

9th February 2025

Do you remember the first time you ever heard about Jesus? Maybe it was at school, or perhaps you had been taken to Sunday School, or even heard your parent/s talking about him. If I am honest, I can't remember! I remember being taken to Sunday School (and not wanting to go again!) and I remember going to church with my mother and with our primary school. It feels like I have always known about Jesus... and when I was confirmed at 14, I know without a doubt that I met Him. For those living in Nazareth when Jesus was growing up, they knew this young man: the 'carpenter's son', they had begun to realise there was something different about him and crowds had started to gather when he began to speak...

I still find it fascinating that not only did Simon Peter not appear to 'bat an eyelid' when Jesus stepped into his boat and used it as his pulpit, BUT he was willing to listen to the advice of a non-fisherman.... Why on earth should a carpenter know anything about where to fish, when he and his crew/peers and other fishermen had spent all night out in their own familiar fishing area and caught nothing. When Jesus told him where to go, he didn't question but said... 'But because you say so, I will' The rest, as they say, is history...

I wonder if I would be so willing to set aside my knowledge and experience and trust Jesus when he tells me to do something that appears to go against everything I know? Are you?

Maggie



Mother's Union AGM and Lunch,

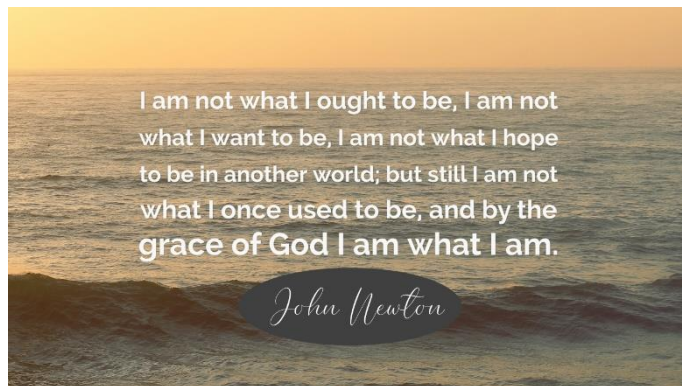
Monday 10th February. 12.30 pm in the Parish Rooms, cost £4. We hope to see as many

members as possible.



Phoenix Group (for those bereaved)

We will meet as usual at Festival Drayton on 21st Feb at 10:30. We are having a speaker from the Market Drayton Museum.



Please pray for...



John Panter, Andy Morton (Debra Deeley's son-in-law), Colin Smith, Jenny Wade, John Deppner and Nita's grandson, Ben. Please pray for the recently bereaved: the families and friends of Sheila Roper and Margaret Hall.

Please let the Church Office know if you would like your name to be added or removed from this list.

We'd love to hear from you if you'd like to help our church and services run smoothly. There are lots of roles, including: welcoming, the audio/ visual desk, refreshments, 'Brass Band', open church, Messy Church, reading, leading intercessions and prayer ministry. Please pray about how you can serve St Mary's and contact Helen in the church office to volunteer. Elaine would also love to hear from singers and musicians, whatever instrument you play!!

Confirmation Service

A Confirmation Service on **Sunday 23rd February at 4.00pm at Christ Church, Little Drayton.** Everyone is welcome to come along and support those involved. If you can bring a contribution towards a buffet after the service, that would be most welcome. Please pray for our candidates as they prepare for their confirmation: Tracey Stretch, Stephen Huyton, Ellie Carr, Matthew (Harry) Allee.



Bring and Share Lunches 2025.

A list is available in the Welcome area for offers to host these very popular events. This month we are invited to Kath McClellan's, 3 Victoria Road on Sunday 16th Feb.

2025 Church Directory

The new Church Directory is available to collect from the welcome desk during services or from the church office.

Services

Services are in St Mary's Church unless otherwise indicated.

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am CW Morning Worship

Readings: **1 Corinthians 15.1-11 Luke 5.1-11**

The 10.30 service will also be on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXRoSctVRS9PSkZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

Wednesday Morning Prayer 9.00am ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943278704?pwd=RytPQ3RmOG5yYlBpUWpoWWkxWGFEZz09>

Meeting ID: 899 4327 8704 Password: 730701

Thursday 10.00am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday Sermons

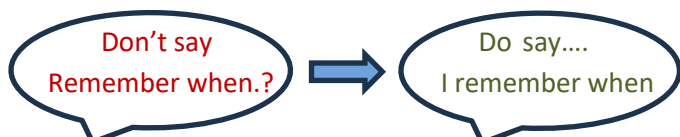
These are available on our website:

<https://www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk/media>



What not to say to someone with dementia

While a person living with dementia may have difficulties finding the right word, the words that other people use are important too. Good communication is key for all our relationships and can make a difference to our quality of life. Over the coming months, we will explore some of the words and questions it may be best to avoid in conversation.



Why? That way, the person can search calmly without feeling embarrassed, then join in if they like.

For more information about dementia you are welcome to contact Avril Innocent, Steph Grey-Smart or Val Creasey.

CAP Market Drayton

As outlined at our Churches Together meeting in January, St Mary's PCC have now formally accepted the recommendation to close the CAP Debt Centre in Market Drayton. Our thanks go to all those who have been involved with the Debt Centre and its other services over the years. Please keep Carolyn Lawrence in your prayers, as she continues until the end of March to wind-up the centre and ensure any ongoing clients have the continued support they need.

Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required.

Tinned Carrots; Tinned Mushrooms; Tinned Fruit; Washing-up Liquid; Bleach; Anti-bac Wipes; Laundry Pods; Cartons of Long-Life Fruit Juice; Full Fat (blue) UHT Milk.

We have plenty of—Cereals; Pasta; Rice; Tea; Baked Beans.

If you need to contact the Foodbank, please call **01630 654007** (not the one in the church directory). The trolley at the back of church is now in use and donations are gratefully received.

Churches Together

Following on from our meeting at St. Marys on 14th January, Churches Together are inviting all who want to seek God together for His work in the town as we consider the way forward. Two initial prayer meetings will be held in the town centre, meeting outside the library on **Saturday 15th February and Saturday 15th March** at 11am for 30 minutes.



Over Lent we will be using the Church of England's Living Hope material as a basis for our sermon and Lent studies. There is a book of daily reflections to accompany the series. These are £2.50 from Church House Publishing, but cheaper if we buy in bulk. If you would like Catherine to order you a copy, please let her know **by the 15th Feb**. More information about Lent courses soon.

Children's Society Boxes

Please bring your boxes, donations etc to church or deliver to 60 Rowan Road. Please contact Elaine Mason on 07846 715620 if need her me to collect your box from you. Thank you.



Staying in Touch

Please either leave a message or send an email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Church Administrator: Helen Hughes

Phone: 01630 653505

E-mail: stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.com

Website: www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Facebook: @StMarysMarketDrayton

Parish Rooms FB: @TheParishRoomsMD

Operations Manager: Elaine Cook

E-mail: opsmanagerofstmarys@gmail.com

Vicar: Revd Catherine McBride

E-mail: vicarofstmarys@gmail.com

If you do not wish to continue to receive these newsletters, please let us know.