

First Sunday of Lent 9th March 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

On **Thursday 20th March at 7pm in the Cathedral Parish Room** you are invited to a Lent talk on the theme ***Pilgrims of Hope*** by Mrs Natalie Orefice, Director of Evangelisation and Catechesis. In his Message for Lent 2025, Pope Francis invites the faithful to "journey together in hope," and to take the opportunity of the upcoming Lenten Season to ask ourselves whether we are truly willing to heed God's call to change our lives. This also reflects the theme of the Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope.' For Further details please contact Natalie Orefice Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or 07730 526826.

Lent Series of Talks on **Faith, Hope and Love** with Mrs Natalie Orefice and Fr David Irwin at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Hope Rd, Sale M33 3BF. At **7pm on 18th & 25th March and 1st April**. The evening will conclude with Adoration and Compline. For Further details please contact Natalie Orefice Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or 07730 526826.

On Saturday 22nd March from 10.30am – 12.30pm in the Parish Centre we will have a Synodality talk by Avril Baigent. Please sign up at the back of church.

Face to Face Scripture Group

Deacon Chris is looking at starting a face to face scripture group on Tuesday or Friday evening please can you let him know your preference.

St Mary's School - Craft Fairs

St Mary's School is holding 3 Craft Fairs throughout this year and have invited the Parish to have a table in aid of Parish Funds. Anyone who is willing to make and donate items for sale, please make yourself known to either Norah McEnaney or Helen Armsden. Thank you.

Dates of the Craft Fairs are:

Saturday 12th April

Saturday 4th October

Saturday 29th November

Overseas Aid

On 25 February the Prime Minister announced that the aid budget will be cut again, meaning that it will be at its lowest level since 1999. The result will be that in some of the most vulnerable places on earth, more people will die and many more will lose their livelihoods.

Please contact your MP urgently at <https://cafod.org.uk/campaign> and ask them to take action to ensure that the UK does not turn its back on those most in need.

CAFOD – The Big Lent Walk

Kath and Phil Shaw will be walking 200km in 40 days to help fight global poverty please support them by visiting their "just giving page" or sign their sponsorship form at the back of church and/or ask them for more details.

14 Stations of the Cross

After Friday Mass from 7th March until 11th April.

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| Sun | 9 th Mar | 9.00am | (Holmes Chapel) The Parishioners |
| Sun | 9 th Mar | 11.00am | Gordon Woolridge anniversary |
| Mon | 10 th Mar | 9.00am 6.30pm | Priest's intentions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Tues | 11 th Mar | 9.00am | Priest's intentions |
| Wed | 12 th Mar | 6.00pm 6.30pm | Holy Rosary Priest's intentions |
| Thurs | 13 th Mar | 9.00am | (School) Priest's intentions |
| Fri | 14 th Mar | 9.00am | Priest's intentions |
| Sat | 15 th Mar | 8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm | Holy Rosary Tom Green RIP (1 st anniversary tomorrow) The Parishioners |
| Sun | 16 th Mar | 9.00am 11.00am | (Holmes Chapel) Priest's intentions Pat Taylor birthday anniversary |

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, 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, Mike Sproston Snr.

Who have died recently: especially Jenny Ogden and Nanette Croucher.

whose anniversaries occur at this time: Irene Reid, Peter McHugh, Gordon Woolridge, Roy Yearsley, John Evans, Peter Craig, Maureen Flynn, Lilian Rota, Carlo Rota, Mary Jane Jennings, Mary Armstrong, John O'Brien, Andrew Frazer, Mary Estcourt, Canon Joseph Howe.

Holy Rosary after every week day Mass throughout the Year

Recitation of the Holy Rosary after every weekday Mass.

Gift Aid Scheme - Message from Ken Worthington

New boxes of offertory envelopes will be available for collection at masses on the 22nd and 23rd of March. If you do not currently have a named box of envelopes and would like one, please contact Ken Worthington (07910487815, worthingtonkr@gmail.com) with your name, address and whether you attend Middlewich or Holmes Chapel Mass.

CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day Friday March 14th



Members of the Parish CAFOD Group will be doing a short talk and giving out Fast Day envelopes at all the masses this weekend. Please donate to our Lent Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call CAFOD on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

This QR code will take you straight to CAFOD's virtual envelope where your donation will be included in the total donated from our parish. Many thanks for your continuous generosity

This Week in the Parish Centre

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| Sunday | Children's Liturgy | 11.05am | Parish Centre |
| Monday | FHCP (Session 6 'Eternal Life') | 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 |