

Diary Dates

January Community Lunch

The next community lunch will be on **Monday January 19th** after midday mass. Please sign the list at church by Sunday January 11th if you would like to join us. No charge for the meal but donations towards the costs are welcome.

Eucharistic Ministers

Please can all parishioners currently serving as Eucharistic Ministers at any Mass fill out their details on the list the back of Church. Fr Vijay would like to arrange a meeting with everyone to look at how best to organise the rota.

MASS READINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, January 5th, 2026

- **First Reading:** John 3: 11-21
- **Gospel:** John 1: 43-51

Tuesday, January 6th, 2026

- **First Reading:** Isaiah 60: 1-6
- **Gospel:** Matthew 2: 1-12

Wednesday, January 7th, 2026

- **First Reading:** 1 John 4: 11-18
- **Gospel:** Mark 6: 45-52

Thursday, January 8th, 2026

- **First Reading:** 1 John 4: 19-5:4
- **Gospel:** Luke 4:14-22

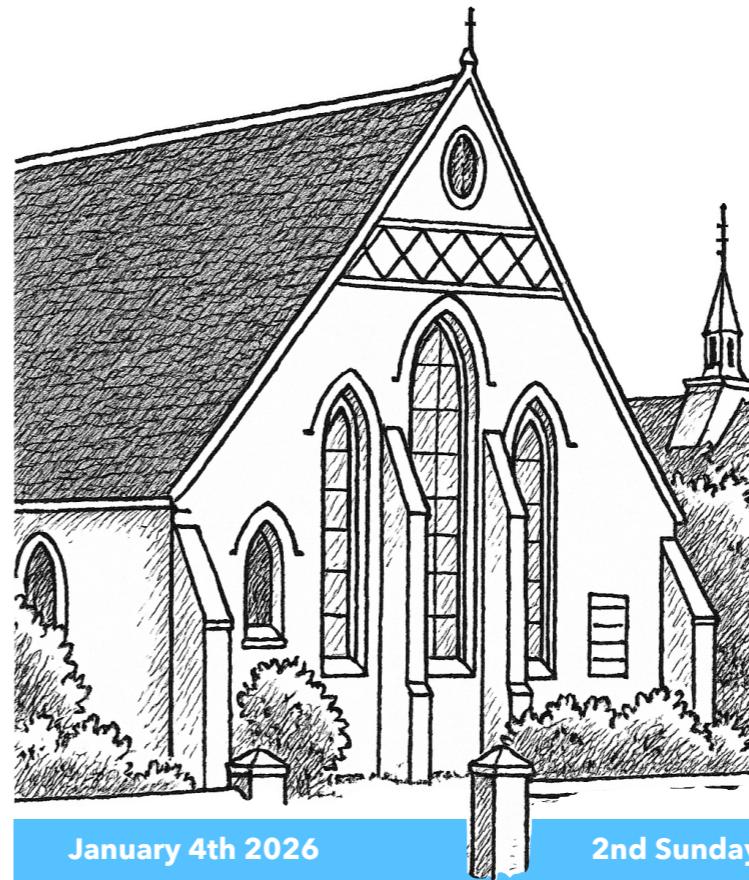
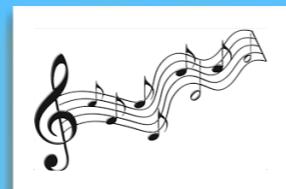
Friday, January 9th, 2026

- **First Reading:** John 5: 5-13
- **Gospel:** Luke 5: 12-16

Saturday, January 20th 2026

- **First Reading:** 1 John 14-21
- **Gospel:** John 3: 22-30

A Big thank you to our Newsletter sponsor this month
The De Vere Family



January 4th 2026

2nd Sunday after Christmas

Fr. Vijay's reflection

In these final days of Christmas, we hear again that *the Word became flesh and lived among us*. God chooses not distance but nearness – a presence woven into the ordinary rhythms of human life.

The Wisdom of God pitches her tent among the people, and the light of Christ shines where shadows once lay. This is the quiet promise of the season: God is not far off, but at home with us.

As we begin a new year, may we welcome this light into our homes, our work, and our hopes. Christ dwells with us still, offering grace upon grace.

Sacrament of Reconciliation & Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday 11.15am - 12.15pm

Contacts

St Mary's Primary School.

Head Teacher

J. McKinley

Tel: 01606 516171

Parish Safeguarding Rep:

Jo Hopton

Tel: 07786 755168

www.stmarysparishmiddlewich.org.uk

St Mary's
Roman Catholic Church
Middlewich.
&
St Margarets
Holmes Chapel

NEWSLETTER

Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Vijay Bhupathi

Tel: 07836 614 833,

2 New King Street, Middlewich

Rev. Deacon Tony Ford:

Tel: 07918 912 195

email: stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com

Community Focus

Parish Office Administrator Vacancy

Please contact Peter de Vere on 07831893781 if you would be interested in supporting the Parish Office on part time basis, or just would like more information.

Hours per week: 8

Rate: Living wage

Start date: From March 2026

Newsletter Update

Thank you to all those who have pledged to sponsor our newsletter. We have sponsorship From January to April, June & December.

If your family or business would be interested in sponsoring our newsletter for a month, please contact Peter in the Parish Office.

Sponsorship covers the cost of materials, which allows us to use Parish funds elsewhere for the good of our community. A typical months sponsorship is £60.

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).

Pray for the year ahead

We entrust our plans, dreams, and aspirations for the coming year into Your hands, O Lord. May everything we do be guided by Your will and directed towards Your glory. Help us to be a source of love, compassion, and encouragement to those around us.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



Holy Rosary

Holy Rosary takes place on the following days and times.

Monday on zoom at 10.30am

Wednesday 6.00pm before Holy Mass

Tuesday / Friday after 9.00am Holy Mass

If you would like to join the rosary group of St. Mary's Parish please put down your name, contact number and email address on the list at the back of Church. Thank you to Madelyn for leading the rosary group. Any parishioners wishing to have a special intention prayed for through the Rosary Group can request prayers through Fr Vijay or the Rosary Group by emailing the office or by sending a message to Madelyn or one of the Rosary members.

What's on in the Parish Centre this week

Day	Activity	Time
MONDAY	Toddlers group	9.30AM
WEDNESDAY	RCIA	7.30PM
FRIDAY		

Day	Times	Mass Intentions	Sunday Mass
Sat. 3/1	10.30am	Mary & John Comer (Wedding Anniversary)	• First Reading: Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7
Sat. 3/1	6.30pm	Priest intentions	• Responsorial Psalm: Ps 29
Sun 4/1	9.00am	Second Sunday after Christmas	• Second Reading: Acts 10: 34-38
	11.00am	Rosemary & Michael Tolkien (Wedding Anniversary)	• Gospel: Matthew 3: 13-17
Mon 5/1	6.30pm	Vigil for the Epiphany Eilen Jones	
Tues 6/1	9:00am	Epiphany of The Lord. Clarry France RIP	
Wed 7/1	6.30pm	Mike Hough RIP	
Thurs 8/1	9.am	Clarry France RIP	
Fri 9/1	9.00am	Michael Hannon Anniversary RIP	
Sat 10/1	10.30am	Priest intentions	
Sat 10/1	6:30pm	Mary Hannon RIP	
Sun 11/1	9:00am	Baptism of The Lord. Martin Fleming RIP	
Sun 11/1	11:00am		

Anniversaries	Anniversaries	Anniversaries
Rhonda Liddle	Jean Taylor	Rev Stephen McKenna Deacon
Joseph Taylor	Eileen Taylor	Provost Harry Stratton
George Brett	Thomas Morris	Rev Anthony Leonard Snr
William Shirley	Stephen Farmington	Cannon Maurice Stone
Graham Robert Yates	Stanley Smith	Rev John McDonald
Kathleen Gleave	Sydney Thomas Flaherty	Rev Raphael Velarde
Florence Bamford	Leonard Joseph Storrow	
Nancy Farmington	James Kelly	

Parish Office	<i>Please pray for all</i>	Who have died recently, especially: Clare Fogg, Mike Hough
Office Hours For remainder of January Friday 10-11.30am		Who are sick at home and in hospital, especially: Margaret Strong, Joan Lloyd, Deacon Terry Simms, Sue McNeil and David Stephens.z'