parish Secretary Christ Church: Cath Cohen **Lay Pastoral Minister St Ann's:** Julie Hindmarch

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Sunday 4th May 2025 – 3rd Sunday Easter

A Theological Vision of Pope Francis

Pope Francis' theological vision centred on the transformative power of the gaze. In his first Encyclical, *Lumen Fidei*, he wrote: "Faith does not merely gaze at Jesus, but sees things as Jesus himself sees them, with his own eyes: it is a participation in his way of seeing" (n. 18). In his Encyclical *Laudato Si*: he extended this idea to the created world, urging us to contemplate nature with "fondness and wonder" (n. 97). In the Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, he encouraged us to adopt "the gaze of the Good Shepherd, who seeks not to judge but to love," a gaze that heals and restores (n. 125). By announcing the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis invited the Church to fix its eyes on the merciful gaze of Jesus and to see others through the same lens of compassion. In the Post-Synodal exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (nn. 58-60), he presented looking to Jesus as the very vocation of the family—the wellspring from which families draw strength to love one another. In his Encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* (n. 187), he affirmed: "Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognized and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society."

St. Jerome once said, "The eyes are the mirror of the heart." Pope Francis reminded us, just as Jesus' gaze reflects the depth of his mercy and love, our own gaze must mirror the compassion and tenderness that dwell in our hearts. In his final Encyclical, *Dilexit Nos* (nn. 39-42), he beautifully developed this theme of the gaze. He recalled how Jesus looked at the rich young man—a gaze both loving and challenging (Mark 10:21). Jesus' gaze, Pope Francis wrote, penetrates the depths of the human heart, seeing beyond failures and weaknesses to the true dignity and potential of each person.

Understanding Pope Francis' theological vision helps us better appreciate his priorities and choices. Rather than adopting an attitude of judgment or exclusion, he urged the Church and all people of goodwill to behold others with the compassionate gaze of Jesus—to see beyond appearances and into the sacred dignity of every human life. In a world often marked by division, indifference, and judgment, Pope Francis pointed us to a different way—a path illuminated by mercy, tenderness, and hope. He will be remembered as one of the greatest pastors in the history of the Church—a true servant of God whose life was a radiant testimony to the Gospel he proclaimed. May the Lord welcome him into his loving embrace and grant him peace among the Saints.

Letter from the local MP: I received a letter from Tom Morrison MP offering his condolences and sympathy following the death of Pope Francis. He wrote about how Pope Francis was a deeply human figure who spoke often and movingly about mercy, dignity and care for one another, particularly for those too often ignored or excluded. He also mentioned Pope Francis's steadfast advocacy for action on climate change, his outreach to other faiths and his unwavering desire for peace in the Middle East all demonstrated the powerful role faith can play in building a fairer and more compassionate world. Tom Morrison asked me to kindly share his sympathies with you all at this time and wanted our community to know that he stands alongside us and the wider Catholic family in giving thanks for Pope Francis's life of service.

Please pray for: **St Chad's:** Please pray for all those who are sick. Please let us know if you would like to add anyone to the list. We pray for Sheila Danson and for all those who have died recently. We also remember: Winifred Fern, ETTY Redmond, Sidney Childs, Ann Booth, Ronald Bentley, Janet Cosgrove, Maureen Sallman, Anna Barrese, Patrick Pelling, Bernard Barrans, Elizabeth Donlan, Winnie Duffy, May Cartwright, Mary Williams, Francis Stonely, William Tracey, Bishop Joseph Gray, Bill Harford, James Cartwright, Margaret Pilling, Joseph Vassallo, Caroline Baker, Catherine Moran, Calli Fairclough, William Curtis, Joseph Fitzpatrick, Mary Pennington, Maureen Mallon, Henry McDaid Sr, Mary Mason, Christopher McCarton, Philip Hynes, Mary Fitzpatrick and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

St Ann's: Debbie Burnett, Colleen Zacharias, Effy Hull (Aged 5), Tim Driscoll, Martin Darcy, David Scott, Mick & Jodie Johnson, Toni Bradley, Sheila O'Shea, Ita Griffin, Anna Curley, Peter La Mattina, Margaret McCausland, Julie Eyres, Chris Hindmarch, Roy Hatton and Mary Maloney, who are sick, Ian Dommett, who died recently, his family and friends and all those grieving the death of a loved one, all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Christ Church: Please pray for Ann Lyth and Margaret Crolla who are ill.

Mass Times & Intentions

Sat 3 rd	St Ann's Christ Church	5pm 6.30pm	Frank O'Sullivan RIP Michael Burke
Sunday 4 th May	Christ Church St Chad's St Ann's Christ Church	9am 9.30am 11am 11am	Rosemary Sloan Recovery Megan Casey RIP For the Parishioners of our 3 parishes Mary McCarthy
Mon 5 th	St Ann's	10am	Jack Malone RIP
Tues 6 th	St Ann's Christ Church St Chad's	10am 10am 6.30pm	For all those who are sick Peter Hovington Michael Walsh RIP
Wed 7 th	Christ Church	10am	Betty & Nula
Thurs 8 th	St Chad's	9.30am	Andrew Moran RIP
Fri 9 th	St Ann's Christ Church	10am 10am	Frank McDermott RIP Vocations to the Priesthood
Sat 10 th	St Ann's Christ Church	5pm 6.30pm	Bruce Reynish RIP For the Parishioners of our 3 Parishes
Sunday 11 th	Christ Church St Chad's St Ann's Christ Church	9am 9.30am 11am 11am	Tony Wood Mark Smith RIP Frances Dillon (recently deceased) Labeba Istefan RIP
CONFESSIONS, St Ann's: Saturdays 4.15pm-4.45pm <i>At other times by request</i>			
ADORATION St Chad's: Thursdays 10am-6pm, St Ann's Fridays 10.30am-6pm			
ROSARY, St Chad's: 9am every Sunday St Ann's: 10.30am every Sunday and 4.30pm every Saturday			

All Parishes Notices

Anointing Masses: Our next Anointing Masses will take place as follows: Tuesday 6th May 10am Mass at St Ann's, Wednesday 7th May 10am Mass at Christ Church and Thursday 8th May 9.30am Mass at St Chad's. Bring along your loved ones who are sick, suffering or housebound and Fr Louis will anoint them (and you!) with Holy Oil, give communion and, if needed, they can make their confession. We will pray for and read out the names of the sick during this Mass. Please email each parish if you would like someone to be mentioned. The Masses will be followed by coffee and refreshments in the hall.

Parishes Pilgrimage to Shrewsbury Cathedral, Saturday 13th September 2025. Leaving at approx 8.30am and returning at approx 6.30pm. The schedule for the day will be: 11am – Confessions, 12.15pm – Pilgrim Mass followed by Lunch in the Orchard Cafe, 2pm – Cathedral Tour, 3pm – Jubilee Pilgrim Liturgy (finishes by 4pm). Price £20 per person includes coach and lunch of either Ploughman's Lunch, Soup or Jacket potato (orders for lunch will be taken nearer the time). Places will be allocated on First Come First Served basis. To book please email stchadsheadle@gmail.com.

Parishes Pilgrimage to the North East: We are planning a pilgrimage 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 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. All are welcome.

LMA Jubilee Walk Between Parishes: We are planning a Jubilee Pilgrimage Walk between the three Parishes, to take place on Saturday 7th June. We will start at St Chad's at 1pm, walk to Christ Church and then on to St Ann's, with refreshments available at each church, and a light bite at St Ann's. We will finish with mass at St Ann's, to celebrate the pilgrimage and the collaboration between our three churches. The whole route is just over 4 miles, though people can just do as much or as little of the walk as they wish - it should be an enjoyable stroll. Families of all ages are welcome!

St Joseph's Football Tournament: St Joseph's are organising a parish football tournament to raise funds for their ongoing, much needed, restoration works. We have had some volunteers and have three players for a team from St Ann's/St Chad's and hopefully one team for Christ Church- but we are still in need of other players as well as volunteers to referee matches and steward throughout the day. This will be held on Bank Holiday Monday 26th May 2025 at Cheadle Catholic School in Cheadle Hulme. What better way to spend a Bank Holiday – bring a picnic and support your parish. If you are willing to play/help in any way please let us know stchadsheadle@gmail.com.

Christian Aid: - a date for the diary. Poynton Brass Band are performing at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church on Saturday 21 June. Ticket proceeds will be split between Christian Aid and the Band who are celebrating their 200th anniversary. Further details to follow but initially tickets priced at £10 and available on the Band's website poyntonband.co.uk/events

St Chad's

QUIZ NIGHT: we are holding a family quiz night on Saturday 10th May at 7pm in the church hall. Tickets cost £2 per adult and £1 per child. Bring your own drinks. Nibbles, tea/coffee provided. There will be a raffle on the night. All proceeds towards parish funds. Tickets on sale after Mass next weekend (27th April) or you can reserve by emailing stchadsheadle@gmail.com.

Knit and Knatter: will meet again on Wednesday 14th May 1pm-3pm in the church hall. All welcome.

SVP: next Sunday (11th May) there will be a retiring collection for the SVP. If you wish gift aid to be added to your offering, please take home and SVP envelope as you leave church today. Thank you.

Christ Church

Cake & Coffee after 9am Mass on 4th May

Gift Aid & Planned Giving Envelopes: If you would like to give regularly by envelope or standing order or move from using envelopes to standing order, please contact the office and fill in the appropriate forms.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group There won't be any more Divine Mercy prayer meetings until Monday 12th May.

Children's Liturgy: 11am. Please assemble before Mass starts. Following the opening procession the children divide into two groups. Children from pre-school age up to age 7/8 then go into the Hall accompanied by a parent. Older children remain in the room where they assembled before Mass.

April Parish Draw winners: 1st prize 308 Emma Stephens, 2nd prize 313 Vera Briggs.

Ladies Club: Thursday 8th May 2pm-4pm Cheshire Adventure Farm Trust

Churches Together Heald Green Meeting: will be held at the URC in Heald Green at 7pm on 6th May.

St Ann's

Volunteer for Counting Sunday Collectors: One of our counters is leaving the rota at the end of April and as they work in pairs we need an additional person, can you put a request in the newsletter? The commitment is currently once every 6 weeks, it takes place after 11 am mass and we will provide training. Please email stannsheadlehulme@gmail.com if you are interested.

Grove Lane Day Centre: On Tuesdays and Thursdays, people come to the Day Centre to enjoy a meal together, play games, have company and enrich one another's lives. However, they are currently in need of drivers to pick up between 10 and 11 and/or drop off again from 1:30ish. If you think you could help, please contact Jane or David on 07706 796471 to find out more.

Crowning of Our Lady: The Crowning of Our Lady's statue will take place at the beginning of the 5pm Mass next Saturday (10th May). All children are invited to take part in the flower procession and should assemble in the Parish Room at around 4:45/4:50 ish. It is a short ceremony and will barely lengthen the time of the Mass but it is a truly moving event. Please help us to give our young parishioners the chance to witness and take part in this lovely tradition.

Children's Liturgy: As we would like to encourage as many children as possible to take part in the Crowning of Our Lady procession and ceremony on Saturday 10th, Children's Liturgy will take place at the 11am Mass THIS weekend (4th), instead of next.

Events/ News from Local parishes

The Joy of the Lord is my Strength: All are welcome to join us for a time of Scripture & live worship music in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament at St Benedict's Catholic Church, Hall Road, Handforth, SK9 3AD TONIGHT, Sunday 4th May 2025, 7pm followed by refreshments in the hall.

Celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima: An evening of hearing the message of Fatima, hymns, Eucharistic Adoration, Marian devotion, and veneration of the Relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco. Tuesday 13th May 7pm to 9pm Beginning with Mass at 7pm at Sacred Heart and St Teresa's Wilmslow, SK9 1LD. Free parking on Green Lane from 6.30pm and nearby in the Rex Car Park, SK9 1NX.

Footsteps at St Peter's Hazel Grove, 15th May 7.30pm – Mary Hardiman who will be talking about the Jubilee Year of Hope and in particular she'll explore what jubilee means and how we can experience the hope and freedom that God offers. All welcome.

Diocesan/Other news

Lourdes Hospitality: Following a very positive meeting held early April, where we explored the role of the Hospitality, you are invited to continue this reflection at a further meeting. We hope to build on the previous lively discussions and consider areas for further development. The meeting will take place on Wed 21 May at 7pm at St Columba's, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA. Confirm your attendance at secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

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 through Fr Louis or Victoria.

Supporting the Vocation to Marriage & Family Life: Calling all those interested in supporting the vocation of marriage and family to join Jane Deegan Director of Marriage and Family Life Vocation for a retreat day to find out more about this important work and the various different ways you can help. When: 7 June 2025 9.30am-4.00pm Where: Parish Hall, Holy Angels Church, Wicker Lane, Hale Barns WA15 0HG To Register and for More Information please contact: Monika at monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07549226794 or Jane at jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07517 906435

Stay Connected with the Diocese of Shrewsbury! We're excited to launch our **new social media platforms** to keep you updated on news, events, and faith-filled content from across the **Diocese of Shrewsbury!** Follow us for inspiring stories, parish updates, and ways to grow in your faith. **Follow us on:**

Facebook: @shrewsdiocese **Instagram:** @shrewsdiocese **Twitter/X:** @shrewsdiocese

Website: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org Join our online community and be part of the journey as we share the beauty of our Catholic faith together! **Like, follow, and share** to help spread the word. If you have any **parish** news or events which you would like to be considered for sharing on our diocesan platforms, please contact Catherine McLoughlin: catherine.mcloughlin@dioceseofshrewsbury.org .

Baptisms: For children under 7 years of age: Both parents must attend an evening course before the baptism of their child. Next course will be Thursday 5th June 2025 St Ann's at 7pm. Book a place by emailing stannsheadleholme@gmail.com. Please note: if your child is over 7 years of age, they will need to join our Children's Sacramental programme - dates to be confirmed.

Weddings: If you are planning to get married at any of our three parishes, outside of the parish or abroad and you live within our parish boundary, you must speak to Fr Louis at least 6 months before your proposed wedding date. This ensures that we have enough time to complete the marriage preparation course and all the relevant paperwork. Any questions please speak to Fr Louis or Victoria.

Funerals: A Catholic funeral is a time of prayer, worship, and thanksgiving to God for the life of the deceased. The funeral director normally makes first contact with the parish to arrange the date and time of the funeral. They will coordinate the arrangements between the family, parish, cemetery/ crematorium and themselves. Once the date is arranged, we will get in touch with the family to discuss the order of service. We have documents with suggested readings and hymns to help with this. Please note that only religious music is allowed in church. Visiting priests are most welcome but they should follow the practices of our parishes, and if they are from a different Diocese, they will need to provide their Celebret in advance of the service. If you have any questions or would like to discuss please contact Victoria.

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

St Chad's Noel Russell & Bernadette McCrory, **St Ann's** Julie Hindmarch, **Christ Church** Helen Wise.

If you have any concerns about safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, please speak to them or contact them via the presbytery, in the strictest confidence.