

Christmastide, Sunday 29th December 2024



**Parish of St. Mary, Middlewich
serving St. Margaret Ward, Holmes Chapel**

Parish priest: Fr. Vijay Bhupathi 07852 894799, 2 New King Street, Middlewich
Deacon Tony Ford: 07918 912195; Rev. Deacon Chris Wells 07751 136957;
www.stmarysparishmiddlewich.org.uk; email: stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica thereby officially inaugurating the 2025 Jubilee of Hope. He reassured during his Christmas evening Mass that the Christ Child of Bethlehem offers the world infinite hope and joy. He highlighted in his message - "Dear sister, dear brother, on this night the 'holy door' of God's heart lies open before you. Jesus, God-with-us, is born for you, for us, for every man and woman. With him, joy flourishes; with Him, life changes; with Him, hope does not disappoint."

This Sunday we are celebrating the feast of the Holy Family. Jesus and Mary and Joseph had been humble enough to know the plan of God; bold enough to accept and embrace it; with enough endurance and perseverance in fulfilling it. Let us entrust each family in our parish and pray for every individual that we commit ourselves to emulate the lives of the Holy Family.

We, as a family of St. Mary's – thank the Lord for all His blessings upon us throughout the year of 2024 and seek for His continued protection and His choicest blessings. Let us strive to be more benevolent to each other in the year ahead. I wish you all A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2025.

Fr. Vijay

Donation to Mary's Meals -Mary's Meals Donation Match

We raised £620 which will be doubled £260 from the Craft Stall and the rest from Community Lunches & some very generous Parishioner donations.

GOD SPEAKS

A day led by Jordan Kelly, Music led by Joe Wells, (One Hope Project)
Saturday 18th Jan 10.30 - 3.30
St Edward's Church Runcorn, WA7 5NZ
Lunch provided
Please register by email alphamkruncorn@gmail.com
ALL DETAILS ON POSTER at the back of church

Diocese Youth Mission Team Vacancy

Exciting opportunities have arisen within the Diocese with the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team. Further details can be found on the Diocesan website Latest Vacancies - Diocese Completed applications to be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org. Closing date 31 January 2025.

Christian Aid Group – Holmes Chapel

A very big THANK YOU to everyone who supported Christian Aid by buying our Autumn Movies Quiz sheet for £2. We raised £390. Over 50 completed quizzes were submitted, of which 14 achieved 100% correct!

The Official Opening of The Holy Year in The Diocese:

On 29th December in Shrewsbury.
On 12th January in Stockport.

We shall celebrate the Mass on 26th January, 2025 as we mark the HOLY YEAR at the parish level in St. Mary's.

Christmastide, Sunday 29th December 2024

Sun	29 th Dec	9.00am	The Holy Family (HC) Madeline and Peter Broadbent 60 th Wed anniv.
Sun	29 th Dec	11.00am	Hugh Murray (Patsy) RIP and Shirley Gaskell RIP
Mon	30 th Dec	9.00am	Sixth Day of Christmas Octave Carole Fahey RIP
Tues	31 st Dec	9.00am	Seventh Day of Christmas Octave Joan Upton RIP
Wed	1 st Jan	12.00pm	Mary The Mother of God Sheila and Gordon Crouch RIP
Thurs	2 nd Jan	9.00am	Derek Whittaker RIP, <i>Ss Basil the Great</i>
Fri	3 rd Jan	9.00am	Friday of the Christmas Season Don Jones RIP (1 st anniv.)
Sat	4 th Jan	9.00am 6.30pm	Saturday of the Christmas Season Norman and Margaret Wickstead Priest's intentions
Sun	5 th Jan	9.00am 11.00am	The Epiphany of the Lord (Holmes Chapel) The Parishioners Stanley Collins RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.30am to 12.15pm

Sacrament of Baptism: By arrangement

Please Pray for ALL

who are sick at home and in hospital: Stephen Grey, Margaret McCallum, Sara O'Brien, Jamie Connor, Gillian Robinson, Peter Hannon, Sadie Everard, Alex Randall, Jenny Ogden, Margaret Scarlett, Fr Jim McGrath, Mike O'Hare, Robert Harrington, Michael O'Keefe, Christine McHugh, Edward Evans, Mike Hough, Canon Phil Moor, Catherine McIntosh, Doreen Stevenson.

who have died recently: especially Peter Hannon

whose anniversaries occur at this time: Elizabeth French, Roy Thackwell, Domenic Jordan, Maureen O'Brien, Edward Marks, Patrick Flynn, Jozef Poziemski,, Sarah Dale, Margaret Raftery, John Kelly, John Marmion, Kenneth Robinson, Edward King, Patricia Scott, Don Jones, Jane McHugh, Martin Smith, Rhoda Liddle, Joseph Taylor, George Brett, Rev Paul Glendinning, Rev David Austin Smith, Canon Francis McGowan.

Dates for Community Lunches 2025

Monday January 13th

Monday February 3rd

Monday March 3rd

Monday April 7th

Foodbank Shortages

- 6-pack crisps
- stuffing
- gravy
- UHT fruit juice
- tinned ham

CAFOD

We have sent a cheque to CAFOD for £160. £100 of this was from donations from The Christmas Community Lunch. Thanks for your kind generosity.

Future Newsletters

If you would like to promote an event or have something to share with your fellow Parishioners then please send the details by email to: stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com

Thank you to some very special volunteers

Shane Ward for his very generous time to take care of the Church and Presbytery Gardens and all the Church Committees for their time and efforts throughout the Year.

This Week in the Parish Centre

Please note that the caretaker/cleaner is currently on holiday until the 7th of January therefore if you use the Parish Centre you must make sure it is kept Clean and tidy. Thank you in advance for your kind efforts and understanding.

Baptism after Mass this Sunday by Father Peter

We welcome in to our Parish family Aoife Birchall