



Saint Vincent de Paul

Catholic Church, Altrincham



Fifth Sunday of Easter 3rd May 2026

(Parish Mass book - page 265)

We continue the excerpts from Pope Leo's Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te (I have loved you) on Christian love for the poor.

From the first centuries, the Fathers of the Church recognized in the poor a privileged way to reach God, a special way to meet him. Charity shown to those in need was not only seen as a moral virtue, but a concrete expression of faith in the incarnate Word. The community of the faithful, sustained by the strength of the Holy Spirit, was rooted in being close to the poor, whom they considered not just an "appendage," but an essential part of Christ's living body. For example, while he was on his way to face martyrdom, Saint Ignatius of Antioch exhorted the community of Smyrna not to neglect the duty to carry out acts of charity for those most in need, admonishing them not to behave like those who oppose God. "But consider those who are of a different opinion with respect to the grace of Christ, which has come to us, how opposed they are to the will of God. They have no regard for love; no care for the widow, or the orphan, or the oppressed; of the bond, or of the free; of the hungry, or of the thirsty." The Bishop of Smyrna, Polycarp, expressly stated that ministers of the Church should take care of the poor: "And let the presbyters be compassionate and merciful to all, bringing back those that wander, visiting all the sick, and not neglecting the widow, the orphan, or the poor, but always 'providing for that which is becoming in the sight of God and man'." From these two witnesses, we see that the Church appears as a mother of the poor, a place of welcome and justice.

For his part, Saint Justin, who addressed his First Apology to Emperor Adrian, the Senate and people of Rome, explained that Christians bring all that they can to those in need because they see them as brothers and sisters in Christ. Writing about the assembly gathered in prayer on the first day of the week, he underscored that at the heart of the Christian liturgy, it is not possible to separate the worship of God from concern for the poor. Consequently, at a certain point in the celebration: "they who are well-to-do, and willing, give what each thinks fit; and what is collected is deposited with the president, who succours the orphans and widows, and those who, through sickness or any other cause, are in want, and those who are in bonds, and the strangers sojourning among us, and in a word takes care of all who are in need." This demonstrates that the nascent Church did not separate belief from social action: faith without witness through concrete actions was considered dead, as Saint James taught us (cf. 2:17).

Pope's Intention for May

That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

During Easter we are asked to pray for these intentions:

New members of the Church, Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work.

REQUIEM MASS FOR ALSION DONALD

Alison , one of our oldest Parishioners, died on Tuesday, 28th April 2026. She wanted to be buried at Pluscarden Abbey in Scotland. Her funeral Mass and burial will take place there. To give us an opportunity as a Parish to pray for her there will be a Requiem Mass here on Friday, 8th May at 7pm. All are welcome.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AT MASS?

We will be holding a choice of two 5-week training programmes for children who have made their First Holy Communion and would like to serve at Mass. The programmes will be held on Sundays at 4pm starting 17th May and Mondays at 4.30pm in church starting on 18th May. If your child is interested please collect an application form from the sacristy and return it to church by Sunday 10th May.

If any adults would like to train as an altar server please email your interest to the office and we will be in touch . Training sessions for adults will be at 7.15pm on Monday evenings.

WINDOWS GROUP (for Widows)

All widows are warmly invited to come to our next meeting. It's on Friday 8th May from 3.00pm till 4.30pm downstairs in Westleigh. After tea and a chat we will discuss (and possibly sing!) our favourite hymns.

JOIN US ON THE 75th SHREWSBURY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Would you like to join St Vincent's parishioners as part of a landmark pilgrimage to Lourdes this summer? This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Shrewsbury's pilgrimages to Lourdes. A number of St Vincent's parishioners are 'regulars' of the annual pilgrimage which this year is from 31st July - 6th August (if travelling by air) and will be returning, plus there are 'first timers' planning to make the pilgrimage. This is a truly life-changing experience. Full details are on the Diocesan website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk including travel information, key dates, accommodation details, guidance for pilgrims, and a link to booking details. The easy-to-follow online booking form link is within the [online brochure](#). Online booking link <https://shrewsburylourdes.fillout.com/application> If you wish to be part of the St Vincent's Parish team on the pilgrimage, please complete your booking via the Diocesan website. St Vincent's parishioners are planning to stay at the Gallia Londres Hotel for anyone planning their travel. Please note re. youth - young volunteers (aged between 16 and 22 years) will travel together by coach, leaving Wednesday 29 July and arriving back on Friday 7 August. Separate application forms and details are available from the SYMT office at youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org **Any booking queries re. the Lourdes Pilgrimage should be directed to Shrewsbury's Pilgrimage Team on 07773 324 264 or via email lourdes@dioceseofshrewsbury.org**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH GARDENS

We are so lucky to have beautiful church gardens, which over the years many parishioners have very kindly offered their time to help to maintain. We still have a small number of volunteers who work hard to maintain the gardens but we are need of more people to be part of the team. We would be very grateful of more volunteers to help with small areas of the garden. At the back of the church you will see a poster that has a map of the garden which is split up into areas that are numbered. If you are able to offer some time to maintain a small area then please sign your name to an area(s) and provide some contact details. For more information please contact the parish office. Thank you.

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM MINUTES

Please find the recent [PPT minutes](#) on our parish website and paper copies are at the back of church.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- ♦ **Children's Liturgy** - 10th & 24th May at the 10am Mass.
- ♦ **Tea and Coffee after 10am Mass** - every Sunday, with video games (FIFA, tennis, etc), table tennis and other games, all for parents and children.
- ♦ **Playgroup** - Every Friday in term time from 9.30am - 11.30am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Bridge** - Every Monday at 2.00pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **SVP** - Meets fortnightly on Mondays at 6.30pm in Westleigh.
- ♦ **Emmaus Prayer Group** - 7-8pm Mondays in Westleigh. Everybody welcome, please just come along.
- ♦ **Brownies** - Tuesdays in term time at 5.45-7.15pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **Secular Carmelites** - 1st Wednesday of every month at Westleigh from 6pm to 8pm
- ♦ **Knit and Natter** - 10am in Westleigh: 7th & 21st May (every fortnight)
- ♦ **Mothers' Prayers** - Every Thursday 11.15am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Study Group for Men** - 7.15-8.30pm, Thursdays (fortnightly) in Westleigh: Please email Fr Joseph for dates.
- ♦ **Friday Club** - First Friday of every month, 2pm in Westleigh. Entertainment & refreshments organised by SVP.
- ♦ **Windows Group (for widows)** - 3pm-4.30pm on Friday 8th May.
- ♦ **Young Adults Group (18-35 years)** - Saturdays 2nd, 16th & 30th May. Come along for 5.30pm Mass followed by Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Talk, food, time to socialise etc.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE - BOOKING OPEN

The next parish pilgrimage will be to Whitby, Thirsk and Knaresborough on Thursday 15th to Saturday 17th October 2026. The cost per person for a twin/double room is £249, there are limited single rooms available for £314. If you would like to join the pilgrimage please complete the booking form (available at the back of church) and hand in to the parish office and pay the £75 deposit. Please see poster in the church porch for more information.

CAFOD: STAND WITH SUDAN. GIVE MONTHLY.

On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help: "So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger, and disease. That is why today, I'm asking you to consider setting up a regular gift to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support. Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbours, a way of saying: we will not abandon you, we will stand with you until peace is restored." [Donate at cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan](https://www.cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan) The retiring collection after the Masses on 2nd/3rd May will be for the CAFOD Sudan Appeal.

CAFOD is also asking people to add their names to their online petition asking Yvette Cooper, Foreign secretary to take action.

DAY OF REFLECTION

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

VACANCIES

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](https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org) - Diocese If interested, please send CV and covering letter to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Closing date Friday 29 May 2026.

Teacher Vacancy: Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Baguley (M23 1HP) are seeking to appoint a Teacher for September 2026. Further information can be found on the school website www.sacredheart-baguley.manchester.sch.uk or by telephoning the school (01619983419).

BEREAVMENT SUPPORT DAY – TUESDAY, 5TH MAY, SALE TOWN HALL (10:30am–4pm)

A community event organised by Trafford Council, bringing together a range of organisations offering bereavement support, guidance and signposting. Open to anyone who has been bereaved, is supporting someone, or would like to understand more about what support is available. Visitors are welcome to drop in at any time.

May Live Simply Message: Pray before meals.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

We welcome into God's Family William Walsh and Gracie Brocklehurst who were recently baptised here. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Requiescant in Pace Please pray for those who have died recently including Roisin Kennedy (funeral at St Hugh's 12noon 08/05/26), Alison Donald, Geraldine Pickering (funeral 06/05/26), Sr Janet Arrowsmith (funeral 12/05/26) and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Please pray for the sick who include James Ainsworth, Michael Anderson, Robert Anderson, Margaret B, Antoni Baranowski, Janet Barnes, M Barnes, George Bell, Pat Bell, Antaolii Benzo, Dave Berry, Stephen Birchall, Helen Boardman, Jackie Body, Laura Body, John Breen, Daniel Brennan, Susan Brennan, Broadfoot, Denise Brooks, Jozef Broilo, Denise Brooks, Michael Byrne, Jo Carter, Christine Cartwright, John Cawfield, Alan Clarkson, Anne Coghlan, Murray Craig, Peter Cresswell, Eileen Davies, Luke Dennett, David Michael Devine, Richard Doherty, Max Dunn, Ross Dwyer, Sean Dwyer, Joyce Eaton, Lynda Edwards, Christine Elliott, Peter Elliott, Freddie Fenton, Marco Floreale, Marie Ford, John Gardener, Ann Gately, Toby Gimson, Mary Good, Vicky Gosnold, Stella Gould, Niel Halsall, Rufus Hasler & family, Mary Heanue, Catherine Heraghty, Thomas Higginbotham, Gavin Hill, Hayley Hill, Nick, Hennis, Peter Heywood, Gavin Hill, Jane Hollingworth, Katie Holmes, Justin Humphries, Lucy Hunter, Janet, Martin Jones, Ava Kendrick, H Khan, Ann-marie Kelly, H & R Kelly, Nancy Kelly, Noreen Kelly, Amelia Kennedy, Anne Killeen, Thomas Killeen, Elizabeth and Henry Kluck, Marcin and Teresa Kluck, Bernadette Lancaster, Neil Lancaster, David Lawley, Barbara Lee, Betty Leeson, Willy Leeson, Klaudia Linert, Bob Lloyd, Chloe Logan, Laura MacGinn, Helena Machin, Sian Manley, Margaret, Erin Marks, Claire McAllister, Martin McConnell, Rupert McDermott, Maria, Mary McLoughlin, Carol McLoughlin, Brian Morris, Luke Murphy, Mary Murphy, Charles Musumali, Elaine Neary, Emma Neoman, Oliver, Maureen O'Hara, Roza Olszewska, Marion O'Neil, Anne O'Neill, Andrea Ottley, Marjorie Owens, Serge Pascau, Anna Perry, Krzysztof Pietrzak, Sue Power, Michael Quigley, Paul Raybede, Reece, Jackie Reed, Dave Renshaw, Helen Reynolds, Maria Robinson, Rose, Stuart Royle, Margaret Russell, Adrian Ryan, David Ryan and Frank, Mary Ryan, Melinda Ryan, Steve Ryan, Camille Sanders, Jacky Scaife, Julie Taylor, Ralph Taylor, Tomlinson family, Christy Toye, Joe Traynor, Joseph Tumpang, Jed Wainwright, Janina Wardzinska, Isabella Webb, Neil Wilkinson, Mason Williams, Maria Winthrop, Louise Withers, and all in our hospitals and homes.

MONEY MATTERS

Offertory Collection 26th April 1956.34

Many thanks to the parishioners for your generosity. *The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025*



DONATE

Mass Schedule

Sunday 3rd May <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	Seamus Edwards (RIP) For the People of the Parish Molly and Sean McRae Michael and Anne Heneghan (RIP)
Monday 4th May <i>The English Martyrs</i>	11:30 12:15 18:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Jerzy Basiurski (Ann) NO Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesday 5th May <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 BV 11:30 12:15	Nicholas Joseph Jervis (Ann) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> William Cochrane (Ann)
Wednesday 6th May <i>Ferial</i>	11:30 12:15	NO Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction Requiem Mass for Geraldine Pickering
Thursday 7th May <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 BV 11:30 12:15 18:00	Thomas Alex & Family <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Moira Ainsworth (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Friday 8th May <i>Ferial</i>	11:30 12:15 18:30 19:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Priests of The Parish & Holy Souls (RIP) <i>Confessions after Mass</i> <i>Rosary</i> Requiem Mass for Alison Donald
Saturday 9th May <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 11:00 11:00-11:45 12:15 16:15-17:00 17:30	First Holy Communion for St Vincents School children NO Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction <i>Confessions</i> Michael Scahill (RIP) <i>Confessions</i> Joe Kennedy (RIP)
Sunday 10th May <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	John Hayden (RIP) Ming Keung Cheng (RIP) For the People of The Parish Adelio Benedetti

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

BOWDON VALE MASSES 10am Tuesday and Thursday **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** - as above & by request

MAY RETIRING COLLECTIONS: 3rd CAFOD, 31st Franciscan Missionaries

MASS READING CYCLE: Sundays Year A, Weekdays Cycle 2; Psalter Week 1

PARISH CLERGY - Parish Priest: Canon Jonathan Brandon **Assistant Priest:** Fr Joseph Fawcett Wood

CONTACTS

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Assistant Priest: Joseph.Fawcett@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Parish Office: parishoffice@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

WESTLEIGH PARISH CENTRE- Westleigh Bookings: svpwestleigh@outlook.com

Website: stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Facebook/Instagram/Twitter: @svpaltrincham

Parish Safeguarding Representative Helen Norwood: 07800 656966

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