

2nd November 2025



The Church's calendar is moving into a season of remembering: the 'saints' of the church and the example of their lives and witness; our loved friends and family members who have passed on from this life; and next weekend, Remembrance Sunday. It is a season that looks not only to the past with gratitude, but also to the future with hope.

On Tuesday afternoon is our next Messy Church meeting. It is part of our commitment to the future, sowing the seeds of faith in the next and following generations. At Messy Church we also remember and seek to learn from the past.

This week our topic is peace. Our Bible story comes from 1 Samuel chapter 25, and how Abigail intervenes with David to stop his plans for a terrible vengeance. In my mind, it connects with something Jesus says in our reading today: *'But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you'* Luke 6.27.

Although living centuries before Jesus, Abigail provides a real-life example of Jesus' teaching – and don't we live in age in desperate need of peacemakers.

Abigail's husband, Nabal, has been rude and surly towards David in a time of need, disregarding David's own kindness to Nabal. David's response is to take revenge. From a worldly point of view it can make sense. He is only mirroring Nabal's behaviour to him, but then adding some! David sets out on a path to extreme bloodshed.

But Abigail takes action, with wisdom, humility, generosity, and courage. From Abigail we can learn that there can be a better way, that tragedy need not be inevitable.

It is tempting to think that Jesus' teaching seems impossibly idealistic. Abigail shows us that it is far from impossible. Perhaps our leaders can lead by showing humility, generosity, courage, and wisdom as they tackle what seem intractable areas of conflict. Likewise, each one of us can follow this example in the difficult situations we can find ourselves in.

In his call to love our enemies, Jesus doesn't say it is easy. But examples such as Abigail remind us that it is possible, and just how powerful love can be!

Rod



Please pray for...



Rachel (a member of our Thursday congregation); Sue Norman; Hazel Haskayne; Brian McClellan; John Panter; Joe McPhee; Ben

Robinson; Jack Cade; Finley Parton; John and Ray Reynolds; Hilary Talbot's friend mum of four Kelly (42) who is battling brain cancer. We also pray for those who have recently lost loved ones, including the families and friends of Andy Roberts and our dear friend Guy Skipwith.

Guy's funeral will be on Monday 24th November at 1.00pm here at St Mary's.

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.

Christmas Choir - will you join us?



'Christmas Choir' practices for St Mary's Carol service on 21st December start at 7.30pm on Thursdays from **23rd October**, for harmony singers with tune singers joining from 27th November.

Please let Elaine Cook know if you would like to take part. Everyone is welcome.

Mothers' Union

Our next Mothers' Union meeting is on Monday, 10th November at 2.30pm in the Parish Rooms. Our speaker will be the Rev. Pippa White on 'How Tik Tok can be used as Christian's'.

Come and find out how young people encounter the Church....visitors are welcome.



Messy Church

Tuesday 4th November 3.30pm
in the Parish Rooms

Services

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

9.00am BCP Morning Prayer

10.30am CW Holy Communion

Readings Ephesians 1. 11-end; Luke 6. 20 - 31

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 Holy Communion 10.00am

Sunday Sermons

These are available on our website:

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



Games Cafe

The next Games café is on **Tuesday 11th November at 2.00pm** in the Parish Rooms.

Come along and join an afternoon of fun with board games, coffee and good company! Feel free to bring your own games or just turn up to join in the fun. Bring your

friends and find warmth and a welcome this Winter!

Entrance fee of £1

Sunday 16th November

Bring and Share Lunch



The next Bring and Share lunch is on Sunday 16th November in the Parish Rooms, hosted by Hilary Talbot. This will be a

special occasion, as we celebrate the marriage of Iris and James and everyone is welcome. They will be getting married during the 10.30

service that morning. Whilst the service will be a bit different, it will still be our regular

Communion service and open to everyone as usual – the more the merrier!



Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required:

Flavoured Instant Noodles; Size 6 pull-ups; Size 6 nappies.

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.



Swap Shop – Saturday 8th November.



10.30am in the Parish Rooms.

Helpers as well as suitable items would be much appreciated.

Next Organ Social - 29th November

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 buffet style meal interspersed with entertainment. We are still looking for offers of help.

Please let Elaine know if you can contribute to the entertainment. Tickets are available from Elsie Cook & David Lake at a cost of £15.

Operation Christmas Child

Shoebboxes will be collected from 10th November. Please save and fill your own boxes. Contact Hilary Talbot for further information.



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

Operations Manager: Elaine Cook

Phone: 07454 441943

E-mail: opsmanagerofstmarys@gmail.com

Vicar: Revd Catherine McBride

Phone: 01630 656943

E-mail: vicarofstmarys@gmail.com

Donations can be made by scanning the QR codes:



General fund



Organ fund



Security fund