

Community Focus

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 after 9am Holy Mass

Saturday 10am before Holy Mass

Mothers Prayers

We have a group who meet every fortnight on a Friday morning in the Parish Centre 9.45 - 10.45 approx to pray specifically for our families.

All are welcome, Mothers and Grandmothers in particular.

For more information please contact: Anne Sturman or Carole Brown

Marian Shrine

Father Vijay and the Parish Pastoral Team are planning to build a Marian Shrine on the grass area at the side of the car park. This will be a place of prayer and worship for parishioners now and in generations to come. We ask that any parishioners or friends of the parish who have **building skills**, brickwork / stonework etc to help build a shrine could let us know please.

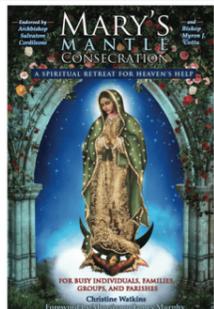
We will start fundraising for the project very soon, watch this space! If you feel you can help in planning, fundraising or building the shrine, please speak to Fr. Vijay or Dave Collins (07359296730). Thank you.

Praying through Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mary's Mantle Consecration is a self-guided retreat during lent that can help us to reflect on our relationship with Jesus, evaluate where we are in our lives and encourages an honest reflection of our hearts. During this season of lent it is an opportunity to listen to what the Lord has to tell us by offering a time for reflection every day.

The retreat involves joining a WhatsApp group through which you will receive a daily reflection to read and meditate on in your own time. You will also receive a link to a video once a week.

If you would like to take part in this Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe, please contact Gemma 07796 455509



MASS READINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, February 23rd 2026

- First Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 11-18
- Gospel: Matthew 6: 7-15

Tuesday, February 24th 2026

- First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11
- Gospel: Matthew 6 : 7-15

Wednesday, February 25th, 2026

- First Reading: Jonah 3: 1-10
- Gospel: Luke 11: 29-32

Thursday, February 26th, 2026

- First Reading: Esther 4: 17
- Gospel: Matthew 7: 7-12

Friday, February 27th 2026

- First Reading: Ezekiel 18: 21-28
- Gospel: Matthew 5: 20-26

Saturday, February 28th 2026

- First Reading: Deuteronomy 26;16-19
- Gospel: Matthew 5:43-48

Stations of the Cross

St Mary's

Each Friday after 9am Holy Mass

St Margaret's

Each Thursday at 2pm



22nd February 2026.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Fr. Vijay's reflection

As Lent begins, the Gospel takes us with Jesus into the wilderness. There He faces temptation, not as a sign of weakness, but as a moment of choosing trust in the Father. Each response He gives is rooted in God's Word, reminding us that strength comes from staying close to the truth.

Lent offers us our own "wilderness"—a space to slow down, pray, and rediscover what truly matters. Through small sacrifices, acts of kindness, and moments of quiet, we allow God to reshape our hearts.

Holy Hour & Confession
At St Margarets :
Saturday 28th 12-1pm

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

Administration

Mary Ford

01606 832359



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

NEWSLETTER

Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Vijay Bhupathi

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2 New King Street, Middlewich

Rev. Deacon Tony Ford:

Tel:07918 912 195

email: stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com

Newsletter Email: SMRCCNEWSLETTER@icloud.com

Community Focus

CAFOD Family Fast Day Collection

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions - such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call **0303 303 3030**. Text **CAFODLENT to 70085** to donate £10



The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham
Called to the Fullness of Life and Love

A new religious community dedicated to Our Lady of Walsingham offering talks, parish missions, retreat days, accompaniment and more, both in Norfolk and around the country. Retreats, both personal and guided are also available at their convent in Dereham, located thirty minutes from Walsingham and with good public transport links to Norwich.

Mary's House Appeal
 Help us to establish a place of prayer and service in Walsingham, our spiritual home.

Please support as we raise funds for the purchase of a mission house in Walsingham as our community continues to grow, visit the website to find out more. Any donation you can give is appreciated!

office@walsinghamcommunity.org | www.maryshouseappeal.org | 01362 692574 |



God of growth,
 in the beginning
 you planted a garden
 and walked with us,
 your beloved creation.
 Teach us to tread lightly
 as we care for all you made.
 God the Sower,
 you plant seeds of your Kingdom
 in the soil of our hearts.
 Water them with your Word
 and weed out fear and selfishness.
 Cultivate in us your compassion
 so we may truly love our neighbours.

God of Gethsemane,
 you chose the tree of suffering
 which would bring us new life.
 May its roots grow deep within us,
 inspiring us to seek justice
 so all people may flourish
 in the garden of your grace.

Amen.

Prayer: Caroline Stanton/CAFOD

What's on in the Parish Centre this week

Day	Activity	Time
MONDAY	Eucharistic Programme	6.00PM
TUESDAY		
WEDNESDAY	RCIA Programme	7.30PM
THURSDAY	Happy Little Signers Group	9.30AM
FRIDAY	Parents and Tots group	9.30AM
FRIDAY	Mothers Prayers	9.30AM

Day	Times	Mass Intentions
Sat. 21/2	10.30am	Mary Quirk RIP
Sat. 21/2	6.30pm	Holy Mass
Sun 22/2	9.00am	Noyce & Kenyon Family
Sun 22/2	11.00am	PEP Celebration Mass, Children liturgy.
Mon 23/2	9.00am	Service of the Word & Holy Communion
Tues 24/2	9.00am	Joanne Barthorpe RIP
Wed 25/2	11.00am	Angela Lawrence Funeral Service
Wed 25/2	6.30pm	Alec Smith RIP
Thurs 26/2	9.00am	Holy Mass in School
Fri 27/2	9:00am	Special day of prayer for the needy and the hungry of the world. Michael Hough RIP
Sat 28/2	10.30am	Miles Hoghton RIP
Sat 28/2	6:30pm	Holy Mass
Sun 1/3	9:00am	Holy Mass
Sun 2/3	11:00am	Alec Smith RIP

Anniversaries

- Eleanor Hind
- Katherine Lawrence
- Susan Penny
- Arthur Battersby
- Christopher Callaghan
- Rose Raftery
- Declan Lomas
- James Challinor
- Renee Lomas
- Declan McIlroy

Anniversaries

- Myles Costello
- John Buffini
- Norah Gilligan
- Seconda Washington
- William Edwards
- Trudie Duddy
- Winifred Reid
- Bernard McManus
- Thomas Stanley
- Catherine Higgins

Anniversaries

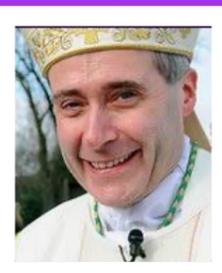
- Roger Cregg
- Tom Stoneley
- John Rush
- Agnes Lester
- Brenda Wakefield
- Ronald Francis McLoughlin
- Francis Costello
- Patrick O'Shea
- Rev. Stephen Dwyer
- Cannon Christopher Dwyer

Sunday Mass Readings

- First Reading:** Genesis 2; 7-9, 3: 1-7
- Responsorial Psalm:** Ps. 51(50) *Have Mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned*
- Second Reading:** Letter of St Paul to the Romans 5: 12-19
- Gospel:** Matthew 4: 1-11

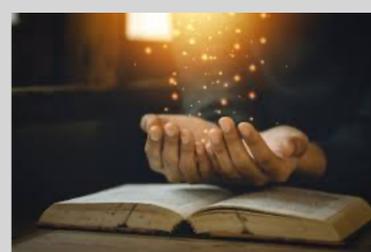
Sunday 22nd February

Please pray for Bishop Mark on the Anniversary of his ordination to the episcopate



A big thank you to our sponsors for making our newsletter possible for the month of February

The Devaney Family



Please pray for...

Who have died recently, specially:
 Michael Regan. Josie.

Who are sick at home and in hospital, especially:
 Joan Lloyd, Sue McNeil, David Stephens, Andrew Pavlovski (Young).