

25th October 2026



It's Always About God

What do we need to be reminded about today?

I think most of us regularly set ourselves reminders in all manner of things as an aid to help us not to forget something. Whether that is to write an occasion on the calendar, set a timer to remind us of when a meal might be ready or to meet a friend.

The Israelites (God's people) in our Nehemiah 8 reading were telling Ezra that they wanted a marathon read (from him) of the Book of the Law of Moses. They wanted to be reminded again of its content so they would not forget its full instruction of how to live a life as a people of faith trusting their faithful God.

Truthfully, I needed to remind myself what the Book of the Law of Moses was. I thought about the Ten Commandments, but thought was it more than that – it was. The Book of the Law of Moses was the first five books of the Old Testament: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. They are an historical account of God and his people and all the lessons therein. Ultimately, it was about the spiritual formation of God's people and how they were to live in an ethical framework with one another under the Lordship of God.

That covenant relationship reminded me about the New Testament reading in Ephesians where Christ is referred to as the head of the body and the believers - the body. They are connected and united with Christ in the ultimate fulfilment of the Law. It is the only secure position to be in.

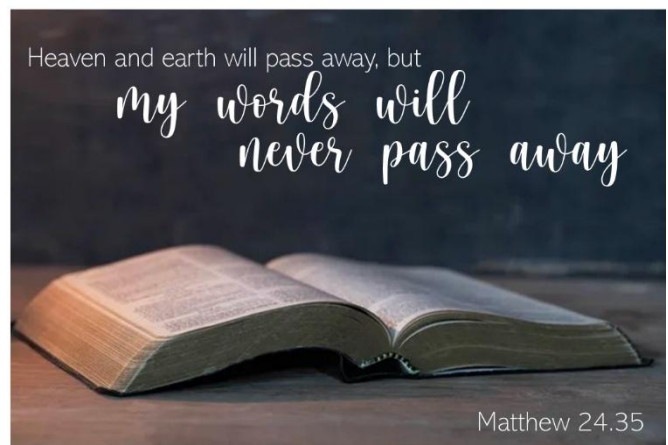
God's word tells us his written word will never pass away. We need to remind ourselves too that Jesus himself IS the Word of God made flesh who lives eternally, and that he will return and take us to where he is.

In conclusion. It's always about God, as it should be, because nothing else will remain apart from God.

Carol

All Soul's Memorial Service

10.30am Saturday 31st October. There is a sheet at the back of church for you to add the names of those you would like to be remembered in the service.



Please pray for...



Scott Reay, Helen Hughes, Pauline Bickley, Barry Salter and Pam Clarke. We pray for the family and friends of Phil Hickman, Angela Bridge, Frank Halford, Keith McIntosh and John Panter.

Please let the Church Office know if you would like your name added or removed from this list, which is reviewed and edited regularly.

Warm Spaces: Games Café...

Come next **Tuesday 27th October 2-4pm.**

Everyone is very welcome to drop in for a cake and drink and see what is going on!. If you have a game you would like to bring with you please do. It's a perfect chance for those from all our congregations to meet, mingle and make new friends!. Bring a friend or neighbour with you too. Regards Avril



Christmas Choir – singers needed!



'Christmas Choir' practices for St Mary's Carol service (20th December) start at 7.30pm on Thursdays from 22nd October for harmony singers; with tune singers joining from 26th

November. Please sign the sheet at the back of church or let me know if you would like to take part. Everyone is welcome. Elaine

The Big Quiz Night

The Tearfund Big Quiz returns on **Saturday 14th November at 7pm.**

Free entry but donations encouraged in aid of Tearfund.

Come as a team of up to 6 members or on your own and team up with others on the night. Bring your own refreshments. Please book your place with Elaine Cook or sign the sheet at the back of church.



Deadline for newsletter articles Wednesday noon.

Services

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

Sunday

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am CW Morning Worship

Readings: Nehemiah 8.1-4a, 5-6, 8-12 Matthew 24. 30-35

The 10.30 service will also be on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXR0SctVRS9PSkZkZ09>

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

Wednesday Morning Prayer 9.00am ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943278704?pwd=RytPQ3RmOG5yYlBpUWp0WWkxWGFEZz09>

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>

Iona Communion

Join us for a quiet, contemplative communion service in the round. This

Sunday 25th October at 6.30pm

Reading : Psalm 119. 137-152



Songs of Praise MDMC

Sunday 25th September at 3.30pm



Come along to the Methodist Church and choose and sing your favourite hymns whilst enjoying pleasant company and tea & cakes!

Operation Christmas Child

We are not collecting shoeboxes this year. If you would like to send a prepacked shoebox, please use this link:

<https://samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online/send-a-pre-packed-shoebox>

Another Great Outreach Opportunity – Do Join Us

Join us for our next outreach opportunity to children and families in our community on Saturday 31st October (Halloween Night), when we'll be dressed as angels bringing a message of light to the streets of the Dalelands and Fairfields estates, meeting those who are out and about, bearing treats and the Good News of Jesus. Approximate times will be 6pm – 7.30pm (details to follow)

Please let Carol Preston know if you'd like to take part (email Families@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk or call 07878 926853).

Foodbank



Urgent or low stock items:

Cartons long life fruit juice; Coffee; Sponge puddings/cake;

We have plenty of: Baked beans.

See the Foodbank website for more details.

<https://marketdrayton.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

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

Word for Today

Copies of The Word for Today for November are now available on the Welcome Desk.



Stewardship and Gift Aid

Many thanks indeed to those who gift aid their donations to St Mary's. This allows us to claim an extra 25% back from HMRC. If you would like to gift aid any donations made by standing order or the envelope scheme, Gift Aid Declaration forms are available at the welcome desk. Please return these to Elaine Cook and speak to Elaine if you have any questions. She also has envelopes for use under the envelope scheme. Standing order payments should be made to:

'PCC St Mary's Church'
sort code 30-15-39
a/c number 00102200

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:

Phone: 01630 653505

E-mail: stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.com

Website: www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Facebook: @StMarysMarketDrayton

Parish Rooms FB: @TheParishRoomsMD

Children and Families Worker: Carol Preston

Phone: 07878 926853

E-mail: Families@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Operations Manager: Elaine Cook

Phone: 07454 441943

E-mail: OperationsManager@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

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