

Christmastide, Sunday 5th January 2025



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

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Dear Friends,

Today, we celebrate the solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord. It is the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi (Matthew 2:1–12).

“Nations shall come to your light, and Kings to the brightness of your dawn.”
- Isaiah 60:3.

As we approach a New Year, let us have a commitment to walk as a child of the light. Let us live, work, and walk as if the light, which is Jesus Christ, has broken into our darkness.

Therefore, we can never be the same again. As we thank God today for the Epiphany of Jesus and rejoice in His loving mercy, let us commit our lives to him as did the Magi in making that arduous trip to Bethlehem. May the search for Christ lie at the heart of our lives, our reason for living. Out of love for humanity, God keeps His revelation an ongoing phenomenon. May the wisdom of the Magi guide us to our own light. May the Epiphany remind us of the good news of Christ. May God reveal Himself through our actions in life.

Fr. Vijay Bhupathi

Donation to Mary's Meals - Donation Match

Well done! 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.

The Week of Prayer

“THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ONE.” – Jn 17:21

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025: Sat 18th - Sat 25th January. There will be a joint service on Sunday 19th January 2025 at 6:30pm in our Church at St. Mary's. Please do attend the service to pray for and promote Christian Unity.

The Official Opening of The Holy Year in The Diocese:

This was celebrated on 29th December in Shrewsbury.
This will be celebrated 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 5th January 2025

Sun	5 th Jan	9.00am	The Epiphany of the Lord (Holmes Chapel) The Parishioners
Sun	5 th Jan	11.00am	Stanley Collins RIP
Mon	6 th Jan	9.00am 6.30pm	Monday after Epiphany, Peter Cloney RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tues	7 th Jan	9.00am	Tuesday after Epiphany, Noel Hulme anniversary
Wed	8 th Jan	6.00pm 6.30pm	Wednesday after Epiphany Holy Rosary Joan Upton RIP
Thurs	9 th Jan	9.00am	Thursday after Epiphany (<i>School</i>) Michael Hannon anniversary
Fri	10 th Jan	9.00am	Friday after Epiphany, Priest's intentions
Sat	11 th Jan	8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm	Saturday after Epiphany, Holy Rosary DR of Jones and O'Shea Families The Parishioners
Sun	12 th Jan	9.00am 11.00am	The Baptism of the Lord (Holmes Chapel) Priest's intentions Lucian and Mary Davies 50 th Birthday intentions

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, 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: William Shirley, Graham Robert Yates, Mary Devaney, Kathleen Gleave, Florence Bamford, Nancy Farrington, Jean Taylor, Eileen Taylor, Thomas Morris, Stephen Farrington, Stanley Smith, Jack Farrington, Michael Hannon, Sydney Thomas Flaherty, Leonard Joseph Storrow, James Kelly, John Killinger, Frank Worden, Rev Stephen McKenna, Provost Harry Stratton, Rev Anthony Leonard Snr, Canon Maurice Stone, Rev John McDonald, Rev Raphael Velarde.

Dates for Community Lunches 2025

Next Monday January 13th (sign up at the back of church)

Monday February 3rd

Monday March 3rd

Monday April 7th

GET-TOGETHER

“Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”

All the ordained ministers, lay ministers and people involved in the Parish life and administration of St. Mary's Parish (St. Mary's Church, Middlewich and St. Margaret's Church, Holmes Chapel) are invited to come and participate in the Get-Together, to be held on 31 st January, 2025 at 7 pm, in our Parish Centre. Anyone interested to – ‘Come and See’ is most welcome as well. It's the time to share our faith, pray together to be renewed and strengthened by the Spirit in the Lord's Call and Commission to serve Him and His faithful.

Please save the date.

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

Special thanks to Shane Murray for all his time gardening.
Our amazing florists and cleaners, especially during the Christmas period.

This Week in the Parish Centre

Wednesday	RCIA	7.15pm	Room 1
Thursday	CAFOD	7.30pm	Room 4
Friday	Mothers' Prayers	9.45am	Room 4
Friday	Mums and Tots	10.00am	Room 2, 3