



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

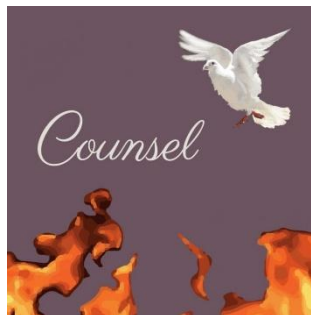
<http://www.st-marys-marplebridge.stockport.sch.uk/>

St Mary's Parish: <http://stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk/>

Holy Spirit Parish: <https://www.holyspiritmarple.com/>

Bulletin Number 8: Friday 7 November 2025

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



This week our theme has been Counsel, one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The SANCTA Squad led a beautiful Celebration of the Word reflecting on how we can listen to God's guidance and make wise choices that bring peace and goodness into our lives. This week, our mission is to listen to the Holy Spirit and use the gift of Counsel to make one wise and loving choice each day. Maybe it's choosing to include someone who's left out. Maybe it's choosing to speak kindly when you feel angry. Maybe it's standing up for someone who is being treated unfairly. When we make good choices, we're saying yes to God's invitation, and helping others find their place at His table too. It was a thoughtful and prayerful celebration that encouraged us all to trust in God's wisdom and guidance.

WEDNESDAY WORD The latest version of the Wednesday Word can be accessed [here](#). Please enjoy spending some time sharing the Word with your children.

OPEN EVENTS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS/CARERS

Following our successful open morning this week **we will now hold an open afternoon from 1:30pm – 3:00pm on Wednesday 12 November 2025** for prospective parents/carers who are considering sending their children to St Mary's in September 2026. If you are in this position, or know of families who are, please spread the word. At both events prospective parents/carers will have the opportunity to visit our wonderful school, meet some of our amazing children and staff, stay and play and see St Mary's in action.



ST MARY'S PARISH MARPLE BRIDGE AND NEW MILLS CHRISTMAS FAIR



The parish of St Mary's, Marple Bridge, and The Annunciation, New Mills warmly invites all our families to the 2025 Parish Christmas Fair! The fair will take place **tomorrow, Saturday 8 November, from 10:00am until 1:00pm at the parish hall in New Mills** (St. Mary's Road, New Mills, High Peak, Derbyshire, SK22 3BW). This year, there is a special focus on children's stalls, including pocket money stalls, a lucky dip, a children's raffle, as well as our St Mary's school stall. Both St Mary's, Marple Bridge, and New Mills pupils will have the opportunity to join in singing

some festive carols, making it a wonderful celebration for all our children. Families can also enjoy the usual tombola, raffle, cakes and refreshments, with the kitchen open throughout. It promises to be a fun, festive morning for everyone, so please do come along and join in the parish celebrations!

ONE STOCKPORT FAMILY HUBS SURVEY

Stockport Council and partners are keen to find out what all families in Stockport know about Family Hubs and their services. We encourage all families, regardless of any interaction with Family Hubs, to complete the short online survey by 17th November to be entered into a free draw to win a £30 Love to Shop voucher! The survey [can be found here](#) or by scanning the QR code to the right.



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NOTTINGHAM

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St Ralph
Sherwin
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

CLASS CHARITIES FOR 2025–2026



Each class at St Mary's has now chosen their class charity for the school year ahead. As part of this important process, pupils researched a range of local, national and global charities, learning about the causes they support and the difference they make. They then pitched, debated and voted on the charity they felt most inspired to support. This democratic approach not only linked beautifully to our SANCTA values of support, challenge and aspire but also reflected the principles

of Catholic Social Teaching, particularly *the dignity of the human person* and *the call to community and participation*. It also echoed our British values of democracy and mutual respect. Over the coming months, each class will lead fundraising and awareness projects in support of their chosen charity, living out faith in action and using their voices and talents for the common good. This year's charities are: **Nursery – Children in Need, Reception – MacMillan, Y1 – WWF, Y2 - Wood Street Mission, Y3 – RNLI, Y4 - Cancer Research, Y5 – Wigan and Leigh Hospice, Y6 – RSPCA.**

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025

Next week, we will mark Anti-Bullying Week at St Mary's with the national theme 'Power for Good'. Throughout the week, classes will take part in discussions, activities and reflections that highlight how each of us has the power to make a positive difference through kindness, respect and inclusion. Together, we will celebrate the courage it takes to speak up for what is right and stand alongside others. Our shared aim is to ensure that every member of our school community feels valued, respected and safe. More information regarding this year's theme is [available here](#). To begin Anti-Bullying Week, **we will celebrate Odd Socks Day on Monday 10 November**. This fun and simple activity is a reminder that we are all unique and that our differences should be celebrated. Children (and staff!) are invited to come to school wearing their brightest, most colourful odd socks to show that it's ok to stand out and be yourself.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



We are delighted to announce that the **Scholastic Book Fair** will be returning to St Mary's from **Thursday 13 November to Tuesday 18 November**. The fair will be open **before and after school in the school hall**, from 8:15am – 8:40am and 3:20pm – 3:45pm offering a wonderful opportunity to explore a wide range of books for all ages. Every purchase helps to earn free books for our school library, so your support makes a real difference in helping us foster a lifelong love of reading among our pupils.

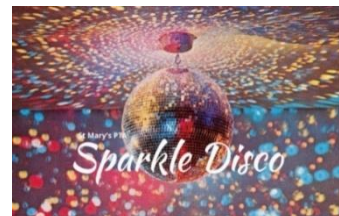
2025 POPPY APPEAL

This year, we are once again supporting the Royal British Legion's *Poppy Appeal*, which raises funds to support veterans and their families. Poppies and a selection of child-friendly remembrance items are available from the school office, with a suggested donation of £1 per item. Next **Tuesday, 11th November**, we will gather together on the playground at **10:50am for our school's Act of Remembrance**. Families are warmly invited to join us for this moment of reflection and prayer. We are grateful to Mrs Groarke-Booth, who will play *The Last Post* during the short service. Children who are members of uniformed groups such as the Brownies, Cubs, or Cadets are welcome to wear their uniforms, and any parents or carers serving in the Armed Forces or Emergency Services are invited to do the same as we come together to honour those who have served and continue to serve our country.



PTA NEWS

Tickets for our fabulous [Sparkle Disco](#) are still available to buy. This is taking place tonight **Friday 7 November**. Tickets are priced at £4 per St Mary's pupil. We are once again having one big family disco from 5:00-6:15pm. There will be a tuck shop, hot dogs, tattoos and a licenced bar. Sparkly clothing can be worn! Tickets are available via the [PTA website](#).



The 2025 St Mary's School Christmas Fair will be Friday 28 November – 3:30pm-5:00pm

Thank you for donating gifts for Elfridges and wrapping paper today. Please can you send in the following items over the following dates in November to support the fair and make it an enjoyable and successful event...

Friday 14 November - Bottles for the Bottle Tombola. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

Friday 21 November - Chocolates for the Chocolate Tombola.

Monday 24 November – Teddies (any new/great condition teddies for our teddy adoption stall).

Friday 28 November - DAY OF THE FAIR any further donations of unwanted gifts for Elfridges, chocolates, bottles or teddies (*non-uniform day in exchange for donations on 28 November only.*)

We will once again also be having a Teddy Adoption stall so if you have any new/ great condition teddies that you would like to donate please send these in from 2 December. Tickets for Father Christmas will go on sale online in pre bookable slots - details for this shortly on the [PTA website](#). If anyone has any raffle prizes they would like to donate please contact the PTA: pta@stmaryspta.org.uk. The Christmas fair is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and it is a very special afternoon. If anyone would like to help at the fair, please get in touch with the PTA. pta@stmaryspta.org.uk. We particularly need people to help clear and tidy up at the end of the fair. Thank you for your support.

WREATH MAKING - We are running our Festive Wreath making class - this will be run by the fabulous Zoe-of the Marple Flower House on **Sunday 30 November from 3:00pm-5:00pm** at Marple Scout Hut. The cost is £25, and this includes all materials and a glass of fizz/mulled wine/soft drink/ tea/coffee etc. All welcome. Tickets now available on the [PTA website](#).

THE MONTH (OR SO) AHEAD...KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
<i>Please note the dates and times detailed below are provisional and may be changed if necessary. New dates in bold.</i>	
7 November	PTA Sparkle Disco 5:00-6:15pm. Sparkle Disco .
8 November	St Mary's Parish Christmas Fair, New Mills. 10:00am – 1:00pm. All welcome!
10 November	Year 3 celebration of the word at 2:30pm. All welcome.
11 November	Remembrance Service 10:50am – 11:05am. All welcome.
12 November	Open Afternoon for prospective Nursery and Reception parents 1:30-3:00pm.
24 November	Year 6 celebration of the word at 2:30pm. All welcome.
25 November	School photographs.
28 November	School Christmas Fair. 3:30pm – 5:30pm. All welcome.
30 November	PTA Wreath Making Workshop 3:00pm – 5:00pm. Marple Scout Hut.
1 December	Advent Service 2:30pm – 3:00pm. All welcome.
2 December	Junior Festival of Carols led by Y3. St George's Church, Heaviley at 7:30pm.
5 December	INSET Day. School closed to children.
8 December	Pantomime at Romiley Forum.
11 December	Nursery and Reception Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm
14 December	Carol Service at Holy Spirit Church, Marple at 4:00pm. All welcome.
17 December	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity 10:00am and 2:00pm
18 December	Christmas Dinner.
19 December	Carol Service 1:30pm-2:15pm in the school hall. All welcome.
19 December	School closes for the Christmas holidays.
5 January	School reopens following the Christmas holidays.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Please don't forget the St Mary's Parish Christmas Fair 10:00am-1:00pm tomorrow in St Mary's, New Mills Parish Centre. Mr John Nish.