

## The Presentation of The Lord, Ordinary Time Week 4, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025



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

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Dear friends,

Instead of the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we celebrate today the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. When we think of this Feast, we can think of Jesus as a small baby being brought to the temple, which was the religious custom of his people. We Christians bring babies to the Church for baptism.

Simply to look at a baby, any baby, is a whole meditation in itself.

We can look at Jesus as a baby and imagine all the thoughts of Mary and Joseph about this baby, his future and all that life might bring to him. We can look at pictures of babies from all over the world now: those from well off families and those whose lives will probably end within days because of the lack of food or water or care. We can look at the pictures of abused babies and wonder if their lives will ever amount to anything at all. Each of these babies is precious in the eyes of God, our Creator.

Today's feast should encourage us always to pray for little children, whenever we see one or meet one, and ask that they may indeed grow into all that God wishes for them. We can also pray that we might keep our hearts and minds open to God's plans in our own lives.

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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 **1<sup>st</sup> February 2pm-4pm at Our Lady & St John's, Heswall, Wirral**, and our second roadshow will be on **15<sup>th</sup> 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 (February)

Monday 3rd February at 6pm in the Parish Centre - Children's Session  
Sunday 9th February Celebration Mass at 11am (Children's Liturgy)  
Sunday 23rd February Celebration Mass at 11am (Children's Liturgy)  
Monday 24th February at 6pm in the Parish Centre - Parents & Children

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Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	9.00am	(Holmes Chapel) The Parishioners
Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	11.00am	Priest's intentions
Mon	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	12.00pm 6.30pm	Anne Kane RIP, <i>St Werburgh</i> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tues	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.00am	Priest's intentions
Wed	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Derek Whittaker RIP, <i>St Agatha</i>
Thurs	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.00am	( <i>School</i> ) Priest's intentions, <i>St Paul Miki &amp; Companions</i>
Fri	7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.00am	Priest's intentions
Sat	8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Mary and Ken Lewis 50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding anniversary The Parishioners
Sun	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.00am 11.00am	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holmes Chapel) Priest's intentions Eddie Stephens 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, 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 and Anne Kane.

**whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Lilian Whittaker, John McHugh, Daniel Nugent, Bidie Devaney, Jane Whittingham, Noreen Lanahan, Thomas Roland Kettle, Violet Riley, Maureen Hopkin, Florence Roberts, Gabriel O'Reilly, Peter Costello, Martin Ruddy, Fr. James Molloy, Patrick O'Gorman, John Nolan, Agnes Griffiths, Basil Greenwood, Margaret Tillier, Julia Hazil, Philip Dunn, Marjorie Pointer, Winifred Wells, Leonard Van Hove, Canon John Mc Hugh, Rev James Harding, Mgr Provost Henry Kelly, Rev John A Lyons.

**Community Lunches 2025**

**March and April Dates**

Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>

**First Holy Communion Programme and Celebration Masses**

**March and April Dates**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 6pm in the Parish Centre (Children's Liturgy)

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March Celebration Mass at 11am (Children's Liturgy)

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm in the Parish Centre - Children's session

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Celebration Mass at 11am (Children's Liturgy)

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm in the Parish Centre - Parents & Children

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 6pm in the Parish Centre - Children's session

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm Stations of the Cross - Parents & Children

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm in the Parish Centre - Children's session

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April Celebration Mass at 11am (Children's Liturgy)

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April Celebration Mass at 11am (Children's Liturgy)

**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	Community Lunch	12.45pm	Parish Centre
Monday	FHCP – Children	6.00pm	Parish Centre
Wednesday	RCIA	7.15pm	Room 1
Friday	Mums and Tots	10.00am	Room 2, 3