



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

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Dear Friends,

This Sunday in Ordinary Time directs our attention to God's intention for the salvation of the human race in Jesus Christ. In a word, everyone is called to God's Kingdom. So, the Good News of Christ must be preached and believed, and of course should be lived by all from North, East, West and South (News).

Salvation, though, cannot be bought, inherited or stolen, but simply gained by a life of doing God's will and living under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. Anything good worth having implies an effort in attaining. It is no different in our life in Christ. The worst mistake on the spiritual path is to become complacent, presuming we are "home safe," simply by having been baptized and confirmed. These are important steps in the pilgrim way to God, but the spiritual life has to be cultivated, lived out day by day. In that spiritual life we will face many trials and challenges which make our path very narrow. But we need to stay the path, persevere and proceed ahead to be successful in our journey to God-in-Person.

The biblical scholar, the late Father Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., comments on this Sunday's Gospel text with these words:

"We must be willing to accept the sudden, unexpected turns of life, even to be at peace with our sinful, suffering moments, to be ready for the unplanned yet heroic demands of sickness and misfortune. When we seem to become the outcast, we are one with those who are coming from the ends of the earth and entering by the narrow door" (from "Biblical Meditations for Ordinary Time, Weeks 10 – 22," Paulist Press, 1984, p. 387).

Fr. Vijay

Time with the Lord and Dine with Friends Saturday 30th Aug 25

You are invited to an Exciting Event by St. Margaret's at Holmes Chapel at *Alex and Andrea Chetwood 's House – the Old Byre, Twemlow Lane, Cranage, CW4 8EX (next door but one to the Birtles Riding School)*

11.00 am: Holy Hour and Confessions

12.30pm Dine with all the friends around

**Handmade Neapolitan Wood Fired Pizza
Indian Pork Curry, Coriander with Tomato Chutney**

Please sign up asap as the numbers are limited.

All Donations will go to St Margaret Ward Church funds

More Volunteers needed hospitality, cleaning and garden teams

The hospitality team prepare refreshments after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday in the Parish Centre. Cleaning can be done at a time which suits and takes about an hour and a half. Cleaning duties are on a rota and are approximately once every six weeks. More helpers would encourage our loyal team! Information from Debbie Stevens text 07928520537 for (hospitality/cleaning) or send a message to the Parish email or mobile.

Thank You to Kathleen and Elaine who join the Gardening Team and Thank You to Maria and Marylene for volunteering as new members of the hospitality team.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, 24th August 2025

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| Sat | 23 rd Aug | 8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm | Holy Rosary Priest's intentions DRF of The Garner and Lloyd families |
| Sun | 24 th Aug | 9.00am 11.00am | (Holmes Chapel) Priest's intentions The Parishioners |
| Mon | 25 th Aug | 10.00am 6.30pm | <i>St Thomas of Hereford</i> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Tues | 26 th Aug | 9.00am | Priest's intentions |
| Wed | 27 th Aug | 6.00pm 6.30pm | Holy Rosary Intentions of the France family, <i>St Monica</i> |
| Thurs | 28 th Aug | 9.00am | Priest's intentions, St Augustine of Hippo |
| Fri | 29 th Aug | 9.00am | John Upton, <i>The Passion of St John the Baptist</i> |
| Sat | 30 th Aug | 8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm | <i>Ss Margaret Clitheroe, Anne Line and Margaret Ward</i> Holy Rosary Simon Coyne (1 st anniversary) Gavin McAleer RIP 20 th anniversary (1 September) |
| Sun | 31 st Aug | 9.00am 11.00am | (Holmes Chapel) John & Ruth Stoneley RIP Priest's intentions |

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday

Sacrament of Baptism: By arrangement

Please Pray for All

Who are sick at home and in hospital: especially Mike Hough, Catherine McIntosh, Margaret Strong, Janine Jackson and Deacon Terry Simms.

Who have died recently: especially Frank Holbrook, Joan Reid and Doreen McLoughlin.

Whose anniversaries occur at this time: Rene Costello, Thomas O'Keefe, George Dean, David Hughes, Carol Bagshaw, Patrick Kelly, Maggie Battersea, John McAleer, Peter Worthington, John Kehoe, Wesley Johnston, Anne Casey, Winefride Jordon, Mary Furlong, Winifred Gowling, Phyllis Wornald, Frances Kerr, Carolina Green, Derel Ryder, John Labedz, Margaret McGovern, Sydney Ankers, Marjorie O'Brien, Bernard Egan, Rev Brendan Huggard, Rev Dennis Gaul.

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Food Bank Shortages

Long life Milk, Crisps and Chocolate.

Shrewsbury Cathedral Jubilee Pilgrimage 2025

Parish Jubilee Trip to Shrewsbury Cathedral **23rd October 2025**

Depart St Mary's Middlewich 9am

return to Middlewich hopefully by 6pm.

Please sign up, indicating payment method, your meal preference, all meals served with filter coffee or tea.

There is the option after lunch to go into Shrewsbury town

Please sign the form at the back of church.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

We are running a pilgrimage to Medjugorje on **25th May – 1st June 26.**

The cost of the pilgrimage is £799 per person, based on two people sharing (£934 for a single room). This includes

- Travel - return flights from Manchester–Dubrovnik.
- Airport duty & passenger taxes
- 1 x 20kgs suitcase for the aircraft hold.
- 7 nights dinner, bed & breakfast 4* Hotel in Medjugorje.
- A full pilgrimage programme for the week, with a local guide in Medjugorje.
- travel insurance is an extra £65 up to 80 years of age if you do not have your own cover)

If you are interested, please contact Gemma (07796 455509) or see Madelyn Devaney for more information. A deposit of £300 per person is required **before 31st October 2025.**

Radio Maria

The Catholic radio station Radio Maria England is now available on DAB radio across mid Cheshire. It is also available online <https://radiomariaengland.uk/> or just ask Alexa to 'play Radio Maria'.