



Parish of St. Mary, Middlewich
serving St. Margaret Ward, Holmes Chapel

Parish priest: Fr. Vijay Bhupathi **07836 614 833**, 2 New King Street, Middlewich
Rev. Deacon Tony Ford: 07918 912 195; Rev. Deacon Chris Wells 07751 136 957;
www.stmarysparishmiddlewich.org.uk; email: stmarysrcmiddlewich@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

Someone asked a certain priest if Jesus Christ was his personal Saviour, he replied, "Well, in fact I like to share him!" Salvation in Jesus Christ is a gift of our God to the entire human race and has to do with everyone, as the Gospel so well illustrates today. As Jesus went about from place to place, town to town, he likewise sent his disciples to announce that the kingdom of God is at hand. The Lord continues to call us in our respective vocations to do likewise. The Lord sends his disciples out two by two, rather than all alone because with two or more bearing witness, there is always a better possibility of giving testimony to the meaning of love and unity among the disciples.

Our Church is a community of believers. It is composed of individuals, yes, but most importantly, they form an "ecclesia," a church or community, constantly called to move forward together under the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. As the poet John Donne expressed it, "No man is an island," and that is just as true today as in ages past. The message of the kingdom of God is at once simple and at the same time very demanding. All of the preaching of Jesus was and is centred on the theme of the Kingdom of God, which includes that essential message of redemption in Jesus Christ through the shedding of his blood. Jesus' mission did not end with an announcement only, but with the actual establishment of God's kingdom in the risen Christ, extending to all times, places and peoples. We best proclaim the Gospel by our lives, with simple and few words perhaps, but with an efficacy that flows from a direct, sincere, concise and humble response to Jesus' message here and now.

Appeal for my native village

I am from a village called Nachugunta, a remote Dalit area situated in Arthamuru (post), Bantumilli (Mandal), Krishna (District), Andhra Pradesh (State), South India. Dalits are the people who are considered the outcaste by the upper caste people in India. They are not in the mainstream of even the living areas; they are away from the village of other castes. There are around 120 families in my village (Naachugunta Maalapalli). The main occupation of my villagers is cooly i.e. the daily wage work in the farms of the agricultural landlords, who are but upper caste people. Dalits own no land of their own. They need work every day to earn their daily bread. But they do not have the work once the plantation is done in rainy season. So they go away to other states like Tamil Nadu (Chennai which is Madras), and Telangana (Hyderabad) in search of the work for their livelihood until it is time for harvesting. Some go away far from our village to find the work as servants who can be watchmen/women to look after the fish ponds of the landlords.

This struggle of the poor people traveling seasonally time and again for their daily bread doesn't leave any chance for their children to have proper schooling. Most of my village children still struggle to complete the high school education, if saying - even primary school - wouldn't surprise you. They take money on loan for interest, when they face unexpected ill health. These amounts on interest from the landlords turn out eventually to be amounts to be paid back on compound interest over the years. This, sadly sometimes leaves the children of theirs as paleru (a bonded labourer) for unlimited number of years in the house of the landlord.

So, this is an endeavour to support these parents of my village of Nachugunta to send their children to school as we encourage and help the children to go to school and not to drop-out. This will allow one of the parents/guardians to stay back home. We believe only the good education can change the fate of my people from this social stigma of being untouchables in our country and from the cycle of debts and bondage. Thank you all very much for reading the story of my village.

Fr. Vijay

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 6th July 2025

Sat	5 th July	8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Tom O'Hare RIP The Parishioners
Sun	6 th July	9.00am 11.00am	(Holmes Chapel) Priest's intentions Mary Walker & Nancy Croucher birthday anniversary Please join us in the Parish Centre after Mass
Mon	7 th July	9.00am 6.30pm	Rosa Edisbury RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tues	8 th July	9.00am	Priest's intentions
Wed	9 th July	6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Derek Whittaker RIP
Thurs	10 th July	9.00am	(School) Maggie Hannon birthday
Fri	11 th July	9.00am	Chawner Family intentions, <i>St Benedict</i>
Sat	12 th July	8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm	Holy Rosary The Parishioners Priests intentions
Sun	13 th July	9.00am 11.00am	(Holmes Chapel) Thomas Clavin RIP The Parishioners

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11.30am to 12.15pm

Sacrament of Baptism: By arrangement

Please Pray for All

Who are sick at home and in hospital: especially Mike Hough, Canon Phil Moor, Catherine McIntosh, Margaret Strong, Frank Holbrook, Sue Reddan.

Who have died recently: especially Dennis Hambley.

Whose anniversaries occur at this time: Roger Hazel, Fr. Matthew O'Shea, Margaret McNeela, Leonard Glynn, James Griffiths, Nora Mitchell, Bridget Clewes, Thomas Loughlin, Gustav Emil Nehrich, Thomas Cannon, Maud Griffiths, Veronica Ward, William Maddock, Constance Mary Cornwell, Lisa Maria Barraclough, George Bratt, Mary McDermott, Eric Brewer, Fred Bagshaw, Nora Anne Tully, Ron Yearsley, Roy Hewitt, Canon Maurice Abbott, Rev Anthony Cogliolo, Canon Robert Fallon, Rev James Gaskell.

Please Note the new number for Father Viay/Parish 07836 614 833

Reconciliation and Eucharistic programme Sept 2025 – May 2026

We would like to invite children in year 2 and above who would like to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation (*Forgiveness*) and Eucharist (*First Holy Communion*) to join the parish preparation programme. Enrolment will take place on **Sundays 13th and 20th July** after the 11am Mass. There will also be an opportunity to meet some of the catechists on **Saturday 12th July** at 10am in the Parish Centre who will be able to give you more information about the Programme. If you would like more information please contact: Teresa Wells (07596 408581) or Clare Bloor (07901 816157).

Cancel debt, choose hope

A big thank you to the 110 people who signed our petition on the debt crisis. We have now sent the petitions to CAFOD. They will be used at various key political moments points during 2025 such as the COP30 climate conference in Brazil in November. The petition forms part of a global effort on the debt crisis in the Jubilee Year.

Baptism this Sunday by Father Vijay at 12.30pm

We welcome in to our Parish Family Miss Fiorella Rapacchetta.

Summer Barbecue Next Sunday 13th July in aid of Father Vijay's village

Please come and support Father Vijay's native village of **Nachugunta**. Food and soft drinks will be provided and you can bring your own drinks (including alcoholic drinks) and snacks. Please sign the sheet at the back of church and advise on your preferred barbecue food and any special requirements such as Vegetarian/Vegan, Gluten free etc.

This Week in the Parish

Friday	Parents and Tots	10.00am	Room 2,3
Saturday	First "Come and See"	10.00am	Parish Centre