

M St MARY'S CHURCH Newsletter



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
(1 Corinthians 13.4-5)

Hello Everyone,

It's been lovely to see some of you at church over the past week, when we have been open again for private prayer on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11.00am to 1.00pm. Many thanks indeed to those who have volunteered to be on duty in church during those times.

Myself and the churchwardens have been going through the Church of England guidelines and risk assessments for resuming services in our church building, trying to work out the safest and most practicable way we can do this. When we've completed this process we will put our proposals to the PCC Standing Committee. In the meantime, our curate Ian Macfarlane, has been looking at ways we can continue to 'stream' our services online.

There are, of course, going to be many restrictions that we will have to accommodate in our services, which will undoubtedly feel very alien to us: measures such as the need for social distancing, which will limit the numbers who can attend; no singing; no refreshments or the opportunity to mingle after the service; changes in how we celebrate Communion. Our aim is to communicate with you in advance about the changes we will have to implement, so that everyone is prepared. So watch this space.

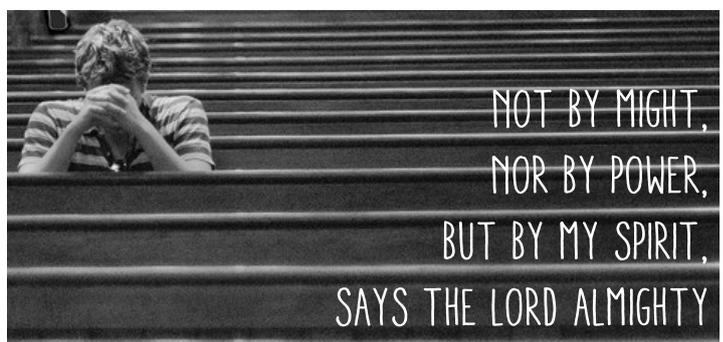
In the meantime, it would be really helpful if those previously on the welcome team and the readers and intercessors rotas could get in touch with Helen Hughes in the Church Office, to let her know if you are willing to go on these rotas again when our services restart. Please check the Government guidelines about whether you should still be observing strict social distancing and we completely understand if some of you feel that you cannot go on the rota at present.

Whilst things back in church might not be exactly the way we would wish, I've been reminded about the experience of God's people returning from exile in Babylon. As the exiles started to trickle back to Jerusalem and rebuild their ruined city, there were those who hankered after the 'old days'. Ezra wrote about the rebuilding of the temple and how 'all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.' However, not everyone shared in the joy. Those who remembered the magnificence of the previous temple built by Solomon wept when they saw its replacement. It was nothing in comparison with what they'd had before.

But Zechariah, who was both a prophet and a priest, challenged the people not to 'despise the day of small things' (Zechariah 4.10) Ultimately this was God's re-building programme. He would enable the builders to complete their work. And God had a special word for those who were part of that re-building initiative: 'not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD Almighty' (Zechariah 4.6).

So as we make our plans and cope with things being strange and alien for a while longer, we trust in the Spirit to guide us, equip us and fill our worship (whether that's in the building or online) with the living presence of our Almighty God.

Catherine



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 (Breaking Bread)

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

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXR0SctVRS9PSkZXdz09)

[pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXR0SctVRS9PSkZXdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXR0SctVRS9PSkZXdz09)

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

The readings this Sunday are: 1 Corinthians 13 and Ephesians 4.17-32

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/78321229825?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78321229825?pwd=R2lUZUJjMDRnTGhINIFPejRLTW5Xdz09)

[pwd=R2lUZUJjMDRnTGhINIFPejRLTW5Xdz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78321229825?pwd=R2lUZUJjMDRnTGhINIFPejRLTW5Xdz09)

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

Men's Prayer Hour

Men, you are invited to join a men's prayer hour on Wednesday 8th July at 7.30pm

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81718528931>

Meeting ID: 817 1852 8931

One tap mobile

+442030512874,,81718528931# United Kingdom

+442034815237,,81718528931# United Kingdom

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:** stmarysmid@btinternet.com

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

Website: www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

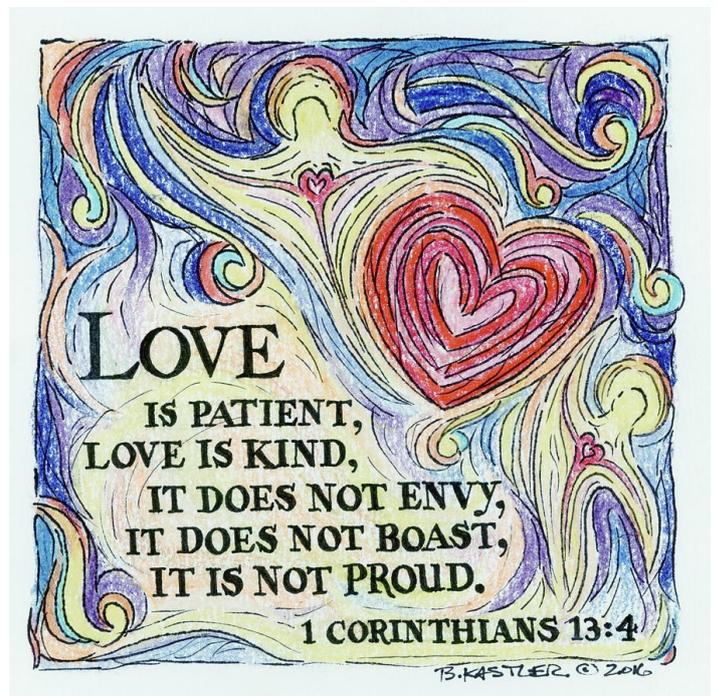
Facebook: @StMarysMarketDrayton

Vicar: Catherine McBride

E-mail: vicar@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Phone: 01630 656943

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



St Mary's Values

The sermons on our church values can be found on our YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3RShnzNqIS-bTomDxAxqJA> Feel free to share this link with any family or friends who might be interested in seeing what St Mary's are doing. We will also make some hard copies available to pick up from church during opening times on Wednesdays or Saturdays.

Foodbank Items Needed



Stock Items urgently required

Tinned Spaghetti

Jam

Custard

Rice Pudding

Sponge Puddings/Slab Cakes

For Children's Holiday Lunches

Tinned Chilli Con Carne

Tinned Mince Beef

Tinned Ravioli

Tinned Hotdogs

Tinned Fruit

Biscuits

Cereal Bars

We have plenty of

Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Fish & Tea.

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.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for guidance for Catherine, Avril and Lindsay as they make plans for services back in church.

