

11<sup>th</sup> May 2025



## Be still and know that I am God

Silence and stillness are very powerful and in the feverish busy-ness of our modern society, they can also be very rare and precious things. Perhaps that's why the silences we observe during acts of remembrance, like those of the past few days, are such special and poignant moments.

When we consciously and intentionally make ourselves pause and keep silent, many things can happen.

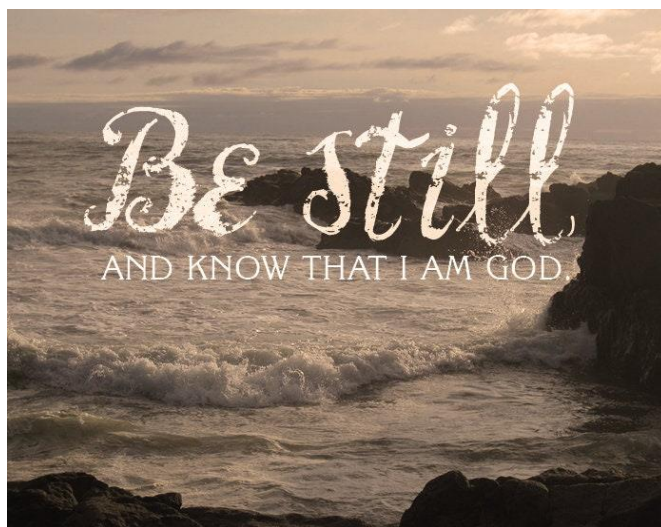
At moments of Remembrance, of course, we use the stillness and silence to bring to mind those who have died in the service of our country. Some may be remembering actual people they knew. Others might be remembering those who may not have died in war, but who were forever changed by it. Some might be remembering the past, whilst others' thoughts are for those still affected by conflict. Some will be giving thanks, whilst others may be asking for forgiveness and many will be hoping for peace.

When we rush around, there is little space to allow all those thoughts and feelings to come to the surface. But in the stillness, they are given the attention and respect they are due and it almost feels as if the silence gathers them all together and holds them for us, for that brief moment.

Silence and stillness can help us feel closer to those around us; they can help us feel more connected with the world about us. Silence and stillness can help us to focus and can bring us moments of clarity. Silence and stillness can help us be more aware of God.

In amongst the chaos and turmoil of battle, the writer of Psalm 46 hears a voice. "Be still and know that I am God." It's not a polite request, it's an imperative. Hit pause for a moment. Just stop and connect. Reflect and refocus. Give thanks that wars cease and remember. Remember who has always been and will always be with you during trouble. Remember who is your true refuge and strength. Let his peace hold you, in that moment.

*Catherine*



## Please pray for...



John Panter, Colin Smith, Jenny Wade, Nita's grandson, Ben, Andy Morton (Debra Deeley's son-in-law), and Helen Sweet's son-in-law Alan Dean.

We pray for Margaret Deaville and her family, following the death of her son, Christopher, whose funeral is here at St Mary's on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00pm.

Barry would like to thank everyone for their prayers. He is continuing to recover after a brief stay in hospital. *Please let the Church Office know if you would like your name to be added or removed from this list.*

## VE Day Celebrations – 11<sup>th</sup> May

**PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE** to our morning services this week. There will be road closures from 10.30am due to the MD 10k race. **Our two morning services will therefore be a combined service at 9am.** We welcome Elaine's community choir, A Choired Taste, to this service at which we remember the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day.



## APCM Advance Notice

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm** in Church.

If anyone would like to serve on the PCC, nomination forms are available on the table at the back of church. Please complete and put in the box provided.

## Services

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

### 9.00am CW Holy Communion

#### **NO 10.30 SERVICE**

Readings **Psalm 46 John 14.1-6**

### 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>

## Mothers' Union

Our next Mothers' Union meeting will be on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm in the Parish Rooms. The speaker will be from the NHS on "Health and Wellbeing". Visitors are welcome.



### Phoenix Group (for those bereaved)

The Phoenix group are going to go to Oakgates Garden Centre on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

## Worship@6

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May at the Methodist Church with speaker David Matthias, Pastor at Barnabas Community Church in Shrewsbury



## Moving House...again!

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and help with finding a house to let for Helen. We have provisionally agreed a tenancy, praise God, but unfortunately the house is in Loggerheads; so whilst all the paperwork and references are being checked we are still looking for somewhere in Market Drayton. There is one available which we are praying for. Hopefully our gracious Lord will bless us with a home in the town, but if not, we are still very grateful for having a house at all!

## Foodbank Items Needed

### Stock Items urgently required:

Tins/Cartons of Custard; Men's Deodorant; Cleaning Products; Shower Gel; Toothpaste; Toilet Rolls.

### **We have plenty of:**

Cereal; Pasta; Rice; Tea; Baked Beans

The trolley at the back of church is now in use and donations are gratefully received.



## Bring and Share Lunch.



The next lunch will on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May, hosted by Simon & Julia Farrant Longford Old Hall, TF9 3PW.

All Welcome.

## Organ Social - What a Night!



Thank you to everyone who came last Saturday and to all those who

gave of their time and talents. We raised almost £1,700, an amazing start to our organ campaign. More photos can be found on our website and Facebook page. Further donations are welcome at any time via the QR code on the noticeboard or by cash or cheque in envelopes labelled 'Organ 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

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