

**GREAT NEWS FROM
The Parish Finance Group
DONA MACHINE**

The new Dona machine is now up and running 🙌😊 which allows donations to be made by card or smart phones. We are hoping that this will allow people to donate more easily. Donations can also be made by scanning the QR code on your smartphone at any time. It is also possible to gift aid, so if you are a UK taxpayer and eligible, please follow the on screen instructions. If you need any help in using the tablet/QR code, please see Gemma or contact the parish office. Thank you for your patience during this time.

**Parish Bank Account: St Mary's
Middlewich.
Sort Code 30-15-52 Acc No 54643068**



June income £7092.67
June Expenditure £6799.22

Thank you to all who have responded to our request to help the Parish Finances, especially those who have increased their regular giving or made one-off donations. If you haven't yet set up a standing order, there is still time to do so using the bank details below. There are also gift aid forms for anyone who is a UK Tax payer and eligible for the scheme. (Please see Ken Worthington if you are unsure). If you would like to know more or to receive a copy of last years figures, please email the parish office. Thank you again for your kind generosity.

FOODBANK SHORTAGES

Tinned custard, Noodles, Tinned tomatoes & Cream crackers
Please keep the Foodbank in your prayers at this time.

The SVP Are offering a befriending service to people of all faiths and none, either by a visit or a phone call, do you know someone who would welcome a visit from us, totally relaxed, a brew and chat. Please let us know.

SVP contact details on the parish website

SVP CONTACT INFO: Mobile 0747 495 8103 Email: SS_MandMW_SVP@icloud.com
Or
www.stmarysparishmiddlewich.org.uk

**Thank you to the parishioner who is
sponsoring our Newsletter during the month of
August.**

**ST MARY'S 100 CLUB!
July 2026 Winners:**

Stella Freer 1st prize £200
Margaret Scarlett £100
Peter O'Keefe £ 50
Kathleen McNulty £ 50

Congratulations to all 🙌

If you would still like to join for the August draw there are **4** places left, please email stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com and I will contact you with details of how to sign up.

On behalf of Fr Vijay, the Parish Pastoral Team and the Finance Team, I would like to offer our sincere thanks to everyone taking part in this project to help our parish finance.

Best regards
Dave Collins, PPT Chair

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM (PPT) Update

Our Mission: "To be renewed in the spirit of your minds." (Ephesians 4:23)

Our Vision: By 2028, our parish will be a Spirit filled community of disciples, continually renewed in mind and heart, living with the wisdom of Christ, growing together in faith, and witnessing to the Gospel through prayer, fellowship, and service.

The Parish Pastoral Team has now been in place for a year. Here's an overview of what's been done.

Recent PPT initiatives:

- Setting up a team to work on a Marian shrine for the parish grounds, in conjunction with the gardening team and the Rosary group
- Christmas Carol concerts for the school and for parishioners/neighbours
- St Stephen's Day celebration for our Altar Servers
- Easter Vigil refreshments to welcome the newest members of our Catholic faith
- First Marian procession in over 25 years
- Reintroduction of the offertory procession at St Margaret's
- Parish summer BBQ
- Launch of the new parish Facebook page
- The 100 Club set up and launch

Coming soon:

- A bereavement support group where those who have been bereaved can share experience and support one another
- Altar Servers outing
- Parish social evening – more information soon
- Christmas Fayre

If you have suggestions to enrich parish life, please email the parish office and they will pass them on to the PPT.



NEWSLETTER
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

CW10 9EB

Rev. Deacon Tony Ford:

Tel: 07918 912 195

email: stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com

Newsletter

Email: SMRCCNEWSLETTER@icloud.com

9th August 2026. NINETEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARYTIME

Fr. Vijay's Reflection for The Week Ahead

Today's readings highlight a striking contrast: Elijah encounters God not in dramatic signs but in a tiny whisper, while the disciples face a violent storm at sea. Both moments reveal the same truth—God is closest when we feel most overwhelmed.

In the Gospel, Jesus walks toward the disciples across the waves. Fear makes them mistake Him for a ghost, yet His first words calm the chaos: "Courage! It is I." Peter's bold step onto the water shows faith in action, but sinking shows how easily fear distracts us. Still, Jesus lifts him up without hesitation. This week, when pressures rise or situations feel uncertain, remember: God often speaks quietly, and He always reaches out quickly. Our part is simply to listen for His whisper and trust His saving hand.

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

Key Contacts & Information

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	www.stmarysparishmiddlewich.org.uk		Parish Mobile 07836 614 833	

Normal Office Hours: Monday 9.30 - 11.30. Tuesday 9.30 - 11.30. Friday 9.30 - 12.00

Parish Bank Account: St Mary's Middlewich.

SortCode-15-52 Acc No 54643068

SVP CONTACT INFO: Mobile 0747 495 8103 Email: SS_MandMW_SVP@icloud.com

Donate here ➡



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

St Clare

Tuesday 11th August

She was born at Assisi and came under the influence of Saint Francis. She left home at the age of 18 and, under Francis’s guidance, began a community that grew to become the order of the Poor Clares (she was later joined both by her sister and by her widowed mother). In its radical attachment to poverty the Rule of the order was much more severe than that of any other order of nuns. In 1215 Clare obtained from the Pope the privilege of owning nothing, so that the nuns of the order were to be sustained by alms and nothing else. Such a rule was (like the Franciscan rule) both a challenge to established structures and a risk to those who followed it, and successive Popes tried to modify it. In 1247 Pope Innocent IV promulgated a new Rule that allowed the ownership of communal property: Clare rewrote it. A later attempt at mitigation in 1263 partly succeeded (perhaps because Clare was dead by then): some communities followed the old, strict rule and some followed the new. Clare was a noted contemplative and a caring mother to her nuns. She died at Assisi in 1253.

St Maximilian Mary Kolbe

Friday 9th August

He was born on 8 January 1894 in occupied Poland: he joined the Franciscans in Lwów in 1910, and was ordained eight years later, as his country became free and independent for the first time in over 120 years. He believed that the world was passing through a time of intense spiritual crisis, and that Christians must fight for the world’s salvation with all the means of modern communication. He founded a newspaper, and a sodality called the Knights of Mary Immaculate, which spread widely both in Poland and abroad. In 1927 he founded a community, a “city of Mary,” at Teresin: centred round the Franciscan friary, it attracted many lay people, and became self-supporting, publishing many periodicals and running its own radio station. In 1930 he went to Japan, studied Buddhism and Shintoism, and through the Japanese edition of his newspaper spread the Christian message in a way that was in harmony with Japanese culture. In Nagasaki, he set up a “Garden of the Immaculate,” which survived the atomic bomb. He also travelled to Malabar and to Moscow, but was recalled to Poland in 1936 for reasons of health. When the Germans invaded in 1939, the community at Teresin sheltered thousands of refugees, most of them Jews. In 1941 he was arrested and sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz, where he helped and succoured the inmates. In August of that year a prisoner escaped, and in reprisal the authorities were choosing ten people to die by starvation. One of the men had a family, and Maximilian Kolbe offered to take his place. The offer was accepted, and he spent his last days comforting his fellow prisoners. The man he saved was present at his canonisation.

The Pope’s prayer Intention for August

For Evangelisation in the City

Let us pray that large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community

Stop assisted suicide being legalised

Assisted suicide campaigners have sadly brought back the Leadbeater Bill. This can be stopped if MPs vote down the Bill on 11 September.

Right To Life UK has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you email your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on 11th September. Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide: <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>

Unpack the Christian faith together.

Meet new people and explore the Christian faith together. Alpha is for anyone who’s curious. No judgement, no pressure. Each session unpacks a big question of life, faith, and purpose, and is designed to spark conversation. Come along, see what you think.

Explore life, faith & meaning

ALPHA

A new ALPHA will be running from September 2026. Open to anyone (of faith or none) interested in discussing life, faith and meaning. Please sign the list at the back of Church or email the Parish Office if you are interested or would like more information.

QUIET RETREATS FOR ADULTS THIS OCTOBER

During October half term, Castlerigg Manor is running a quiet retreat for individual adults who want to spend a few days of peace, relaxation and prayer in the Lake District. Each day there will be a talk, Mass, and evening prayer, and then a lot of time to explore the area, pray, or just simply relax. Book at castleriggmanor.com/events or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

No activities in the Parish Centre this week

Day	Activity	Time
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Sat 8/8	10.30am	Holy Mass. St Dominic	Sarah Sample RIP
Sat 8/8	6.30pm	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sun 9/8	9.00am	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time St Margarets	Bren & Pete Shackleton (55th Wedding Anniv)
Sun 9/8	11:00am	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Mon 10/8	9.00am	Service of The Word & Holy Communion. St Lawrence (Deacon)	
Tues 11/8	9.00am	Holy Mass. St Clare	Frank Holbrook (1st Anniv) & Melecio Cagampang (RIP)
Wed 12/8	6.30pm	Holy Mass.	Paul & Barbara Docherty & Family (Bereavement)
Thurs 13/8	9.00am	Holy Mass (Church).	Souls who have no one to pray for them
Fri 14/8	9:00am	Holy Mass St Maximilian Mary Kolbe	Janet Daly 50th Wedding Anniversary remembrance Also of Janet becoming a Catholic
Sat 15/8	10.30am	0	
Sat 15/8	6:30pm	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Thelma Woolridge (Birthday Anniv)
Sun 16/8	9.00am	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	St Margarets.
Sun 16/8	11:00am	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	

Almighty God, We thank you for your gift of peace. Your peace is ‘unarmed and disarming’ not victory or defeat, but fraternity and dialogue, the fruit of justice and forgiveness. Open our eyes to see the world - not from the viewpoint of the mighty but from that of the widow, the orphan, the stranger, the wounded child, the exile and the fugitive. We pray for change to come - a new era, the dawn of your kingdom of justice and peace. Disarm our hearts, Lord, that we may have peace in ourselves and bring that gift to others. Amen

Pax Christi

Prayer for Peace - The Chaplet of St Michael The Archangel

Every Thursday Evening - 6.00pm on Zoom. Please join us to pray for peace. <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/9458449456?pwd=Ym15NEI2UXNrelhncFpGc3JFNTlwdz09>

Meeting ID 9458449456 Passcode: MICHAEL

Holy Michael the Archangel defend us in the day of battle, be our safeguard against the wickedness & snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do thou O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast down to hell satan and all wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.



Anniversaries	Anniversaries	Anniversaries	Anniversaries
Paul Rees	Edward McGarvey (snr)	Alfred Clarke	Lucy Burns
George Butler	Philip Darlington	John McNeela	Peter Farrington
Stacey Wright	Bert Fewtrell	John Sweeney	Madeline Widgery
Lou Costello	Frank Holbrook	Harold Bagnall	Rev Peter Robertson
Mary Robinson	Helen Elvins	Evelyn Davies	Rev Gregory Downing
Naomi Jane Hough	Julia Popple	Lucy Burns	Rev Denis Marmion
Margaret Hall	Margaret Gray	James Bannaghan	Rev John M Lyons
John Patterson	Mary Anne O’Hare	George Martin	Rev Michael Raiswell



Please pray for those who have died recently.

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