

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

Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Vijay Bhupathi

Tel: 07836 614 833,

2 New King Street, Middlewich

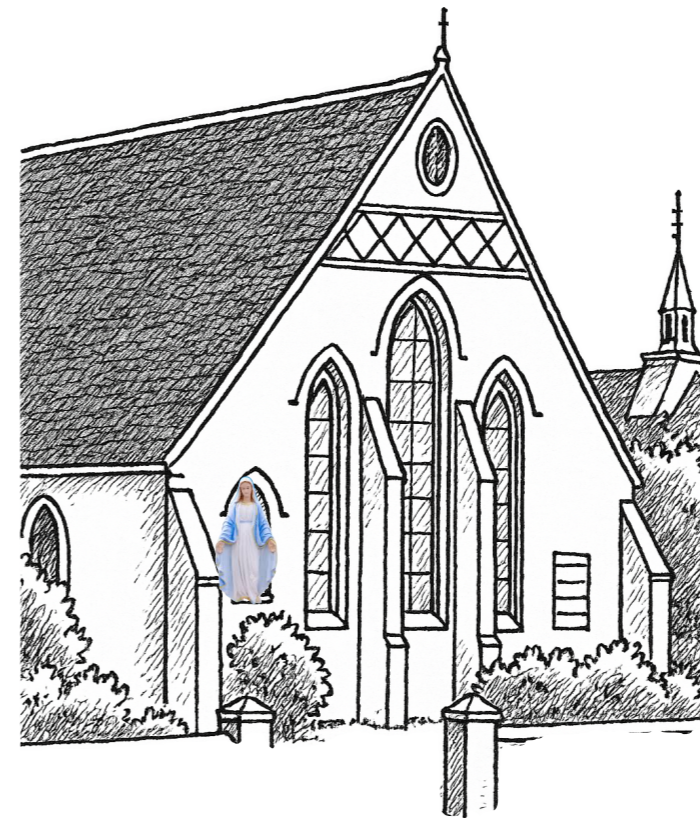
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Newsletter

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17th May 2026. SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*Fr. Vijay's Reflection for The Week Ahead*

In today's Gospel, we listen to Jesus' priestly prayer on the night before His Passion. Before He suffers, He lifts His eyes to the Father and prays not for Himself, but for His disciples. After the Ascension, the disciples return to the upper room and wait in patient hope. They are not idle. They gather with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and devote themselves to prayer. This is the posture of the Church between Ascension and Pentecost: trusting, watching, praying.

As we stand in this same inbetween space, we are invited to do the same. Jesus entrusts us to the Father, asking that we may be one, protected, and filled with His joy. Our task is to remain faithful, to stay close to one another, and to open our hearts to the coming of the Holy Spirit. May this week be a time of quiet expectation, confident that the Lord who prays for us will also complete the good work He has begun.

*Saturday Eucharistic Adoration 11.15 - 12.15pm*  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 11.15am - 12.15pm*

Key Contacts

St Mary's Primary School.	Parish Safeguarding Rep:	Administration.	Finance	PPT Chair-person
Head Teacher	Jo Hopton	Mary Ford	Gemma Jakubik.	Dave Collins
J. McKinley	Tel: 07786 755168	Office: 01606 832359		
Tel: 01606 516171	<a href="http://www.stmarysparishmiddlewich.org.uk">www.stmarysparishmiddlewich.org.uk</a>			
<b>Office Hours: Monday 9.30 - 11.30 Tuesday 9.30 - 11.30 Friday 9.30 - 12.00</b>				

Community Focus

Holy Rosary

Holy Rosary takes place on the following days and times.  
Monday on zoom at 10.30am  
Tuesday after 9.00am Holy Mass  
Wednesday 6.00pm before 6.30pm Holy Mass  
Friday after 9.00am Holy Mass  
Saturday 10am before 10.30 Holy Mass



Some of our children will be receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend. Please keep them and their families in your prayers during this special time and in the future.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

If we are to continue the Monthly Community Mass and Lunch then Urgent help is needed from SEPTEMBER. This is such a blessing for all our parish but especially for those who have difficulty finding opportunities to socialise during the week.

Sarah is happy to continue making the main course but we need someone to take over from Anne Sturman, who has served us very well for so long in organising this monthly event. Please contact the parish if you are able to help.

FOODBANK SHORTAGES

Coffee, Cordial, Tinned Potatoes, Rice Pudding, Tinned Corned Beef, Tinned Spaghetti. Thank you for your continued support.

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

If you are aware of anyone in the parish who is unable to come to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home or just a friendly visit, please contact a member of The SVP or telephone the Presbytery on 01606 832359

HOUSE BLESSINGS

If you would like Fr Vijay to come and Bless your home please email the Parish Office with your Name, address and telephone contact number.

[stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com)

Or Tel: 07836 614 833

01606 832359

Medjugore Pilgrimage

On Sunday 24th May a large number of parishioners will be beginning their pilgrimage to Medjugore. Please keep them in your prayers as they will be praying for the parish.

Popes prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus, you conquered death without weapons or violence:

you shattered its power with the strength of peace. Grant us your peace, as you did to the women filled with doubt on Easter morning, as you did to the disciples who were hiding in fear. Send forth your Spirit, the breath that gives life and reconciles, that turns adversaries and enemies into brothers and sisters.

Inspire in us to trust in Mary, your mother, who stood at the foot of your cross with a broken heart, firm in the faith that you would rise again. May the madness of war cease and the Earth be cared for and cultivated by those who still know how to bring forth, protect and love life. Hear us, Lord of Life!



Thank you to parishioners who have set up a monthly donation to CAFOD for Sudan in response to our recent appeal and to those who made a cash donation. We have just sent off a cheque for £173.46 for Sudan.

We welcome into our Parish Family Maddison Lillian Anne Hough who will be Baptised this Sunday Please keep the family in your prayers.

## Parish Finance Group

March Income: £8637.87  
March Outgoings £12219.14

### DIGITAL GIVING

you may notice our new digital system is in place at the back of St Marys Church. We are hoping this will bring much needed additional funds to the parish and be an simpler way for people to contribute

**The new system is OPTIONAL and is not a replacement for the current system of giving. All parishioners are welcome and able to continue to give through standing orders or envelope collections which are gratefully received.**

If you need any help using the system please speak to Gemma.

## OUR MISSION TOGETHER

We have remaining funds from the Diocesan Mission Together that took place a few years ago. We would like to use these funds towards the maintenance and upkeep of our Church buildings. Please let us know if you would prefer it to be used for any other purpose.

### CAFOD:

The Parish CAFOD Group is meeting in the Parish Centre at 7pm on Thursday May 21st. Our small group would welcome new members. We meet a few times a year to organise the Lent and Harvest Fast Day and emergency appeals, to raise awareness of the work of CAFOD (an International Development Charity) and to support CAFOD's work through prayer. At this meeting we will be focusing on the next stage of CAFODs call for action on debt. If you would like more information, please email [annesturman17@gmail.com](mailto:annesturman17@gmail.com).

## The Parish Garden Team

Thank you for the very generous gift of £100 from the ladies of the flower team towards the upkeep of the gardens at St Mary's Church.

The money has been well spent on bark mulch and some perennial plants. *The Garden Team*



*A 9 day Novena Prayer leading to Pentecost Sunday begins this Saturday  
Renew your wonders in this our day as by a new Pentecost.  
Father, pour out your Spirit upon your people and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us and your Kingdom come:  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



*Hail Mary, full of grace  
The Lord is with thee  
Blessed art thou amongst woman  
And blessed is fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus.  
Holy Mary mother of God,  
pray for us sinners now and at  
the hour of our death. Amen.*

### DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE 2026

Parishioners celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2026 are invited to attend the **Diocesan Mass for Marriage, which will be held at 12 noon on Saturday 13th June at Saint Columba's, Chester.** The Mass be followed by a buffet lunch for invited guests. To receive an invitation from the Bishop's Office, parishioners should contact their Parish Priest or Parish Secretary with the following information: names, address and which significant anniversary is being celebrated. Invitations will only be issued through parishes. **The closing date to receive an invitation is NEXT Friday 22nd May.**

## What's on in the Parish Centre this week

Day	Activity	Time
Thursday	Happy Little Signers	9.30am
Thursday	CAFOD	6.45pm
Friday	Mums & Tots	9.30am
Friday	Mothers Prayers	9.30am
Saturday	Baptism Preparation	10.00am

Sat 16/5	10.30am	Holy Mass Vilma Holbrook ( <i>Special Intention</i> )
Sat 16/5	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Marys Marian Procession</b>
Sat 16/5	6.30pm	Seventh Sunday of Easter Holy Mass
Sun 17/5	9.00am	<b>(St Margarets)</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter Holy Mass Shackleton ( <i>Family Int</i> ) <b>World Communications Day</b>
Sun 17/5	11:00am	Seventh Sunday of Easter Holy Mass Celebration <b>First Holy Communions</b>
Sun 17/5	<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Baptism Maddison Lillian Anne Hough</b>
Mon 18/5	<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>Community Mass &amp; Lunch. St John I Pp.</b> Mary Ruane RIP
Tues 19/5	9.00am	Holy Mass <b>St Milburga.</b> Jackie Wild
Wed 20/5	6.30pm	Holy Mass. <b>St Bernadine of Siena.</b> John McEnaney <i>2nd Anniv RIP</i>
Thurs 21/5	9.00am	School. <b>Dedication of The Cathedral.</b> Mary Hannon <i>RIP</i>
Fri 22/5	9.00am	Holy Mass. <b>St Rita of Cascia.</b> Stephanie Squires <i>RIP</i>
Sat 23/5	10.30am	Holy Mass Tony & Mary Ford <i>Diamond Wedding Anniv (21st)</i>
Sat 23/5	6:30pm	<b>PENTECOST</b> Holy Mass
Sun 24/5	9.00am	<b>PENTECOST St Margarets</b> Holy Mass
Sun 24/5	11:00am	<b>PENTECOST</b> Holy Mass. John Stoneley

### Anniversaries

Emilia Anna Killinger  
Ann Richards  
Philip Gregory  
James Moore  
George Edward Fisher  
Tom O'Connor  
Rose Campbell  
Patrick McCarthy  
Ivan Singleton  
Janet Bishop

### Anniversaries

Agnes Shackleton  
Thomas Thwaites  
Mary Williams  
Edward Horne (Jnr)  
Mary Cecilia Lea  
Cyril Cooper  
Eileen Costello  
Frank Clarke  
Eileen Costello  
Agnes Shackleton

### Anniversaries

John Reynolds  
Pearl MGrory  
Mgr Canon Christopher Lightbound  
Rev John Brady (Deacon)  
Rev Gerald T Courell  
Rev James Farrell  
Rev Francis Yates  
Rev Benedict Fenlon  
Rev Brian McCarthy (Deacon)  
Rev John Wright

'On Thursday 21st May please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting contact The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740, or via [www.goodcounselnetwork.com](http://www.goodcounselnetwork.com).

"And the people of Ninevah believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least...God saw their efforts to renounce their evil ways. And God relented about the disaster which He had threatened to bring on them, and He did not bring it." (Jonah 3:5,10). God bless. Stuart McCullough

**To donate to support the Mothers that we help, you can make a bank transfer to, Name: The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel Sort Code: 40-06-30 Account Number: 13994678**

By Credit Card over the phone: Call 0207-723-1740 Monday to Friday, 10.30-6pm



*Please pray for those who have died recently: Especially John Wells, Barry Eddleston & Thomas Widd*

*Also those who are sick at home and in hospital especially: Joan Lloyd, Sue McNeil, David Stephens, Catherine McIntosh, Margaret Scarlett, Molly Hamblett, John Brazier & Deacon Peter Mascarenhas*

**A big thank you to The O'Keefe Family for sponsoring our Newsletter during May.**