

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

St Chad's: 0161 428 2480, 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 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Day of Special Prayer throughout the World for Vocations**

As we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, it is fitting that we pause to reflect on the mystery of the Church and the gift of the priesthood. The word priest is derived from presbyter, meaning an elder, a senior minister. In Latin, pontifex means “bridge-builder” — one who builds a bridge between God and His people. The priest stands before God on behalf of the community, bows in humility, and blesses the assembly in God’s name. His primary responsibility is the care of souls and the offering of sacrifice to God on behalf of the faithful. When we look at the historical development of the priesthood, we see a gradual unfolding. In the earliest stages of human religious life, every member of the family exercised priestly functions, with the head of the household acting as priest. Later, particular classes or groups were set apart for priestly ministry — for example, the tribe of Levi in Israel or the Brahmin caste in Hindu tradition. Our New Testament priesthood flows from and fulfils the Old Testament priesthood. In the Old Covenant, priests were entrusted with three principal duties: the care of the sanctuary, the declaration of God’s will, and the interpretation of God’s law. In the New Covenant, we see a new dimension: every baptised person shares in the common priesthood of Christ. Yet, from among the baptised, certain individuals are chosen and ordained to continue the threefold mission of Jesus — to teach as Prophet, to sanctify as Priest, and to shepherd as King. Thus, in the New Testament understanding, the priest is the preacher of God’s Word, the dispenser of the sacraments, and the leader of the Christian community.

However, in the modern world, the priest often finds himself judged harshly and unfairly: If he begins Mass on time, his watch is too fast, if he begins a minute late, he keeps people waiting, if he preaches too long, he bores the congregation, if he preaches briefly, he is unprepared, if he owns a car, he is extravagant, if he does not, he is out of touch, if he visits families, he is never in the parish, if he does not, he lacks concern, if he asks for donations, he is money-minded, if he does not, he is proud or lazy, if he spends time in the confessional, he is too slow, if he is quick, he has no time for penitents, if he renovates the church, he wastes money, if he does not, he lacks initiative, if he works with the elderly, he is old-fashioned, if he works with the youth, he is too modern, if he is seen with women, he is frivolous, if he keeps company only with men, he is immature, if he is young, he lacks experience, if he is old, he should retire. As long as he lives, there will always be someone who thinks they could do better. But when he dies, people suddenly realise: there is no one to take his place. St Augustine expressed this beautifully: **“With you I am a sheep; for you I am a shepherd. The fact that I am a Christian is for my benefit; the fact that I am a shepherd is for yours.”** Fr. Louis.

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**St Chad's:** Please pray for Noel Fowler and all those who are sick. We pray for all those who have died recently. We also remember: Evelyn Dewhurst, John Herson, Antoine Sant, John Powell, Ralph Bradshaw, Elizabeth Pringle, Bernard Gerighty, Charlotte Brook, Philip Masterson, Mary Pearson, Joan Burke, A.A.McDonald, Margaret Crawley, Herbert Oldfield, Mary Scowcroft and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

**St Ann's:** Please pray for Mary Clarke, Debbie Burnett, Colleen Zacharias, Tim Driscoll, Martin Darcy, David Scott, Mick Johnson, Toni Bradley, Ita Griffin, Anna Curley, Peter La Mattina, Julie Eyres, Roy Hatton, Mary Maloney, Jenny Morgan, Joanne Wilson and Premature Baby Thomas Price, James & Josephine Whelan, Fr Chris McCurry, Tony Kiely, Richard Tomczak, Beryl Burnett, Eithne Hulse, Marie Bridge, Ann Miller, Brenda McNicholls, The Dickinson Family, Effy Hull (aged 6), Luigi Stefanelli, Gerry McKendry, Jill Harper, Ian Burnett, John & Roisin English, Pat O'Dell, Andrew Ward and all those who are sick. For all those who have died recently, their families and friends and all those grieving the death of a loved one, and all those whose anniversaries occur at about this time

**Christ Church:** Please pray for Anne Byrne, Caroline O'Sullivan, Ann Lyth, Pat Whitehead, Leo Byrne, David Kersys, Gerard Lanigan, George Webster and all who are ill. Please pray for Audrey Walsh, Judy Buxton, Peter Logan, Vera Briggs, Michael Flatley and all those who have died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

## Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann's Christ Church	5pm 6.30pm	Mary & Paddy Bergin RIP Mary Bergin
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A	Christ Church St Chad's St Ann's Christ Church	9am 9.30am 11am 11am	Peter Arnold Helen Deere RIP Mary Buckley RIP For the parishioners of our 3 parishes
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann's	10am	For Tony Rafferty
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann's St Chad's Christ Church	10am 6.30pm 6.30pm	Eileen Banks RIP Bernard Gerighty RIP Anita & Tom
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Christ Church	10am	Les Ashton
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	St Chad's	9.30am	Maureen Mullins RIP
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	St Ann's Christ Church	10am 10am	Private Intention (MK) Vocations to the Priesthood
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	St Ann's Christ Church	5pm 6.30pm	John Roberts RIP John Blodwell
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A	Christ Church St Chad's St Ann's Christ Church	9am 9.30am 11am 11am	Mary & Bill Cummings Albert Whalley RIP For the parishioners of our 3 parishes Mary McCarthy RIP

**CONFESSIONS, St Ann's:** Saturdays 4.15pm-4.45pm, **St Chad's** Tuesdays 5.45pm-6.15pm, **Christ Church** Wednesdays 9.15am-9.45am *At other times by request.*

**ADORATION: Christ Church:** Wednesdays before Mass 9.15am-10am and Fridays after Mass 10.30am-11am, **St Chad's:** Thursdays 10am-5pm, **St Ann's:** Fridays 10.30am – 4pm. Please sign up for a slot for Adoration at St Chad's and St Ann's.

**ROSARY, St Chad's:** 9am every Sunday and Thursday, **St Ann's:** 10.30am every Sunday and 4.30pm every Saturday, **Christ Church** 9.30am every Friday.

**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.

**Live Streaming/CCTV:** please note that all parishes have live streaming (accessible via each website) and CCTV cameras in operation 24 hours a day.

### All Parishes Notices

**Diocesan Marriage Mass:** at St Columba's Church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA, 13<sup>th</sup> June at 12 noon. Come and celebrate your vocation to marriage at our Diocesan Marriage Mass Parishioners celebrating a significant wedding anniversary or married within the last year can apply for an invitation from the Bishop. Applications made via the parish. If you would like to attend, please email Victoria [stchadsheadle@gmail.com](mailto:stchadsheadle@gmail.com).

**The Power of Prayer:** further Sycamore Plus video sessions from Fr Stephen Wang on more types of Prayer with time for discussion. Thursday 7.30pm in the parish room at St Ann's continuing on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April. Future sessions will be 14<sup>th</sup> May, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 28<sup>th</sup> May. Details on each session are on the noticeboard.

**St Chad's Ladies Group:** are holding a Tropic Skincare evening on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in St Chad's church hall – open to our 3 parishes, so please come and join us!

**Anointing Masses:** advance notice these Masses will return in May: St Ann's 10am Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, Christ Church 10am Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May, St Chad's 9.30am Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Bring along your loved ones who are sick, suffering or housebound, to be anointed with Holy Oil, receive Holy Communion and, if needed, make their confession. You are all invited to be anointed if you wish. The Masses will be followed by refreshments. All welcome.

**RCIA:** Do you want to know more about the Catholic Faith? Thinking of becoming a Catholic? Our program of sessions begins in September each year for reception into the church at Easter the following year. Please contact Victoria on 07905 519322 or [stchadsheadle@gmail.com](mailto:stchadsheadle@gmail.com), Jesus is waiting for you!

**Hospital Visits:** in the event that either yourself or a loved one are admitted to hospital and you would like to see a priest, in the first instance, please speak to hospital staff and ask them to contact the priest on-call and/or the Catholic chaplaincy team. There is always a priest on-call from one of the nearby parishes who are available to make visits for anointing and last rites. Also, remember that in our three parishes, we have frequent services for the Anointing of the Sick (next is in May), so please do bring your loved ones to those Masses if needed.

**Pray for Priests:** the leaflet for May is available in the porches of all our parishes.

### St Chad's

**Children's Liturgy:** is back this weekend and takes place every Sunday during term time.

**Knit and Knatter:** meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month 1pm-3pm in the church hall.

**Piety Stall:** Gifts for First Holy Communion and Confirmation now available.

**Wellspring:** Since this Sunday (April 26<sup>th</sup>) is the last Sunday of the month, there will be the monthly collection for Wellspring. The items particularly needed at the moment are multipack bags of crisps, multi-packs of chocolate biscuits, sugar, tinned custard and tinned vegetables. Thank you.

**Ladies Group:** are holding a Tropic Skincare evening on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in St Chad's church hall – open to our 3 parishes, so please come and join us!

### Christ Church

**Cake Sunday:** will be next Sunday after the 9am Mass.

**Coffee & Chat** – continues every Wednesday morning after Mass. All welcome.

**Parish Draw:** winners are 30 – Louis Briscall Slack, 84 – Angelica Brisall Slack, 120 – H & S Attisha.

**The Divine Mercy Prayer Group:** Mondays 2pm-3pm in Church (via the side door near the hall). All are welcome to join the group for this time of prayer.

**Piety Stall:** Cards and gifts for Communion and Confirmation. Plus, a good selection of books for young people.

**Children's Liturgy:** every Sunday at the 11am Mass.

**Mass Intentions:** There has been a drop in the number of Mass Intention requests coming in over the last few months. Remember that the Mass is the most powerful prayer, so if you know someone in need of prayer, why not have a Mass said for them? There are envelopes available at the back of church for you to add your intention and donation. Please hand in to the office, or post through the presbytery door.

**Wellspring:** We have a monthly collection of non-perishable foods on Saturday mornings from 11am until 12noon outside the front main doors of the Church. Next Collection 30<sup>th</sup> May.

### St Ann's

**Mass Intention Envelope:** We have received a Mass Intention envelope containing £10, but with no information written on it about who the Mass is for. If you can shed any light on this, please contact Julie or email the parish. Thank you.

**Tuesday Coffee Morning:** Please join us on Tuesdays after Mass for coffee & chat, as well as knitting and crocheting for anyone interested (teaching is available for beginners) and some basic Salsa for those who like a bit of gentle exercise! All welcome.

**Mass Intentions:** There has been a drop in the number of Mass Intention requests coming in over the last few months. Remember that the Mass is the most powerful prayer, so if you know someone in need of prayer, why not have a Mass said for them? There are envelopes available at the back of church for you to add your intention and donation. Please hand in to the office, or post through the presbytery door.

**Crowning of Mary:** This ceremony will take place at the start of the 5pm Mass on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Fr Louis would love to see as many children there as possible!

## **St Ann's continued**

**Children's Liturgy:** We are looking for more volunteers to lead the Children's Liturgy sessions, so if you'd like to volunteer, please speak to Karolina or Julie, or email the parish. Thank you.

**Piety Stall:** There are now items on the Piety Stall for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Grab them whilst you can! Please pay either by cash in the 'Cards' slot or by using the Piety option on the DONA machine.

**SVP:** If you would like to join the SVP and help us in our mission of befriending and helping those in need, please pick up a form from the porch, fill it in and just drop it in the collection basket. If you know of someone who might appreciate a visit (regular or occasional), please contact Kevin on 07504 130749.

**Churches Together Cheadle Hulme:** After a very successful concert last year, the Poynton Brass Band are returning on 9 May to coincide with the start of Christian Aid week. At the Methodist Church 19.30 start. The theme this year is 'Echoes of the Cosmos'. Tickets from the Band's website <https://www.poyntonband.co.uk/>

**Rosary Before the Weekend Masses:** We would be very grateful for any new volunteers to lead the Rosary, starting at 4:30pm before the Saturday Mass or 10:30am before the Sunday Mass. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Julie or email the parish. Thank you.

**St Ann's Bridge Club:** We are a very friendly group of mixed ability who meet on Wednesday mornings in the Parish Room from 9:30 to 12noon. There is also teaching available for complete beginners. We would welcome anyone who'd like to come along and see how it works (just pop in any time during the morning to meet us).

**Two Funerals:** There will be a Requiem Mass for Eileen Banks at 11am on Friday 15th May and one for Chris Hindmarch at 11am on Monday 18th May. In both cases, they will replace the usual 10am Mass.

## **Other Local & Diocesan Events and News**

**Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026:** The Pilgrimage Team are very pleased to announce that bookings are now open for our 2026 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pilgrimage to Lourdes. By coach 30 July to 7 August and by air 31 July to 6 August. Brochures can be found on the pilgrimage website [www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk)

**Vacancies:** Two vacancies have arisen within the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team for a **Programme Coordinator** and **Youth Mission Team Member**. Further details regarding both posts can be found on the Diocesan Website. <https://www>. Interested parties should send their CV and covering letter to Pauline McCulloch [recruitment@](mailto:recruitment@) **Closing date Friday 29 April 2026.**

**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 7pm on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026 followed by refreshments in the hall.

**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 Diocesan Website [Latest Vacancies - Diocese](#) If interested, please send CV and covering letter to Pauline McCulloch [recruitment@](mailto:recruitment@). Closing date Friday 29 May 2026.

**Catholic Family Holidays in the Lake District:** Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. [www.castleriggmanor.com](http://www.castleriggmanor.com)

**Youth Ministry GAP Year Opportunity:** Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and also work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. Contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk) for more information.

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**Baptisms:** For children under 7 years of age: Both parents must attend an evening course before the baptism of their child. The next course will be Thursday 7 May 2026 at St Ann's at 7pm. You must book a place by emailing [stannsheadleulme@gmail.com](mailto:stannsheadleulme@gmail.com).