

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024



One of the stories my father still tells of the Second World War is that of being in the centre of Leicester one evening after dark as a seventeen-year-old and watching as bombs fell on the city, dropped by a couple of Nazi bombers, apparently lost on their way to Coventry. Seeing the destruction and devastation as the flames lit the night sky, he resolved to make sure he got very fit – he was already a keen Rugby player and long distance runner! Why? Because he knew he would have to be, to face the rigours of joining the RAF and answering that call to serve.

Remembrance Sunday is always a profound and powerful reminder of those who have fought for us, looked pain and death in the face and stood their ground – even in the midst of their fear and terror. It is a time when we reflect together on the cost of the rights and freedoms we so freely enjoy. The call of God to come to Him and serve Him also has its challenges. When Jesus called Simon (Peter), Andrew, James and John they, responded immediately.

Did they know what they would face I wonder? Probably not! All they knew was that here was someone whose authority they had to obey; someone who was worth giving up everything to follow. [History shows that Peter was crucified head downwards in Persia, Andrew was crucified in Achaia, James was beheaded in Jerusalem and John was banished to Patmos where he wrote the book of Revelation.]

When Jesus calls, am I able and willing to say, 'Yes Lord, here I am... send me'? Peter saw the truth, when he told Jesus: 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life .. you are the Holy One of God.' Peter was beginning to understand that the call of Jesus was to a relationship with Love itself which transforms not only our lives but the world around us.

May that Love open our eyes today to the beauty, power and compassion there is for each one of us when we answer His call.

*Maggie*



### Please pray for...

Colin Smith, John Panter and Diana Picton-Robinson, Andy Morton (Debra Deeley's son-in-law) and Gordon Robinson (Nita Heath's son-in-law). We pray for Margaret Law, following the death of her son, Norman.

We're also very sad to report the death of Cynthia Costelloe, known to many here at St Mary's, who suffered a severe brain haemorrhage on the 5<sup>th</sup> November and died the following morning. Our love and prayers are with David and the family and we will let you know of any news about the funeral in due course.

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

### Christmas Choir - will you join in?



'Christmas Choir' practices for St Mary's Carol service on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December are at **7.30pm** on Thursdays, currently for harmony singers, with sopranos and tune singers joining from **28<sup>th</sup> November**. All welcome.

### Bring and Share Lunch



Nita & John have kindly offered to host the next lunch on 17<sup>th</sup> November in the Parish Rooms. They will need a few helpers so please speak to them if you are available.

### Phoenix Group (for those bereaved)

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November at Festival Drayton for coffee and chat. Why not stay for lunch? 13<sup>th</sup> December 12.00pm, Christmas meal at the Red Lion. Menu to follow. Please book your place with a £5 deposit at the November meeting.



### Mothers Union



Our next meeting will be on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November in the Parish Rooms at 2.30pm. All welcome

## Services

Services are in St Mary's Church unless otherwise indicated

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm**

**Remembrance Communion**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

**No 9.00am service**

**10.45am Civic Remembrance Service**

The 10.45 service will also be on Zoom.

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

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

Wreath Laying ceremony at Cheshire Street War Memorial at midday

**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>



## Operation Christmas Child

Boxes and instructions are at the back of church for those wanting to put together some gifts for a child in need this Christmas. We collected a record 55 boxes last year and we are hoping to match or surpass that amount this year.

Please bring filled boxes and the £5 distribution cost per box to church the **week starting 11<sup>th</sup> November** with all boxes to be in **by end of Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November**, ready to go the following week. **Please do not leave boxes in church before 11<sup>th</sup> November.** If you are unable to fill a shoebox but want to contribute you can leave a donation in the envelope at the back of the leaflet and give it to Hilary Talbot or hand it in at the church office.



## Singing For the Brain

For people living with dementia, friends, family & carers, or even if you want to come for a sing-a-long. We meet every **Thursday 1.45pm** at the Beacon Centre. £2.50 pp includes tea and biscuits. For further details please contact Avril 01630 656264

## Good News Stories

We'd love to share some stories of what God has been doing in our lives. If you have an encouraging story you'd be willing to share on a Sunday morning please let Catherine know.

## Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required.



**Shampoo; Conditioner; Toilet Rolls;**

**Laundry Washing Pods;**

**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.

## Prayer Link

Sometimes praying for yourself or a loved one is hard and you need to feel the peace, comfort and strength that comes from knowing others are praying for you. St Mary's has a dedicated 'Prayer Link' team, who link up to pray for any situation/ request that is put to us. All requests are strictly confidential. We ensure each member of the group receives the prayer and prays as soon as the prayer is received.

There is a list at the back of the church of the whole group and you can contact anyone of us; although the usual first contact is either through:

Elaine Mason 07846715620 [nickjgmason@gmail.com](mailto:nickjgmason@gmail.com)

Carol Corney 01630 653137 or 07932 642246

[candjcorney@gmail.com](mailto:candjcorney@gmail.com) - or speak to us in person.

If you love to pray for others, please join us. Contact Elaine or Carol.

## Tear Fund Big Quiz

Thank you to everyone who attended the quiz night. It was a very enjoyable evening and we managed to raise £200 for Tear Fund



## 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](mailto:stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk](http://www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk)

**Facebook:** @StMarysMarketDrayton

**Parish Rooms FB:** @TheParishRoomsMD

**Operations Manager:** Elaine Cook

**E-mail:** [opsmanagerofstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:opsmanagerofstmarys@gmail.com)

**Vicar:** Revd Catherine McBride

**E-mail:** [vicarofstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:vicarofstmarys@gmail.com)

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