

M St MARY'S CHURCH Market Drayton

10th October 2021

Dementia
friendly church



The Beginning (Genesis 1.1; John 1.1)

Both of the Old and New Testament readings set for this coming Sunday start: "In the beginning". The Old Testament reading from Genesis starts: "*In the beginning God*"; the New Testament reading from John's Gospel starts: "*In the beginning was the Word*". In some senses the word "beginning" is not easy to come to grips with. One of the things that has occupied the minds of scientists down the ages is when and how things began, and they are still far from answering these questions. For most of us, our minds just cannot grasp the concept of the universe being in existence for billions and billions of years and how the vast expanses of space came about. However, for those of us who believe in God we know that He began and created all this.

Verse 1 in Genesis goes on "*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth*". Have you ever thought, therefore, that God (and this includes Jesus, the Word) was there BEFORE the beginning! What we have to remember when we talk about eternal life with God, is that this eternal life refers not only to the future, but also to the past. God has always been there.

When we think of the wonders of God's creation it might seem that God is beyond us, out of our reach, impossible to know. Fortunately this is not so. In this first chapter of John we also read these words: "*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us*" (verse 14). These are some of the most important words in the Bible. This means that God is not a distant God whom we cannot reach, but rather through His Son, Jesus, He has come to us and we can have an intimate relationship with Him. Also verse 12 of this chapter says: "*To all who did receive him (that is Jesus), to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God*".

So, even though God is before the beginning, creator of all things and beyond our comprehension, He reveals Himself to us and is Father to all who come to Him through Jesus.

David Jones

Thank You

Many thanks to those who helped with the Market Drayton 10K last Sunday. It was great fun and many good conversations were had with those from our local community.

Mothers Union



M.U. are meeting on Monday, 11th October at 2.30pm in the Main Hall of the Parish Rooms. Our speaker is Rev. Mark Kinder, the Prison Chaplain at Stoke Heath. Visitors are welcome.

Phoenix Group (for those bereaved)

The group will be meeting on Friday 15th October at 10.30am in Wetherspoons, for coffee and chat.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

These are now available to collect from the back of church. Please return your filled boxes to church **by 7th November** at the latest. If you have any questions please contact Helen Smith know (658577 or email hea_smith@yahoo.co.uk).

'David's Sight Loss Marathon - A Walk in the Park'

David Smith is fund-raising for the RNIB by walking a marathon around Market Drayton Town Park. He will be there every day at 10.30am to walk 6km a day from Thurs 14th to Wed 20th October. He will be using the long cane he has been learning to use during the last year. This is his way of saying "thank you" to RNIB for the excellent support they have given him. If you'd like to support David, please send cash or cheque (made to RNIB) donations to 85 Longslow Road, TF9 3BP or go to [Justgiving/fundraising/davidsmith393](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/davidsmith393)

Regular Services

Sunday 9.00am Communion Service (CHURCH)

Sunday 10.30am Harvest Festival (CHURCH)

This service is also available on Zoom

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXRoSctVRS9PSkZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

Readings Genesis 1.1-2.4; John 1.1-14

Wednesday Morning Prayer 9.00am ZOOM

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

Meeting ID: 899 4327 8704 Password: 730701

Thursday 10.00am Holy Communion (CHURCH)

You can also join our Zoom services on your landline using any of the following numbers, with the meeting IDs and passwords above: 0203 481 5237 / 0203 481 5240
0131 460 1196 / 0203 051 2874



Deanery Celebration

Please note that the Deanery Celebration on Sunday 24th October at 6.00pm, with guest speaker David Primrose, **will now be held here at St Mary's**. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to choose a hymn and be willing to say why you have chosen it, please let Catherine know. The theme of the service is about building good relationships between our local churches.

All Soul's Memorial Service

This service will be held in St Mary's Church on **Saturday 30th October at 10.30am**. All are welcome as we gather to remember those we have lost. If you would like to hear your loved one's name read out, please contact the Church Office.

After the service the church will remain open until 1.00pm for quiet reflection, during which time you will be able to light a candle and add your loved ones name to our 'memorial tree'. If you wish to make use of this time, without coming to the service beforehand, you are very welcome to do so.

The Girls Friendly Society

GFS has started up again for the first time in nearly 2 years. It is held in the Parish Rooms on Thursdays between 5.45pm—7.00pm. If you know of any girls from 5—12 years old who would enjoy crafts, games, baking, biscuits and the like please bring them along.

Foodbank Items Needed



Stock Items urgently required

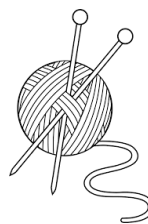
No Stock— sponge puddings/slab cakes; long-life cartons of fruit juice; UHT semi-skimmed & full fat milk; eggs; anti-bac wipes; men's deodorant; size 6 nappies/pull-ups; wet & dry cat & dog food

Very Low Stock— custard; rice pudding; jam; soup; cereals; packets of instant mash; pasta/cooking sauces (not pasta)

Other: Toilet Rolls

If you need to contact the Foodbank please call **01630 654007** (not the number in the current church directory).

Calling All Knitters



For those who love to knit, here are some ways you can put your talents to good use: Churches Together will be distributing knitted **Christmas Angels** again this year. If you'd like to help produce these patterns are available at www.christmasangels.net or from church.

The **Commit to Knit** campaign are asking for much needed hats for homeless people. UK Craft publishers have all donated hat patterns for knitters and crocheters available here: www.ukhandknitting.com/knitting-for-charity/charity-knitting-patterns The closing date is 30th November 2021 and the address to send hats to is: Hats for the Homeless, PO BOX 151, Bingley BD16 9DT.

Bonnie Babies sends premature clothes and blankets to more than 150 UK special care baby units. Lots of patterns (hats, sweaters, cardigans, bunting and teddy bears) are available on their website: www.bonniebabies.co.uk/patterns1.htm The address to send items to is: Bonnie Babies, 8 & 9 Hazelburn Business Park, Campbeltown, PA28 6HA

Staying in Touch

The office is now open Mon-Fri 11.00am—1.00pm.

Helen will be in the office from 9.00am.

Phone: 01630 653505

E-mail: stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.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: vicarofstmarys@gmail.com

Phone: 01630 656943

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

Please be aware that the office BT email address no longer works. Please use stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.com