

Diary Dates & Activity

Christmas Carols

Monday 15th December - 6.00pm

The school is holding a KS2 carol concert in church for all our parents (and parishioners are also welcome) on Monday 15th Dec at 6pm. Junior classes will be performing carols and there will be some for the audience to join in as well. Immediately afterwards, **there will be a Christmas Fair in the Parish Centre organised by the PTA at 7pm to which all are invited.**

Sunday 21st December - 2.00pm

Our Parish ‘Carols around the Christmas Tree’ will take place on Sunday 21st in St Mary’s Church. Please come as we joyfully celebrate the pending arrival of our Lord and King. Refreshments and tombola in the Parish Centre afterwards. **BOTTLE TOMBOLA (Please leave any donations at the back of church)**

Christmas Raffle



Tickets £1 each are available to buy after each Holy Mass.

We have a large Christmas hamper made up of bottles and sweet treats plus a couple of smaller ones to win.

All proceeds will go to parish funds.

Charles Dickens Evening - A Big Thank you

Thank you to our amazing parishioners who provided and served refreshments.

Our thanks also to Fr Paul, especially for travelling such a distance and for his excellent presentation.

As Tiny Tim said: “God bless all of us!”

This was a great evening and also raised £95.00 for parish funds.

Blessing of Home Cribs

Please bring your images of the baby Jesus from your home cribs and Fr. Vijay will bless them at the weekend Masses on Fourth Sunday of Advent.

Thank You

From Dcn Chris & Teresa - many thanks to everyone for their good wishes, love and prayers. It has been a great blessing to serve at St Mary's. We are still living in Middlewich so we will see you around and about. God bless you all, Chris & Teresa.

Parish Pastoral Team Reflection Day

Thank you to Fr. Peter Burke for leading a thoughtful and spiritual morning of prayer and reflection for the Pastoral team this Saturday morning.

Monday, December 15th, 2025

- **First Reading:** Numbers 24:2-7. 15-17
- **Gospel:** Matthew 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 16th 2025:

- **First Reading:** Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13
- **Gospel:** Matthew 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 17th 2025

- **First Reading:** Genesis 49: 2.8-10
- **Gospel:** Matthew 1: 1-17

Thursday, December 18th 2025

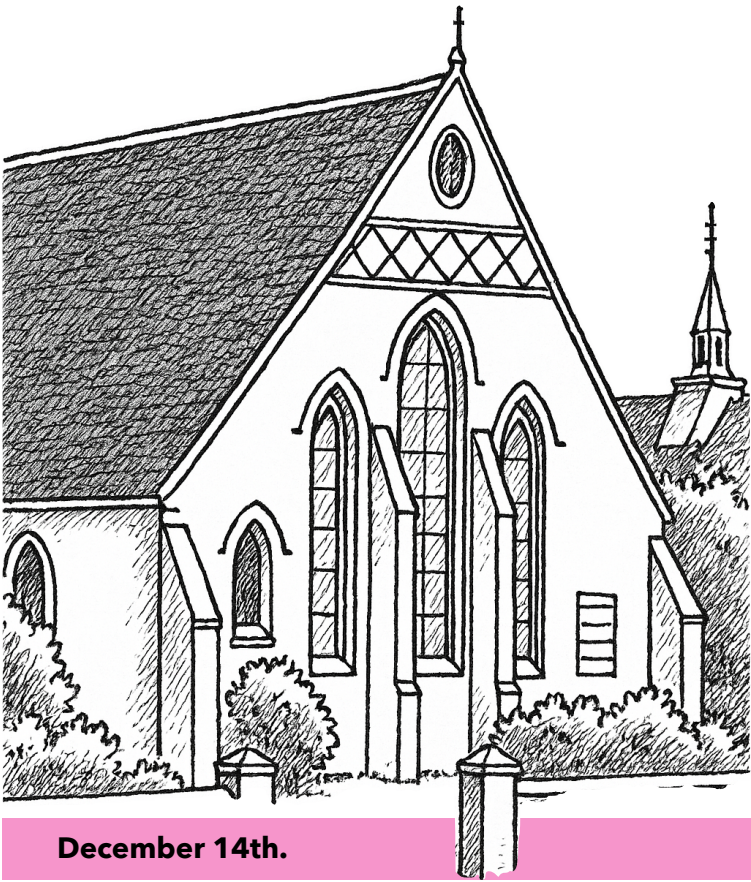
- **First Reading:** Jeremiah 23: 5-8
- **Gospel:** Matthew 1: 18-24

Friday, December 19th, 2025

- **First Reading:** Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25
- **Gospel:** Luke 1:5-25

Saturday, December 20th 2025

- **First Reading:** Isaiah 7: 10-14
- **Gospel:** Luke 1: 26-38



December 14th.

Third Sunday of Advent

Fr. Vijay's reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent

This Sunday we light the rose candle, a sign of joy amidst our Advent preparation. The Church calls us to rejoice, for the Lord is near. The prophet Isaiah proclaims that the desert shall bloom and sorrow shall be turned into gladness. Saint Paul reminds us to “rejoice in the Lord always.”

As we continue our journey toward Christmas, let us lift our hearts in hope and thanksgiving. May this week be a time of renewed faith, joyful anticipation, and readiness to welcome Christ, Emmanuel, God with us.



Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday): “Lord of joy, we light this candle and rejoice in Your nearness. May its glow remind us that You are our strength and our song. Fill our hearts with gladness as we await Your coming. Amen.”

Contacts

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Community Focus

Altar Servers

On the feast day of St. Stephen (Boxing Day) altar servers are most welcome for the midday Holy Mass to receive a ‘token of love’ from the parish. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church if you are able to be there.

Gift Aid

If you currently pay tax, Gift Aiding your donation allows the parish to reclaim 25p from the government for every pound you give. You only need to have paid tax on the donation amount, and there is no additional cost to you. To register for Gift Aid through the parish, you must be giving by envelope or standing order, and then fill in a simple form. Once registered, we will continue to claim Gift Aid for you unless you tell us otherwise, but if you registered a while ago, it may be as well to check the gift aid status of your donations. To check or register your gift aid status, request collection envelopes or standing order details, etc., please contact Ken Worthington (07910487815, worthingtonkr@gmail.com).

Mary’s Meals

We are sending £600.00 which has been raised by the kind generosity of the community lunch attendees. This will be doubled through funding recently announced by Mary’s Meals.

Christmas Flowers

There will be a collection at all Masses on 13/14 December for Christmas Flowers for our lovely church. Thank you to all.



Charity Band Night for Barnabus

THE PHOENIX BOYS. Sunday 21st Dec 8.00pm. George & Dragon, Holmes Chapel
Free entertainment and Raffle for BARNABUS ~ Changing the lives of Manchester Homeless; supporting people off the streets and into a home for 30 years.

Advent Prayer

Lord, send down Your Spirit to guide me during Advent this year.
May the Holy Spirit help me journey closer to You and lift me up when I feel down and lead me when I feel lost.
I may stumble at times, but I know my ultimate journey is to draw closer to You and build Your kingdom here on earth; a kingdom that Jesus’ birth, life and death helped secure.
Amen.

Christmas Masses

December 24th

6.00pm Carols, 6.30pm - First Mass of Christmas

11.00pm - Midnight Mass

December 25th

9:00am St Margaret’s

11:00am St Mary’s

Holy Rosary

Holy Rosary takes place on the following days and times.
Monday on zoom at 10.30am
Wednesday before 6.30pm Holy Mass
Tuesday / Friday after 9.00am Holy Mass
Saturday 10.00am before Holy Mass

What’s on in the Parish Centre this week

Day	Activity	Time
MONDAY		
WEDNESDAY	RCIA	7.30PM
FRIDAY	TODDLERS GROUP	

Food Bank Shortages Long life Milk, Coffee, noodles, Cuppa soup, tinned soup, rice pudding and snacks.

	Times	Mass Intentions
Sat. 13/12	10.30am	St. Lucy V,M. Norma J. Cassidy (Anniversary RIP)
Sat 13/12 (Vigil)	6.30pm	Priest’s Intentions
Sun 14/12	9.00am	Third Sunday of Advent
Sun 14/12	11.00am	Molly & Michael Quirk R.I.P
Mon 15/12	9.00am	Service of the Word & Eucharist
Tues 16/12	9:00am	Clarry France R.I.P.
Wed 17/12	6.30pm	Derek Whittaker
Thus 18/12	9:00am	Mass in School - Sr. Patricia R.I.P
Fri 19/12	9:00am	Vicky Moger R.I.P.
Sat 20/12	10.30am	Mary Hannon R.I.P.
Sat 20/12	11-12.15	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat 20/12	6.30pm	Deceased Relatives Jakubik Family
Sun 21/12	9.00am	Fourth Sunday Advent
Sun	11:00am	The Parishioners

Christmas Novena Will take place during all Holy Masses from 16th - 24th December

Anniversaries	Anniversaries	Anniversaries
Mary Kilkenny	Robert Murray	Ellen Riley
Norma Cassidy	Annie O’Brien	Tommy Cannon
Clarence De Soysa	Elizabeth Twigg	Maria Jakubik
Jane Conroy	Alice Jones	Rev Bernard Hewitt / Cannon R. Luczka
Wm. Joseph Egan	Bridget Naughton	Rt Rev H Sington, / Rev. D Canning
James Trelfa	Frank Bannaghan	Rev J Mooney / Rev J. Hopkinson
John Devaney	Margaret Hayes	Rev Peter Burke / Rev Thomas Hurley
Mary Turnbull	Patrick Morgen	Rev Denis Herlihy



Please pray for all

Who have died recently, especially: Anthony William Wollfenden and Carol Doherty

Who are sick at home and in hospital, especially. Claire Fogg, Mike Hough, Margaret Strong, Joan Lloyd and Deacon Terry Simms

Sunday Mass

- First Reading:** Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
- Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 146
- Second Reading:** Letter of St.James 5:7-10
- Gospel:** Matthew 11: 2-11

