St MARY'S CHURCH Market Drayton

Becoming Dementia Friendly Church 2026-7

8th November 2026

Remembrance

Remembrance Sunday falls as close as it can to November 11th - Armistice Day in 1918. It is a day for memories which are very powerful; they shape us and we carry them within us. Memory is a container of emotion, place, meaning, thought patterns and connections. We all hold memories of the family, friends, neighbours and teachers, who played their part in moulding our character.

Shared memories reinforce the bonds that hold communities together - strands of history which can be for better or for worse. Centuries-old hostilities between different groups continue to tear countries and communities apart. Peaceful resolution needs each side: to hear the other's story without judgement; to share feelings honestly without blame; and to have the empathy to recognise their common humanity.

As a nation, we remember and give thanks for the actions of those who gave their lives in war, so that we could live ours in peace. The traditions of Remembrance reflect the experiences of the First World War. Amidst the mud and horror of the battlefields in France and Belgium, poppy seeds, brought to the surface by heavy artillery, germinated, grew and covered the devastated landscape with bright red flowers - a sign of life amidst all the death and destruction. The poppy quickly became our symbol of remembrance.

Another symbol of remembrance with a very long history is rosemary. Scholars in ancient Greece wore rosemary in their hair to boost memory. Ophelia, in Hamlet, put it like this: "There's rosemary for remembrance; pray, love, remember." Australians and New Zealanders wear sprigs of rosemary on Remembrance Day - a poignant reminder of the wild rosemary that grows on the Gallipoli Peninsular, where a brutal battle in 1915 claimed the lives of hundreds of their soldiers.

Memory is multi-dimensional. The people we remember, remember us. We know, love and live for Jesus. Adapting the words of Jacques Berthier from the Taizé community, we pray: "We will remember them. Jesus remember them when you come into your Kingdom. Jesus remember me when you come into your Kingdom."

Linsay

Deadline for newsletter articles Wednesday noon.



Please pray for…



Scott Reay, Martin Lomas, Helen Hughes, Pauline Bickley, Barry Salter and Pam Clarke. We pray for the family and friends of Phil Hickman, Angela Bridge and John Panter and Jessie Bloor.

Angela Bridge's funeral is at St Swithun's Cheswardine on Wednesday 11th November at 2.00pm. John Panter's funeral will be here at St Mary's on Thursday 12th November at 1:30pm.

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

Christmas Choir – singers still needed!



'Christmas Choir' practices continue on Thursdays at 7.30pm. Tune singers join from 26th November. It is not too late to come along. Everyone welcome, every note is taught. Elaine

Warm Spaces: Games Café…



Next **Tuesday 10th November 2-4pm**. Everyone is very welcome to drop in for a FREE cake and drink and enjoy some sociable time together. Feel free to bring your own games. If you are able to help out, then do sign up at the back of church. The previous games session was a great success – and very well attended! Plenty of fun was had by all. Pop in and see what is going on, a warm welcome guaranteed … And Cake!

The Tearfund Big Quiz Night



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.

Mothers Union

Next meeting Monday, 9th November at 2.30pm in the Parish Rooms.

Services

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

Saturday 7th November 6.30pm

Reflective Remembrance Holy Communion

Sunday 8th November

No 9.00 service

10.45am Remembrance Sunday Service

Readings: Romans 5.1-11 John 15.9-17

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



After the service there is the usual parade down to the Cheshire Street War Memorial for the main wreath laying ceremony at 12.00.

Bingo Social @ Christ Church

Bingo Social event on 11th November in the Christ Church Social Space, from 12:30pm for about 2hrs.

Bring and Share Lunch



The next Bring and Share lunch is **15th November in the Parish Rooms.** Everyone is welcome. Lunch is served from 1pm.

Advent Retreat
Ashley Methodist Church

Saturday 12th December 10.00am-3.00pm, led by Rev Rob Cotton (Ashley & Market Drayton Methodist Churches) and Rev Obeth Thevanesan (Audlem & Nantwich Methodist Churches). This will be a day of prayer, quiet time and guided reflection, giving an opportunity to pause in what can be a very busy season. Cost £20 / person, including lunch and refreshments. You can book by email at retreats@ashleymethodist.co.uk or online via https://ashleymethodist.co.uk/retreats/

Foodbank

Urgent or low stock items:

Cartons long life fruit juice (Urgent); Tins of Spam, Ham & Chicken; Pouches of wet dog food; Men's deodorant/shaving gel; toothpaste; Anti-bacterial sprays/bleach **We have plenty of:** Baked beans, Dry dog food.

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.

Shropshire Council Local Transport Plan

Find out how to have your say at: https://getinvolved.shropshire.gov.uk/consultations/shropshire-local-transport-plan/ Closing date for responses is noon Monday 16th November. There is also an online discussion you can join: Webinar - Monday 2 November 2026, 6pm-7pm and an in-person event on **Monday 9th November 12.00-5.00pm** at the Festival Drayton Centre, where you can learn more about the draft plan, meet the project team and share your thoughts.

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