

14th July 2024

Jesus' parable that Jesus about the wise and foolish builders, always reminds me of the tale of three little pigs! We have two pigs who, despite knowing the dangerous wolf is out there somewhere, take the easy and foolish option of building their houses out of flimsy straw or sticks. They're not prepared to put in the hard work that the third pig does and build a house with proper foundations and strong brick walls.

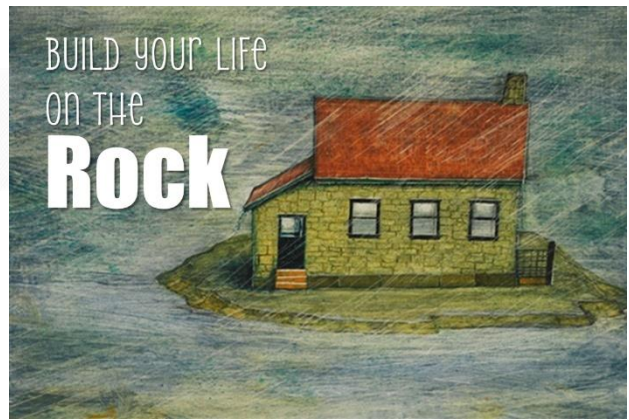
Jesus wants his listeners to know that there are two ways they can live their lives. They can build their lives on a good solid foundation of rock or they can choose to build their lives on loose, unstable, shifting sands. It's their choice; it's our choice. What kind of foundation will I build my life on? Jesus says "everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like the wise man who built his house on the rock."

How do we hear his words? Well, there are all sorts of ways to read, watch or listen to God's word. We can read or listen to the Bible; listen to Christian radio stations or watch a Christian programme. And then, there is prayer. Sometimes we can come to God in our prayer and just bring a long list of the things we need. When you pray remember to spend some time just sitting quietly and ask God to speak to you ...and be ready to listen!

Of course it doesn't just stop there. We don't build strong foundations in our lives just by *hearing* Jesus' words – he says we need to also put them into practice. We need to put into practice the things that Jesus says to us through the Bible or through prayer. Maybe he will challenge us to love more or to try and love someone we find it quite difficult to love. Maybe he wants us to learn patience. Maybe he'll ask us to trust him more. Maybe he'll ask us to do something to help someone else; or he'll give us a word of comfort or encouragement that he wants us to pass on to them.

We need to be building our lives on the rock of Jesus and his words, because we will all face storms in life at some point. When we do, it's far better to have that good solid foundation of Jesus to rely on, because the things we learn from him will stand us in good stead and we can stand firm in his strength and not our own.

Catherine



Please pray for...

David Leach, David Lucas, Colin Smith, David Halford and David Smith. Please also pray for those who have been bereaved, particularly the families and friends of Helen Smith, Pat Currell, Linda Smith and Emmeline Ridgway.

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

Messy Church

We are still looking for one or two more to join our Messy Church catering team. Please talk to Catherine McBride or David Lake if you can help.



Phoenix Group (for those bereaved)

Meeting at **10.30am on Friday 19th July** in Festival Drayton for coffee, cake and chat.

Word for Today

The new Word for Today, covering August, September and October is now available from the Welcome Desk.



Bring and Share



There will be a Bring and Share at the home of Justin and Sue Frankfort, 5 Prospect Road, next **Sunday, 21st July**.

Save the Date: The Disappearance of Eliza Grey

Tuesday 10th September, 2-4pm at St Mary's. This humorous and thought-provoking play has Eliza's diagnosis of dementia at its heart. Finding herself central to a criminal investigation, she needs a local detective to find out the answer. Is the prime suspect her dementia or has she disappeared because of the fears, feelings and good intentions of others in the community? **Admission Free. All welcome.**

Services

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

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship CW Dementia Friendly Service

James 1.16-25 and Matthew 7. 12, 24-29

This service 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>

Shropshire Hope Prayer Breakfast

Saturday 20th July 8.30am Telford Minster, Meeting Point

House, Southwater Square, Telford TF3 4HS

Tickets cost £10 and can be booked via Eventbrite

Shropshire <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/shropshire-hope-prayer-breakfast-tickets-883946396467>

Parish Rooms

Work to replace the heating system in the Parish Rooms has started. Regular users are being accommodated as much as possible and all groups which might be affected have been contacted. There is heating in The Starmer Room but not in the main Hall until completion of the work. We apologise for any inconvenience while the work is ongoing. If you do not have an existing booking, please check with the Church Office before using the Parish Rooms for the time being. Please also avoid parking at the Parish Rooms to allow access for the workmen's vans.

Churchyard – Safety Fence

If you are aware that the protective fence around the fallen boundary has been damaged or knocked over, please let me know so that I can request that the relevant contractors secure the area. Thank you, Elaine Cook

Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required.

Sponge Pudding / Slab Cake / Toothpaste.

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.

Lichfield Diocese Vision and Strategy Presentation

Bishop Sarah and our Acting Archdeacons, Jo

Farnworth and Mary Thomas, will be presenting the

Diocese's new Vision and Strategy at a meeting to be

held here at **St Mary's on Monday 22nd July, 6.30-**

9.30pm, with opportunities for discussion and

questions. All are welcome. Copies of the Vision and

Strategy, as well as our Hodnet Deanery Shaping for

Mission vision, are available at the back of church,

together with a sign-up sheet. If you plan to come,

please let us know, so that we have an idea of

numbers. Any help with serving refreshments would be

greatly appreciated.

Tunstall Hall Summer Fete – 31st

August 1 1am-3pm

We are planning to have a stall at this event selling

books, puzzles, games, etc to raise funds for Tunstall

Hall. Donations gratefully received in the box at the

back of church. Please contact Carol Corney if you

would be prepared to help man the stall for part of

the day.

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

Website: www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Facebook: @StMarysMarketDrayton

Parish Rooms FB: @TheParishRoomsMD

Operations Manager: Elaine Cook

E-mail: opsmanagerofstmarys@gmail.com

Vicar: Revd Catherine McBride

E-mail: vicarofstmarys@gmail.com

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

