

25th May 2025



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (John 14.27)

Out of all the verses of the Bible, we have chosen this one verse for the homepage of our website. It stands without comment or explanation among all the usual admin and information: service times, where to find us, our policies, and latest news.

Do we ever give thought to why this verse is so special to us? As we hear it read in our services today, perhaps reflect on what it means to you.

We often feel we live in an age of stress. The pace of life is accelerating, hurtling towards who knows what. People are left exhausted physically, emotionally, spiritually in trying to keep up. Oh, to step off the hamster wheel. Some seek refuge in ways that might work as a temporary escape, but can be self-destructive. Perhaps more wholesome is to take time immersing yourself in the natural world. Until you have to get back on the wheel.

The peace Jesus gives is, '*not as the world gives*'. His peace is peace with God, because on the cross he removed the barriers we have put up between us and God. This peace he brings into our very being. It is not dependent on our situation, nor on whatever anyone else might or might not do. It comes from his presence through the Holy Spirit. Because, as he promised, he is with us always! And we are constantly reminded that we are in a loving relationship with God, revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I pray that anyone visiting our church will find this peace for themselves, that they will see it shining in our lives, in our worship, in everything we do. For this is not a secret to keep to ourselves, but to share with all. God loves you.

In our first Bible reading from Acts 16, we heard how Paul brought the gospel to Europe in Philippi. Several years later, in his letter to the Christians there, he wrote reminding them of the joy they now have, because '*The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*' (Phil 4.7) May you be assured that, '*the God of peace will be with you*' (Phil 4.9) – always!

Rod



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.

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

I want to thank you all for your prayers over the last six very difficult weeks. They have given me strength and comfort as the Lord worked powerfully through you. I feel blessed to know you. All my love, Margaret.

Christian Aid Week



Thank you to all those who have already picked up a Christian Aid envelope and made a donation. If you would still like to donate please return your envelopes to church by 25th May.

Christians Against Poverty Celebration

Despite the closure of our CAP Debt Centre earlier this year, we really want to celebrate and give thanks to God for everything that he has done through the work of the Centre and our other CAP services (Job Club, Fresh Start, Money Course and Life Skills) over the years. A celebration service will be held here at St Mary's at 6.30pm on Sunday 1st June, Everyone is welcome – we hope you can join us.



Songs of Praise



3.30pm on Sunday 25th May at Market Drayton Methodist Church All are welcome to this informal gathering. Coffee, tea and cakes are served as you sing your favourite hymns

Services

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

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am CW Morning Worship + Baptism

Readings **Acts 16. 9-15 John 14. 23-29**

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



IONA Communion

Sunday 25th May 6.30pm

Reading: Psalm 40

Sunday Sermons

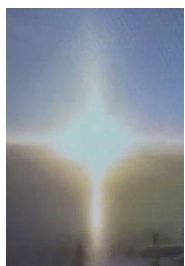
These are available on our website:

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

Moving House...update

Please continue to pray for God's guidance and provision for Helen and if you know of any 2 or 3 bed rentals, please let Helen in the office know. Many thanks.

Ascension Day Service



This year our Deanery Ascension Day Service is at St Peter's Stoke on Tern **7.00pm Thursday 29th May**. All are welcome and we hope you can stay for refreshments after the service. We'd especially like to invite all those who normally lead the singing at their local churches to come and join a 'scratch' Deanery Choir for this service, to help us raise the roof! This year, St Peter's are celebrating their 150th Anniversary, so it will be a great opportunity for the Deanery to come together to celebrate with them.

Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required:

Sponge Pudding; Toilet Rolls;

Shampoo; Washing-up Liquid; Cleaning Products

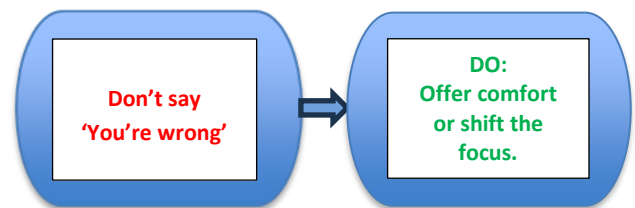
We have plenty of:

Cereal; Pasta; Rice; Tea; Baked Beans; Custard.

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



What not to say to someone with dementia



When a person says something you know is not true, your first impulse may be to correct their belief. This can be distressing for the person, as they are likely to be as convinced of their belief as you are in yours.

As dementia progresses, the person will find it hard to accept logic and so it may not be possible to convince them that their belief is incorrect. This can lead to confusion, bad feeling, or arguments.



Messy Church

Tuesday 3rd June

3.30pm – 5.15pm

in the Parish Rooms

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

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Website: www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Facebook: @StMarysMarketDrayton

Parish Rooms FB: @TheParishRoomsMD

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