

31<sup>st</sup> August 2025



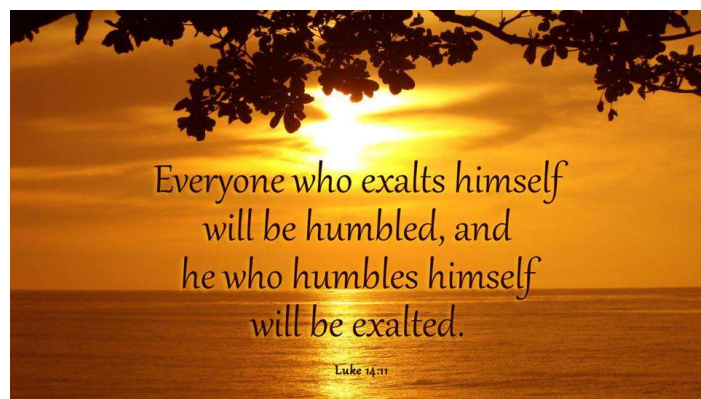
## Meals Matter

When I was young, our family mostly ate our meals together at the kitchen table. On Sundays, we sat round the table in the dining room for lunch but were allowed to have tea on our laps in front of the television. Around the meal table all manner of important family discussions took place. We were a large family and there was never a shortage of topics and everyone was able and comfortable to have their say. Debate, dialogue, disagreement, airing, sharing, loving and caring all took place round the table – I think I was very lucky to have a family that was able to work this way without too much conflict. From street parties to state banquets, meals are a great way for people from different places to find common ground for celebration, diplomacy and simply getting to know each other better.

Jesus loved parties and meals – he said yes to the invitations and took the opportunity they gave him to teach about better ways of doing things. This week he is at the sabbath meal hosted by a prominent Pharisee. This is a big deal: where would the local celebrity preacher (Jesus) fit in? To participants it mattered a lot where people sat, who spoke, who was nearer the host, who was invited and who was left out. There were a lot left out – poor people, women, children and servants – they might be there to serve but not join in the fun. Jesus is having none of this. For him meals are about giving people the food they need and not reinforcing status, power and social boundaries. In His kingdom the key priority is for the have-nots to share the same opportunities and benefits as the haves. It is a kingdom where there is enough for everybody and where everyone can enter and sit down together.

I am sure that it is no accident that the meal Jesus left us is simple, nourishing, healing, transforming and available to everyone. The bread and the wine remind us of Him, bring Him into our lives and us into His kingdom.

*Lindsay*



## Please pray for...



Hazel Haskayne; Brian McClellan; John Panter; Mary Senior; Joe McPhee; Cherian George; Nita's grandson, Ben; and Jude Niklas-Carter who is in intensive care at Shrewsbury hospital and her husband Charles Nicklas-Carter.

*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 excited to announce that we are currently advertising for a part-time Children and Families Worker and full details are available on the St Mary's Website. It would be good to publicise this position by

word of mouth so if you know of someone who is a committed Christian and interested in working with children and families please pass on the details. 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.



## Bring and Share

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September** hosted by Pam and David Clarke, Rowney Farm, Loggerheads, TF9 2QC

## Messy Church

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
3.30pm – 5.15pm  
in the Parish Rooms



## Services

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

**9.00am BCP Holy Communion**

**10.30am CW Holy Communion**

**Readings Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16 Luke 14.1, 7-14**

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>



**Read Easy offers free, confidential, one-to-one reading tuition to over**

18s. We are all volunteers who are passionate about reading and about supporting those who want to learn. We understand how difficult it can be to ask for this kind of help but also recognise how difficult it is to negotiate life without secure reading skills.

Prospective readers simply have to make a phone call to Claire, our Team Leader (07941 515 220) and she will arrange a face-to-face meeting. Readers are then paired with a coach who they will meet twice a week for half an hour, in a mutually agreed public space. Our coaches are all trained and DBS checked and will work at a reader's own pace to help them improve their reading skills. We currently have coaches trained and ready to go in Market Drayton. We are also keen to find new volunteers, either as reading coaches or as members of our Management Team. Again, a phone call to Claire or myself will get this process started. No previous experience is necessary as full training and lots of support will be provided.

Further information and contact details can be found on the Community Services desk in the bookshop area.

## Foodbank Items Needed



**Stock Items urgently required:**

**Packets of Instant Mash; Sponge pudding / cake; Tins of chicken, spam or luncheon meat; Tinned Custard.**

**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.

## Organ Fundraising Concert

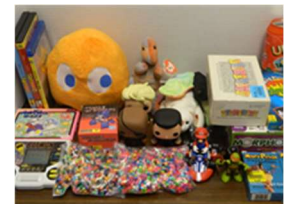
Thank you to everyone who attended the concert and supported Shifnal & District Male Voice Choir. We all had a super evening and took nearly £1,000 between tickets, raffle and donations. Another good amount to go towards our organ fund.

## 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.

## Swap Shop

The next Swap Shop will be on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September** from 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms. Donations will be gratefully received as well as helpers please.



## 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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**Facebook:** @StMarysMarketDrayton

**Parish Rooms FB:** @TheParishRoomsMD

**Operations Manager:** Elaine Cook

**Phone:** 07454 441943

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**Vicar:** Revd Catherine McBride

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

**Please note that Elaine Cook is on annual leave this week.**