

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.

Parish Trip to India

Fr.Vijay will be with a group pf parishioners in India from the 12th to the 30th of January, during this period we will have visiting priests for each of the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses.

Saturday 17th. 6.30PM: Fr. Bernard Forshaw

Sunday18th. Fr. Bernard Forshaw - both Masses

Saturday 24th 6.30PM Fr. Peter Burke

Sunday 25th. Fr. Peter Burke - both Masses

We would like to thank both Fr. Bernard and Fr. Peter for their support

Mass Intentions

As Fr.Vijay is away, we have unfortunately had to transfer all weekday Mass intentions for the next two weeks. Fr Vijay will celebrate these Masses on his return.

If you are requesting a Mass intention, please include a contact number so that we can get in touch with you if necessary.

Christian Unity Week of Prayer

Churches Together in Cheshire - A Service to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at Chester Cathedral, CH1 2DY on Sunday 18 January at 5pm. The Guest Speaker will be Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London. This service brings together believers from many traditions to pray for peace, justice and deeper unity in our communities and our world. The service will also feature the Chester Taize Choir. Refreshments will be served after the service.

MASS READINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, January 12th, 2026

- **First Reading:** Hebrews 1: 1-6
- **Gospel:** Mark 1: 14-20

Tuesday, January 13th, 2026

- **First Reading:** 1 Samuel 1: 9-20
- **Gospel:** Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 14th, 2026

- **First Reading:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10
- **Gospel:** Mark 1:29-39

Thursday, January 15th. 2026

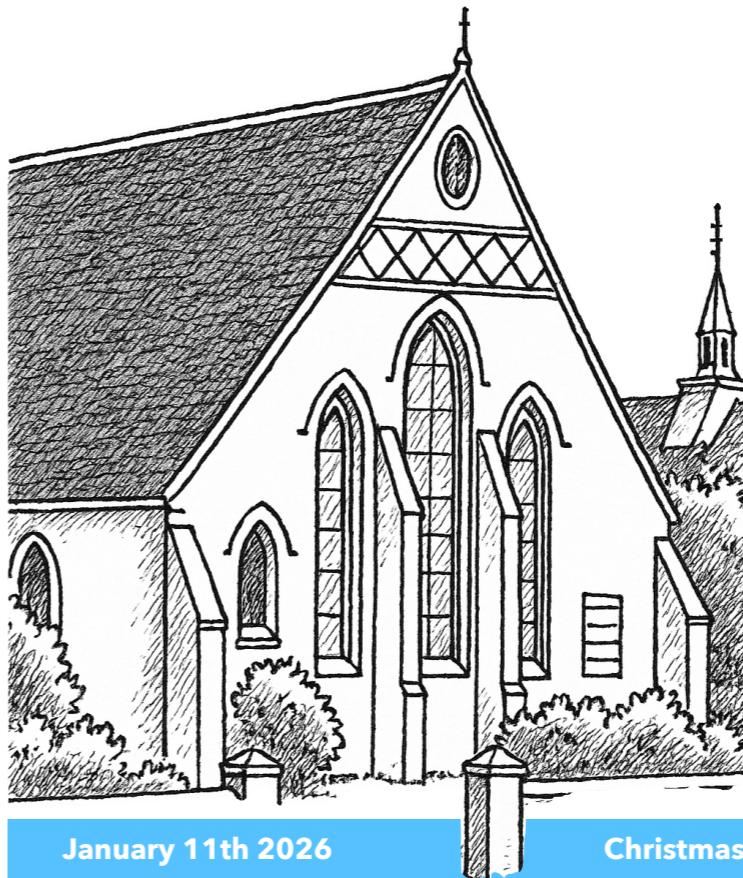
- **First Reading:** 1 Samuel 4:1-11
- **Gospel:** Mark 1: 40-45

Friday, January 16th, 2026

- **First Reading:** 1 Samuel 4: 1-11
- **Gospel:** Mark 2: 1-12

Saturday, January 17th 2026

- **First Reading:** 1 Samuel 9: 1-4, 17-19
- **Gospel:** Mark 2: 13-17



January 11th 2026

Christmastide / Ordinary Time Week 1

Fr. Vijay's reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus steps into the waters of the Jordan not because he needs cleansing, but because he chooses to stand with us. His baptism is an act of profound solidarity—God entering fully into the human story. In that moment, the heavens open, the Spirit descends, and the Father's voice proclaims: *"This is my Son, the Beloved."*

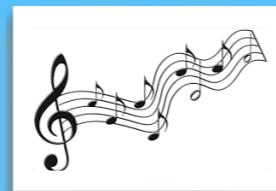
For us, this feast is more than a remembrance. It is a reminder of our own baptismal identity. Each of us has heard, in our own way, that same divine affirmation: we are God's beloved daughters and sons. Baptism is not simply a past event; it is a present calling. It invites us to live as people who carry the light of Christ into the ordinary rhythms of daily life.

The feast gently asks us to rediscover who we are and whose we are. The Spirit who rested upon Jesus rests upon us too - strengthening us for service, compassion, and witness. May we allow that Spirit to renew our hearts, deepen our unity, and guide our parish family in the mission entrusted to us.

Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday 11.00am - 12.00pm

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



Contacts

St Mary's Primary School.

Head Teacher

J. McKinley

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Parish Safeguarding Rep:

Jo Hopton

Tel: 07786 755168

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**St Mary's
Roman Catholic Church
Middlewich.
&
St Margaret's
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 June, November & 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).

The Baptism of The Lord

Heavenly Father, as we reflect on the baptism of Your Son, open our hearts to hear again Your voice calling us beloved. May Your Spirit renew in us the grace of our own baptism, that we may live as servants of Your mercy and witnesses of Your love.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

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

Saturday 10.00am before 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		9.30AM
WEDNESDAY	RCIA	7.30PM
FRIDAY	Mums and Tots group	9.30AM

Day	Times	Mass Intentions	Sunday Mass
Sat. 10/1	10.30am	Mary Hannon RIP	• First Reading: Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7
Sat. 10/1 (Vigil)	6.30pm	Baptism of the Lord	• Responsorial Psalm: Ps 29
Sun 11/1	9.00am	NO MASS THIS WEEK (Due to no Heating)	• Second Reading: Acts 10: 34-38
	11.00am	Baptism of the Lord Martin Fleming R.I.P. The Christmas season ends today.	• Gospel: Matthew 3: 13-17
Mon 12/1		NO MASS or SERVICE	
Tues 13/1	9:00am	Service of the Word & Communion	
Wed 14/1	6.30pm	Service of the Word & Communion	
Thurs 15/1	9.00am	Service of the Word & Communion (School)	
Fri 16/1	9:00am	Service of the Word & Communion	
Sat 17/1	10.30am	Service of the Word & Communion	
Sat 17/1 (Vigil)	6:30pm	St Anthony, Ab. Thelma Woolridge RIP	
Sun 18/1	9:00am	Special day of prayer for world peace	
Sun 18/1	11:00am	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Priest's Intentions	

Sacrament of Reconciliation not available this week

Anniversaries	Anniversaries	Anniversaries
Stanley Smith	Eileen Margaret Spenceley	Terence Mulhern
Sydney Thomas Flaherty	Paul Verechia	Thelma Woodridge
Leonard Joseph Storow	Jim Gannaghan	Don Loran
James Kelly	David Maher	Kathleen McNamara
John Killinger	Margaret Clarke	Eileen Cooper
Frank Worden	Amy Sandbach	Pat Kerr
Paul Verechia	Charles Craven	Rev David Morriss (Deacon)
Rev.Fr.Canon Byrne PP	Margaret Ruddy	Rev Thomas Fee

Parish Office	<i>Please pray for all</i>	Who have died recently, especially: Mike Hough, Robert Widgery, Margaret Strong
Office Hours Monday / Wednesday 9.30-12.30 Friday 12.30-4.30		Who are sick at home and in hospital, especially: Joan Lloyd, Deacon Terry Simms, Sue McNeil and David Stephens.