

M St MARY'S CHURCH Newsletter

29th May 2020



"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people". (Acts 2.17)

Hello Everyone,

Have you ever been to the cinema and got up to leave at the end of the film, only to discover that there have been some extra bits of film – maybe some funny outtakes – that have appeared part way through the credits? Turns out the film wasn't really over.

Where does God's story of salvation end for you? What's the end of the Good News? It can be really easy to focus on Christmas – God is now with us – and Easter – Jesus has died for our sins and conquered death. But that's not the end; the Good News isn't really over. Far from it. And that shouldn't come as a surprise. God's dropped plenty of hints.

One of the passages of scripture the priests would read each year in the Temple in Jerusalem at the Pentecost festival was Ezekiel Chapters 1 and 2. Here Ezekiel has a vision of a windstorm (in Hebrew *ruach*) coming from the north, with clouds of fire and God appears to him. As God speaks to him, the Spirit (same word, *ruach*) comes upon Ezekiel and God says to that he is sending Ezekiel to the Israelites to speak God's words to them.



So here are the disciples on the same day, the Day of Pentecost, when a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting and they saw what appeared to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Coincidence? Not really. It had always been God's plan and it is still God's plan that his people would receive his Spirit. Yes, we are saved and forgiven, but so much more too. The Holy Spirit is God's very presence within us, confirming our relationship as his precious and loved children, working in us to transform and change us.

At Pentecost the Spirit becomes available for all who turn to Christ. Peter has a light-bulb moment, he realises this was always part of the Good News and explains to the crowd, "This is what was spoken of by the prophet Joel: In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people..... Repent and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

But guess what? It's still not over. It's not over until it's all over. God's Good News is for everyone and for the whole of creation and the Spirit is here to help and equip us for the ongoing mission of telling the world about him.

Catherine

Prayer Requests

Please pray for those who have recently been bereaved, particularly the families and friends of Ronald Sweeting and Edna Allman.



Please pray for school teachers and pupils as some return to school.

Give thanks for acts of kindness and compassion, praying that these will continue even after the pandemic.

Regular Services

To join any of our regular Zoom services, click on the links below. If you need a copy of the liturgy for any of the services, please contact the Church Office.

Sunday Morning 10.30am (Morning Prayer)

These services are alternating between a Breaking Bread service and a Morning Worship service.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXR0SctVRS9PSkZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

The reading for this Sunday is: Acts 2.1-21

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

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943278704?pwd=RytPQ3RmOG5yYlBpUWpoWWkxWGFEZz09>

Meeting ID: 899 4327 8704 Password: 730701

Thursday Evening Compline 7.00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78321229825?pwd=R2lUZUJjMjRnTGhINlFPejRlTW5Xdz09>

Meeting ID: 783 2122 9825 Password: 2KrMnH

If you would be willing to read or do the intercessions for our compline services do let Ian Macfarlane know.

You can join any of the above meetings by phone using any of the following numbers and the meeting IDs and passwords above: 0203 481 5237 / 0203 481 5240
0131 460 1196 / 0203 051 2874

Woodcroft

You'll be pleased to hear that everyone at Woodcroft is doing well and they have so far avoided any cases of COVID-19. They have said that they could do with some toiletries for the residents, so if you want to drop anything off at the Vicarage I will deliver them. Please leave items in the plastic box by the Vicarage front door.



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.

Thy Kingdom Come



Just a reminder that you can catch up on the 'Thy Kingdom Come' daily reflections from our local **Market Drayton Churches Together**, including Bishop Sarah via the following YouTube links:

YouTube Channel- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMuYu-V3381Gn9HgE66NYjg>

YouTube Playlist for Thy Kingdom Come- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhsTZcn46JG5PSWLK0v2RKDx0I_12ORn

Foodbank Items Needed

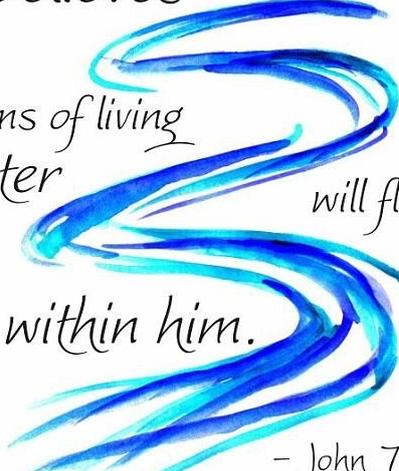
Stock Items urgently required

Corned beef	Jam
Rice Pudding	Tinned Fruit
Custard	Sponge Puddings / Slab Cake
Biscuits	Shampoo
Wet Dog & Cat Food	



Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Rooms on Tuesdays and Fridays 9-11am. If you are unable to bring donations to the Parish Rooms or to the drop-off points in our local supermarkets, please contact Catherine McBride or Carol Corney, who can arrange to have someone come and pick up your donations.

*Whoever believes in me
streams of living water
will flow
from within him.*



- John 7:38 -