

M St MARY'S CHURCH Newsletter

24th April 2020



It is true! The Lord has risen. (Luke 24.34)

Hello Everyone,

Where can you meet with God?

Some encounter him in creation; in the beauty of nature.
But what if you can't get outside?

Some encounter him in the church building, feeling a closeness to him in the peace of that sacred space. But what if the church doors are locked?

Some encounter him through praying and worshipping with others. But what if you can't meet together?

Two of Jesus' disciples were making their way to Emmaus. They were confused, frightened, completely disheartened. All their hopes, that Jesus was going to be the one to redeem Israel, had been dashed. Now, some of their friends were claiming that Jesus was alive, but it just doesn't make sense to them.

Then this stranger falls into step beside them and strikes up a conversation. Before they know it he seems to be answering all their questions; explaining how Jesus shines through the prophecies and stories of scripture. He even shows them how the events of the past few days were all part of God's plan.

Their hearts start to race, they have to know more. "Don't go; stay the night" And at the table with them, he took bread and gave thanks and they saw him.

These two disciples had probably worshipped in the great Temple of Jerusalem with their friends; they had probably accompanied Jesus and listened to him as they journeyed around Galilee. But they'd never really met him until that moment. They'd never really known him until that evening in an ordinary room, in an ordinary house, in an ordinary village. That was when they realised they had encountered the risen, living Lord.

Where can you meet him? Anywhere. Including your own dining room.

Catherine

News

Congratulations to Helen & David Smith who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 25th April. Our love and prayers are with them at this time.

Those who remember the Hipwells, will be happy to hear that they are all doing well in West Yorkshire.

Morrisons Next-Day Door-Step Delivery Service: Call 03456 166111 to be put through to our local store to place your order. There is a list of things available. Email the Church Office to get a copy.

Foodbank Update



The Foodbank is still operating and feeding many people in the town and surrounding areas. The need has tripled since the lockdown began and

we have fed 437 people and given out over 5 tonnes of food. We are delivering food parcels 3 days a week and are helped by Joules Brewery whose staff are driving the Methodist Church bus to deliver the food. The Rotary Club are collecting from the collection points in the town. We have a smaller team of volunteers to ensure everyone's health & safety and to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

We would like to thank everyone for their help, support and prayers during this difficult time. We still need food/ money donations so if you can help please go to our website at <https://marketdrayton.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Rooms on Tuesdays and Fridays 9-11am.



24th April 2020

New Services

We are trialling a couple of new Zoom services starting this coming week. You should be able to click on the links below. The liturgy for these services will be sent out with this newsletter.

Wednesday Morning Prayer 10.00am—a short informal service lasting about 30 minutes

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943278704?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943278704?pwd=RytPQ3RmOG5yYlBpUWpoWWkxWGFEZz09)

[pwd=RytPQ3RmOG5yYlBpUWpoWWkxWGFEZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943278704?pwd=RytPQ3RmOG5yYlBpUWpoWWkxWGFEZz09)

Meeting ID: 899 4327 8704 Password: 730701

Thursday Evening Compline 7.00pm

Zoom link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79784433377>

Meeting ID: 797 8443 3377 Password: 007366

Who's Looking After the Church?

We all know that any church is really the people themselves, rather than the building and we are so grateful to all those who have volunteered to offer some social contact for people by phone, or to help people in practical ways, such as getting shopping or picking up prescriptions.

But, of course, we are concerned about our lovely building as well. Please be assured that there are a small number of people going into the church regularly to keep an eye on things. Only these people should be going into church (and you will know if you are one of them!). If anyone else needs to go into the church for any reason you must clear this with the Vicar or one of the Churchwardens first.

Prayer Requests



Please pray for those who have recently lost loved one. We particularly pray for the families of Betty Bonner, Lilian Sillitoe, Joan Manning and Robert Dourish.

Please pray for those celebrating anniversaries and birthdays without their families being able to be there.



Help from Shropshire Council

The Council has launched a **Covid-19 Helpline 0345 6789028** for non-medical support and enquires about Covid-19 or email customerfirst@shropshire.gov.uk

They are also developing a range of support to help people's **mental health and wellbeing**. This includes:

- A **resource pack** regarding helping our mental health and wellbeing, which can be found at <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/information-for-the-public/mental-health-and-wellbeing/>
- **Bereavement support** – in development
- Online access to **FREE Zoom sessions on Stress, Anxiety and Wellbeing**, delivered by Shropshire MIND: Every Tues & Weds 3-4pm, Thurs 4-5pm - each week until the end of May
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85043721339pwd=MkludGZiN1cwRG9IUW1qOHdXT3ptZz09>
Meeting ID: 850 4372 1339 Password: 799957

Shropshire Council also want to know how the current pandemic is affecting people, their wellbeing, how they are finding useful information, how they are being supported, what helps them cope and how their experience of health and social care has been affected. They are trying to establish what is working well, where the gaps are and where people feel things could be improved. They have published a short survey, please encourage everyone to take part. Survey and more information: <https://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk/health-care-and-wellbeing-services-during-covid-19-pandemic>

Staying in Touch

Our Church Office is not staffed at the moment, but e-mails and phone messages are being picked up regularly:

Phone: 01630 653505

E-mail: stmarysmd@btinternet.com

We will continue to post information to our website and Facebook page:

Website: www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Facebook: @StMarysMarketDrayton

Vicar

E-mail: vicar@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Phone: 01630 656943

If you do not wish to continue to receive these newsletters, please let us know.