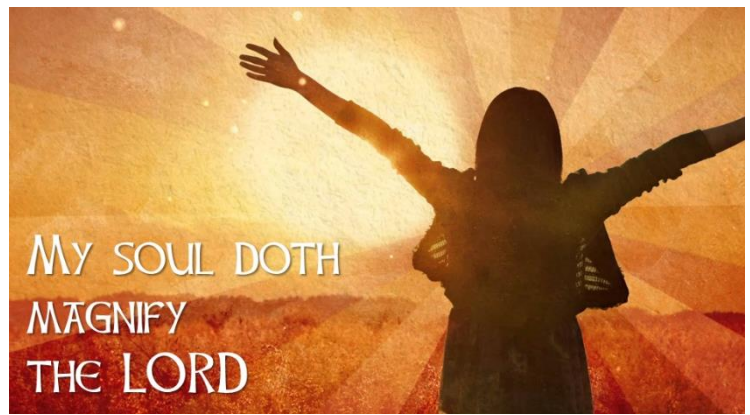


8<sup>th</sup> September 2024



## Now is the time!

In Rupert Brooke's mind, in Grantchester '*stands the Church clock at ten to three*'. In Market Drayton the church clock also stands still – at twelve. But repairs are in hand. However, in an age of watches, mobile phones, radio time checks, what do we need a church clock for? We don't need it to tell us the time. So, what else can it do?

It reminds us of the march of time. Every second, every minute we are stepping towards the future. Do you and I face that prospect with dread, or do we walk with assurance and confidence with Jesus, who promised he will be with us always? Let the clock remind you that with every tick, Jesus is, and always will be, with you. The hands of the tower clock turn. All day, every day they turn. They remind us of our need to turn to Jesus. The first words of Jesus recorded in Mark's Gospel are, "*The time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news.*" Repent is a word that at its heart means, turn. To turn from *my* way, to follow Jesus and walk *his* way. As a church this is the message we take to our community and to the ends of the world. No one needs us to tell them the time of day, but they do need someone to tell them the good news of Jesus. You and I are that 'someone'.

Tick, tock. In your mind is it like a heartbeat, or the steps of a slow walk? It is constant, unchanging, persistent, precise. Do our lives reflect anything of that steady calm amidst the noise and busyness of life? The rhythm of our lives can include prayer, reading the Bible, worship, loving our neighbours.

The clock's one purpose is to tell the time NOW. There is a real power if we learn to live in the moment, NOW. We cannot turn back the clock and change the past. We cannot be sure of the future. But we have been given NOW. So, let's give our all to serving God NOW.

Together, we must tell the good news of his love shown in Jesus NOW. '*Now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation.*' (2 Cor 6.2)

## Please pray for...



David Lucas, Colin Smith, David Halford, John Panter and David Smith. Please also pray for those who have been bereaved, particularly the families and friends of Beryl Allen, Kathleen Corfield and Jane (Carol) Gandy.

*Please let the Church Office know if you would like your name to be added or removed from this list.*

## Church Clock

Repairs to the clock are underway. Many people have asked if they can make donations towards the cost of repairs. This can be done by scanning this QR code or clicking here



<https://givealittle.co/c/4LCcgzleOjgqN78gn05FSA>



## Ginger & Spice Festival 2024

There are two ways you can help St Mary's get involved in this year's festival on the **28<sup>th</sup> September**. We need a team to man the church so that people can come and look around as part of the **Heritage Trail 10.00am - 4.30pm**. We have also been invited to have a church stall/prayer station at the **Artisan Market 9.30am- 4.30pm**. There will be sign-up sheets at the back of church. It would be great to have a strong St Mary's presence at this event.

For the market stall we will have a 3m x 3m pitch free of charge if we bring our own gazebo - this would need to be weighted and made with fire retardant materials. If you can help with this, please talk to Catherine.



## Bring & Share Lunch

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September hosted by Pam & David Clarke at The Stables, TF9 2QC

*Rod*

## Services

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

### 9.00am BCP Holy Communion

### 10.30am CW Morning Worship

Readings: Galatians 4. 4-7 Luke 1. 46-55

These services will also be on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRM R2JXbXRoSctVRS9PSkZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

### Wednesday Morning Prayer 9.00am ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943278704?pwd=RytPQ3Rm OG5yYlBpUWpoWWkxWGFEZz09>

Meeting ID: 899 4327 8704 Password: 730701

### Thursday 10.00am BCP Holy Communion

## Sunday Sermons

Listen back to Sunday sermons over the last few months on our website:

<https://www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk/media>

## Mother's Union Communion

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2.30pm in church, followed by refreshments.



## Save the Date: The Disappearance of Eliza Grey

Come and join us at **2pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September** for a performance of this inventive and entertaining show which explores the issues around dementia friendly communities. The play lasts around 90 minutes and tea and coffee will be available during the interval. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church if you are hoping to attend.



## Phoenix group

(for those bereaved)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10.30am at the Festival Drayton Centre Visit from the Police who will be talking about keeping safe this Winter

## UNITE!

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 7pm at MDMC

Open Christian Testimony, contemporary praise music, prayer PLUS guest speaker, PETER GLADWIN (badly burned baby turned teenage criminal turned failed suicide attempt, turned to JESUS and given a new life!). See poster at back of church.



MDMC Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September.  
All welcome.

## Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required.

**Jam (no stock); Cartons of UHT Milk;**

**Cartons of Long-life Fruit Juice; Tins of Ham.**

**We have plenty of—**Cereals; Pasta; Rice; Tea; Baked Beans; Tinned Tomatoes; cleaning products, conditioner.

If you need to contact the Foodbank, please call **01630 654007** (not the one in the church directory). The trolley at the back of church is now in use and donations are gratefully received.

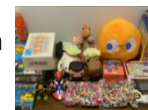


## Coffee Rota

Being able to socialise with some refreshments after a service is an important part of being a church family here at St Mary's and making newcomers and visitors feel welcome. We need some more people to join this important ministry, so please talk to Pat Fox if you can help.

## SWAP SHOP

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September, from 10.30 am in the Parish Rooms. Donations will be gratefully received, as well as helpers please.



## Christ Church Little Drayton

**Film Club Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 1.00pm (films start at 1.30pm) at Christ Church.**

This month's film is The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel. Free entry, coffee, raffle and cake. No money needed, and everyone welcome!



## 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:** Helen Hughes

**Phone:** 01630 653505

**E-mail:** [stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk](http://www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk)

**Facebook:** @StMarysMarketDrayton

**Parish Rooms FB:** @TheParishRoomsMD

**Operations Manager:** Elaine Cook

**E-mail:** [opsmanagerofstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:opsmanagerofstmarys@gmail.com)

**Vicar:** Revd Catherine McBride

**E-mail:** [vicarofstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:vicarofstmarys@gmail.com)

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