



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

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Dear Friends,

This Sunday's Gospel passage is a collection of the Lord's sayings on prayer. Jesus gives the teaching in the context of his own prayer. We are told, "One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he had finished, one of his disciples asked him, "Lord, teach us to pray." In the language of Jesus, Aramaic, the address of the prayer would have been, "Abba," which can also be translated as "dear Father" or "my father." Yes, included too is the more colloquial, "Daddy," which always strikes me as a little too informal when addressing God. Nonetheless Jesus praying to God as Abba expressed the deepest reality of the relationship of Jesus the Son to God the Father, Creator of all.

In teaching his disciples to pray using the name Abba, Jesus united his disciples to himself. How? In Christ we are God's sons and daughters, as Saint Paul says, "For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God" (Galatians 3:26). As a result we can address God as Abba, Our Father. In the early Church only fully initiated believers were allowed to say "Our Father," as an indication of adherence and allegiance to Christ and the Church. Jesus then goes on in the Gospel this Sunday to give a little parable about confidence in prayer, almost as a finale or encouragement to pray without fear. Jesus implies that God on no occasion will fail to respond to our prayer. The unlimited love and concern of God who is "Abba" should be a great consolation to our souls, each and every day. We should daily and even more often in the course of the day, live up the prayer the Lord has given us, the Our Father.

Fr. Vijay

### More Volunteers needed hospitality, cleaning and garden teams

The hospitality team prepare refreshments after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday in the Parish Centre. Cleaning can be done at a time which suits and takes about an hour and a half. Cleaning duties are on a rota and are approximately once every six weeks. More helpers would encourage our loyal team! Information from Debbie Stevens text 07928520537 for (hospitality/cleaning) or send a message to the Parish email or mobile

### Invitation from Father Vijay and Peter De Vere to an Indian Meal

Father Vijay and Peter De Vere would like to invite you to a special authentic Indian Meal this **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 7PM in the Parish Centre**. Join us for an Indian evening of delicious cuisine! We will provide light refreshments but feel free to bring your own alcoholic drinks. Please sign up early as numbers will be limited. **All donations will support my local village children at Nachugunta.**


 **Parish Teens & Younger Members – Indian Meal & Social Evening** 🕉️

 **Friday, 1st August at** 🕒 **7:00 PM**

 **Parish Lawn Area (Parish Centre if weather requires)**

We're inviting all parish teens and younger members to a special evening **just for you!** Fr Vijay will be preparing a delicious Indian meal 🍛, with a **separate menu** tailored to younger tastes, while adults enjoy their own menu nearby.

This relaxed evening is a great chance to **share your thoughts** 💬 on what you'd like from the parish and explore ways to get involved – whether through **ministries** 🙏, **music** 🎵, **events** 📅, or something totally new ✨.

 We'll have a **mic set up** – so if you can **tell a joke** 🗣️, **sing** 🎤, **dance** 💃🕺, or **entertain in any way**, the floor's yours!

 **If you play an instrument, bring it along!**

We'll end the evening with a fun **jam session** – all levels welcome!

**We hope you can join us!** 😊 **The Music Ministry and Fr. Vijay**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 27th July 2025**

Sat	26 <sup>th</sup> July	8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm	<i>Ss Joachim &amp; Ann, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Holy Rosary The Parishioners Priest's intentions
Sun	27 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00am 11.00am	(Holmes Chapel) The Parishioners Gavin McAleer birthday anniversary <b>Please join us in the Parish Centre after Mass</b>
Mon	28 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00am 6.30pm	Priest's intentions Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tues	29 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00am	Priest's intentions, <i>Ss Mary, Martha and Lazarus</i>
Wed	30 <sup>th</sup> July	6.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Dennis Hambley RIP
Thurs	31 <sup>st</sup> July	9.00am	Priest's intentions, <i>St Ignatius of Loyola</i>
Fri	1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	9.00am	Priest's intentions, <i>St Alphonsus Mary Liguori</i>
Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	8.30am 9.00am 6.30pm	Holy Rosary Don Peppino (Fr. Giuseppe Peppino) for his health John Creamer RIP
Sun	3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	9.00am 11.00am	(Holmes Chapel) Ford Family intentions 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, Catherine McIntosh, Margaret Strong, Frank Holbrook, Sue Reddan.

**Who have died recently:** especially

**Whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Jean Tunney, David Clarke, Mick Woodward, Dorothy Worthington, James Mc Gorty, John Jordon, Leila Quinn, Joseph Harrup, Edward McSpadden, Annie Gilligan, John Oldfield, Christopher Wood, Dora Greenwood, Dorothy Richardson, Barbara Parkin, Dorothy Keen, Mary McCooey, Winifred Carter, Rev Gerard Corcoran, Rev Tom Coyle, Rev Richard Dunphy.

**Food Bank Shortages**

Cream crackers,  
Tinned pulses,  
Tinned potatoes,  
Toilet roll.

**Shrewsbury Cathedral Jubilee Pilgrimage 2025**

**Parish Jubilee Trip to Shrewsbury Cathedral 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025**

Depart St Mary's Middlewich 9am  
return to Middlewich hopefully by 6pm

Please sign up, indicating payment method, your meal preference, all meals served with Filter coffee or tea.

There is the option after lunch to go into Shrewsbury town  
Please sign the form at the back of church.

**Churches Together. Holmes Chapel**

Churches Together Committee was started by Bren & Pete Shackleton 50 years ago and they have both been active & leading members of the committee in all that time. Many thanks to you both for your dedication and loyal service!

The committee have representatives from the three churches in Holmes Chapel, St.Luke's Church of England, The Methodist Church and St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church. We meet just twice per annum to discuss & plan items such as Walk of Witness on Good Friday, the Christmas Market Stall, the Christmas crib & the Christmas card publicising Christmas services in each Church. Bren & Pete have now decided to retire and we would welcome anyone interested in joining the committee to help in any way that they feel able.

.Once again, a heartfelt thanks to Bren & Pete & wish them well in their "retirement".