

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, 26^h January 2025



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

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

Dear friends,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.” (Lk 4:18). Isaiah announced and Jesus fulfilled the above announcement. The Good News is meant for all, especially the poor. The poor, in its most fundamental sense, refers to all those who know their need for God. Jesus calls such people as ‘the poor in spirit’ (Mt 5:3). We come to God knowing that we are nothing without Him. It is the acceptance of our lowliness and humility that strengthens our relationship with God and neighbours. The Spirit calls us to remain in Jesus, and anoints us to share the ministry of Jesus for the ‘poor in spirit.’ The Spirit anoints us with a variety of gifts and talents, given in accordance with the will of God, for the proclamation and fulfilment of the Good News. It is done not merely by announcing the Word but predominantly by our actions – by service. It is a blessing and a great privilege given to each one of us by the Lord through baptism. Let us dig deep and discover the ‘treasure’ hidden in us. Let us multiply the God-given ‘talent’ by using it more and more for the glory of the Lord. Let us guard it safe by spending it for others. For ‘the mission and ministry of Jesus’, I look forward to seeing you all, as many as possible, on the day of our Get – Together, Friday 7pm.

Fr. Vijay Bhupathi

2025 Jubilee Year reflection on Pilgrims of Hope

Are you wondering what the 2025 Jubilee Year is all about? Join us as we explore the biblical background to the Jubilee Year and what the theme *Pilgrims of Hope* means for us today using material produced by CAFOD.

We’ll meet in St Mary’s Parish Centre **on Saturday February 8th 2025 for tea and toast at 9.45 am for a 10am start.** We aim to finish by 1pm at the latest. Please sign up at the back of church to help us with numbers but you can just turn up on the day. For more information, please contact Anne Sturman by email: annesturman17@gmail.com

LOURDES ROADSHOWS

A message from the Lourdes Pilgrimage Director

In this Jubilee Year of 2025, Bishop Mark has asked that our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes will be our Jubilee Pilgrimage. To help raise the profile of the pilgrimage and to answer any questions your parishioners might have, we have organised two roadshows for those who are interested in joining our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. Our first roadshow will be on **1st February 2pm-4pm at Our Lady & St John’s, Heswall, Wirral**, and our second roadshow will be on **15th February 2pm-4pm St Anthony’s, Wythenshawe**. Information and register of interest cards will be available, and members of the Lourdes Management Team will be present to answer any questions.

First Holy Communion Programme and Celebration Masses (January)

Sunday 26th January Celebration Mass at 11am (Children's Liturgy)
Monday 27th January at 6pm in the Parish Centre - Children's session

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Sun	26th Jan	9.00am	(Holmes Chapel) Priest's intentions
Sun	26th Jan	11.00am	Terence (Terry) Rosiak RIP (1 st anniversary)
Mon	27th Jan	9.00am 6.30pm	Patrina Emes RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tues	28th Jan	9.00am	Priest's intentions, <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>
Wed	29th Jan	6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Angela Connor RIP
Thurs	30th Jan	9.00am	(<i>School</i>) Priest's intentions
Fri	31st Jan	9.00am	Joan Kleins intentions, <i>St John Bosco</i>
Sat	1st Feb	8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Priest's intentions Tony and Bridie Devaney RIP
Sun	2nd Feb	9.00am 11.00am	The Presentation of The Lord (Holmes Chapel) The Parishioners Priest's 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, Margaret Strong, Caroline De Vere.

who have died recently: especially Patrina Emes

whose anniversaries occur at this time: Henry Jordon, James Ellison, Terry Rosiak, Anthony Lawless, Patricia Clarke, Harriet Lannon, Martin Tully, Clive Richard McMillan, Ethel Loughlin, Florrie Kelly, Harry Bailey, Tess Hough, Wilfrid Cooper, Bill Costello, Lily Cesario, Jimmy Taylor, Dr.. James Murphy, Brian Kelly, Ethel Mann, Margaret Ryder, Elizabeth O'Brien, Fr. W. Gregan, Rev Donnan Peter Baron, Mgr Canon Percival Rees, Rev James Joseph Matthews, Rev John Frederick Thompson.

Community Lunches 2025

Please can you sign the list at the back of church if you would like to come to our Community Lunch in the Parish Centre on Monday February 3rd after the midday mass. All are welcome. There is no charge for the meal but we welcome donations to cover our costs. Thank you

March and April Dates

Monday March 3rd

Monday April 7th

Get-Together Friday 31st January 2025 at 7pm St Mary's Parish Centre

"Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." 1Cor 10:31

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 31st 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

This Week in the Parish Centre

Monday	First HC Programme	6.00pm	Parish Centre
Wednesday	RCIA	7.15pm	Room 1
Friday	Mothers' Prayers	9.45am	Room 4
Friday	Mums and Tots	10.00am	Room 2, 3
Friday	Get-Together	7.00pm	Parish Centre