

21st September 2025



The Universality of the Gospel

Forgive me for referring back to one of my own sermons, but when I read the passage set for today from 1 Timothy (Chapter 2 vv. 1 - 7) I couldn't help but feel that it endorsed and emphasised part of what I said a few weeks ago. When talking about the parable Jesus told about people choosing the best places when invited to a wedding feast, Jesus was pointing the finger at the Jewish leaders, the Pharisees, who thought themselves better in God's sight than other people and were pushing themselves forward as those who deserved a top place in God's kingdom. I said, the challenge for us is how do we regard ourselves in God's eyes compared to people who do not come to church and are not followers of Jesus? We always need to remember that they are just as important to God as we are, and God loves them, and Jesus died for them just as much as He did for us.

In his letter to Timothy, Paul stresses the universality of the Gospel by saying: *"God our Saviour wants ALL people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for ALL people".* Therefore, in giving us instructions for worship Paul urges *"that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for ALL people including kings and those in authority"*. So, let us remember to pray for them continually as part of our corporate worship, as members of Christ's church. Along with this we have the responsibility of helping people to come to a knowledge of the truth, i.e. that because God loves them He sent Jesus, His only Son to die for them and, that because Jesus is the one mediator between God and mankind, it is through Jesus we can all receive forgiveness of our sins, be made right with God and experience His love.

David



Please pray for...



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

We're very sad to announce the death of Mary Senior and our prayers are with Roy and the family at this sad time. We also pray for others who have been recently bereaved including the families and friends of Janet Agass, Eddy Getty and Jude 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 advertising for a part-time Children and Families Worker - full details are on our Website. 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.

Free afternoon Tea for Volunteers

Make It Market
Drayton invites all
volunteers to a free
Afternoon Tea in
the Parish Rooms at
3 - 6pm on



Thursday 25th September. See Notice Board for more information.

Ginger & Spice Festival



St Mary's will be open for the Ginger & Spice Festival on **Saturday 27th September**, as part of the Heritage Trail. If you can help man the church during the day, there is a sign-up sheet at the back of church. Many thanks indeed.

Services

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

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am CW Holy Communion

Readings 1 Timothy 2.1-7 Luke 16.1-13

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



Wednesday 24th September at 6.30pm (for quiz start at 7.00pm). Teams of 6 max, or join with others on the night. Tickets £20 per person – includes supper. Contact Julia Farrant if you'd like to book a ticket.

Are we a welcoming church?

One of St Mary's values is that we want to be a welcoming church. Would you be part of our welcoming team or help to serve refreshments, either occasionally or every month? We need someone to join the team of welcomers on the first Sunday of each month. Please contact Elaine Cook, Margaret Deaville or Peter Fox to volunteer as welcomer and Pat Fox regarding refreshments.

Save The Date – Next Organ Social 29th November, 2025

This will be a social along similar lines to the one held in May. There will be a meal interspersed with entertainment. **Please let Elaine know if you can help in any way, including food preparation and serving as well as contributing to the entertainment.**

Foodbank Items Needed



Stock Items urgently required:

Tinned custard; UHT milk (blue and green); packets of instant mash; sponge pudding/cake; tins of chicken, spam or luncheon meat; deodorant (M & F); toilet rolls; size 7 nappies/pull-ups; cartons of long-life juice; toilet cleaner & anti-bac spray.

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.



Please see the 'shopping lists' at the back of church with ideas of non-perishable items that our Foodbank needs this Harvest. You can also make a monetary donation instead;

please click [here](#) for further information.

St Mary's Harvest Festival

This will be on **Sunday 5th October**. If you are donating food to the Foodbank please bring your items to church before this date and we will use them to decorate the church. We will then take your donations to the Foodbank afterwards. Donations can be taken directly to the Foodbank on Tuesdays or Fridays 9-10.30am only. Please let the Foodbank know when you will be bringing donations along.

Charitable Giving

Every three years St Mary's chooses the main Christian organisations it will support for the following three year cycle. The next triennium begins in 2026, so if you have any suggestions of organisations you would like us to consider supporting, please let the Charitable Giving Group know. Please contact: Geoff Oakes, Pat Fox, Alan Venables or Catherine McBride.

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

Website: www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Facebook: @StMarysMarketDrayton

Parish Rooms FB: @TheParishRoomsMD

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