

14<sup>th</sup> September 2025



It's been a while since we spent some time reflecting on our Vision and Purpose at St Mary's. As a reminder our Purpose is based upon Jesus' 'Great Commission' to his followers, at the end of Matthew's gospel: to go and make disciples of all nations. We express this in our own way: that our Purpose is **to enable people to know Jesus. love, Jesus and live for Jesus.** As we seek to do this together as a church, our hope and Vision is that we will **see our town transformed by the love of Christ.**

Underpinning both our Purpose and Vision are our values, the characteristics that we want to live out as a church family. These values are integral to *who* and *how* we want to be. Most weeks, these values are displayed on screen at the 10.30 service, as we pray our Vision Prayer together; but just to remind you (!), we want to be a church that is: **Passionate for God; Outward-looking; Generous; Loving; Welcoming and Courageous.**

This week saw the festival celebrating the birth of our patron saint, St Mary. So it seems a good opportunity to reflect on how she modelled the values, that – as a church that bears her name – we seek to emulate. Mary longed to see God's promises fulfilled and put herself completely and wholeheartedly at God's disposal (Passionate for God). She welcomed the Christ Child into her life, providing for him and pouring upon him her love and care (Welcoming, Loving, Generous). All of this she did whilst not knowing how things would work out – but knowing that it would come at considerable cost to herself (Courageous). But she did it anyway, because she recognised that the world needed a Saviour, who would bring God's mercy and justice (Outward-looking). And so, we keep praying:

Open our eyes, Lord;

unblock our ears, Lord;

put your words on our lips, Lord;

set our hearts on fire

to build your Kingdom

in our lives; through our church; in our town.

In Jesus' name.

I think Mary would happily have said 'Amen' to that

*Catherine*



## Please pray for...



Hazel Haskayne; Brian McClellan; John Panter; Mary Senior; Joe McPhee; Cherian George; Nita's grandson, Ben; Helen Hughes and family; and Sue Frankfort's parents, John and Ray Reynolds.

*Please let the Church Office know if you would like your name added or removed from this list. The list will be routinely reviewed every few months.*

## Children and Families Worker

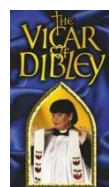
We are advertising for a part-time Children and Families Worker - full details are on our Website. Please pass on this information who is a committed Christian and might be interested in

working with children and families. The closing date for applications is **30th September**. Please pray that the right people will apply and that those interviewing will be guided by the Lord in the decisions they make.



## Phoenix Group (for those bereaved)

We are meeting for coffee, cakes and chat at the Festival Drayton Centre 10:30am on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September.**



## Christ Church, Little Drayton Film Club

18<sup>th</sup> September – The Vicar of Dibley

16h October – Dad's Army

## Save The Date – Next Organ Social 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2025

Our next organ fund raising event will be a social along similar lines to the very successful one held in May.

There will be a meal interspersed with entertainment.

**Please let Elaine know if you are interested in helping out in any way, including food preparation and serving as well as contributing to the entertainment.**

## Services

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

**9.00am BCP Holy Communion**

**10.30am CW Morning Worship**

**Readings Romans 12.1-18 Luke 1.46-56**

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>

## The Stag Pub Quiz & Supper in aid of The Red Cross



**British RedCross**

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm (for quiz start at 7.00pm). Get together with friends to form a team of 6 maximum, or join with others on the night. Tickets £20 per person – includes supper. Contact Julia Farrant if you'd like to book a ticket.

## Finally in our Dementia series

### Encouraging Someone with Dementia to Communicate

- speak clearly and slowly, using short sentences
- make eye contact with the person when they are talking or asking questions
- encourage them to join in the conversation where possible
- give them simple choices – avoid creating complicated choices or options for them
- acknowledge what they have said, even if they do not answer your question or what they say seems out of context
- use other ways to communicate – such as rephrasing questions because they cannot answer in the way they used to.



If you want to know more about dementia please feel free to take any leaflets from the back of church.

## Foodbank Items Needed



### Stock Items urgently required:

UHT milk (blue and green); packets of instant mash; sponge pudding/cake; tins of chicken, spam or luncheon meat; tinned custard; deodorant (M & F); toilet rolls; size 7 nappies/pull-ups.

**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.



This autumn, please can you help support Market Drayton Foodbank with our harvest appeal? You'll find some shopping lists at the back of church with ideas of non-perishable items that our Foodbank needs. You can also make a monetary donation instead to help with our signposting services and running costs, please click [here](#) for further information.

## St Mary's Harvest Festival

This will be on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. If you are donating food to the Foodbank could you bring it along to church before this date and we will use it to decorate the church. We will then make sure it finds its way to the Foodbank afterwards.

If you do take donations directly to the Foodbank at the Parish Rooms, please deliver them on Tuesdays or Fridays 9-10.30am only. It would be very helpful if you could let the Foodbank know when you will be bringing donations along.

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

**Facebook:** @StMarysMarketDrayton

**Parish Rooms FB:** @TheParishRoomsMD

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