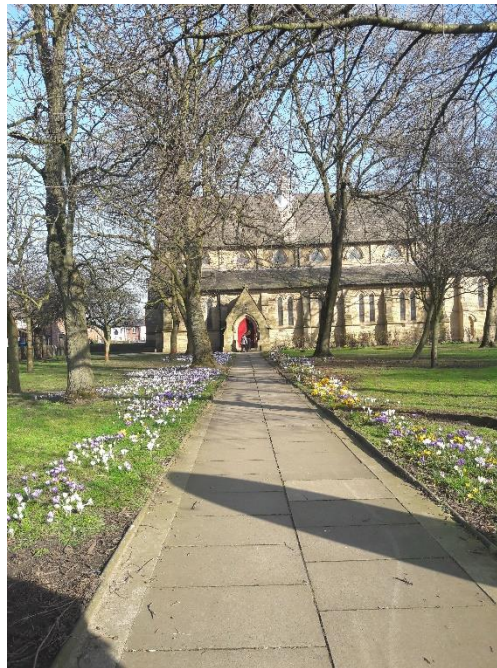


September 2020
THE DIARY OF ST MARY
DROYLSDEN

*A welcoming all-age community growing and sharing
God's love*



Associate Ministers

Reverend Nancy Alexander 371 9667

Reverend Sue Ball 682 1439

Church Wardens

Pat Catterall 370 0039

Beth Cutler 285 1472

for I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord"

Services – September 2020

**Morning Worship in Church 10am each Sunday and
as announced**

**Face coverings must be worn, and social distancing
observed**

**Services during September can also be found on YouTube on
Wednesdays at 6pm and Sundays at 10am.**

(Google YouTube then search St Mary's Droylsden)

**Any changes and updates will be announced on the website and
where possible Facebook**

The Book of Ephesians #2

Chapters two and three.

Chapter two is a really exciting chapter for me. Paul explains the difference between the old ways and the new way open before us through Christ. Everyone who followed the paths of the world, idolising material things, seeking glory for themselves “gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts” was now saved by God’s grace. Such grace as has lifted us high to sit with him in the heavenly realms, that we might learn at his feet (paraphrase). Such grace as is freely given, not earned by doing good deeds. That way, all glory is pointed back to God, not to ourselves.

The language used in these first ten verses of chapter two reinforces Paul’s excitement. He uses short words, long sentences, he keeps adding bits on where you expect a sentence to end. After verse ten, you can almost hear him panting. You can virtually see him waving his arms around as he tries his best to help you understand. The old ways are gone, there’s a new way, a way for everyone to be part of.

This is the message of the second half of the chapter. There used to be two kinds of people, Jews and Gentiles. Quite separate. The former assured of their place in God, the latter “without hope and without God in the world.” The amazing news is that, through the blood of Christ, there is no longer any distinction. God’s purpose was to create peace between the two, to destroy the divisions. From now on there would not be an us and them society,

everyone would be equal in God's eyes. The new church would be built on the traditions of the past but would forge a new path with Christ at the centre as the cornerstone of the newly built Church. If only humanity had embraced this through the years!

The final verse in chapter two is particularly apt for a time when we are physically distanced and limited as to what we are able to do. "And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." The church today is not only a building where we come together for learning, fellowship and worship. Each one of us is a dwelling place for the Spirit, each one of us is God's church. And when we are together again, what a spectacular cathedral we'll be!!

The young Paul, or rather Saul, was not a nice chap. A tent maker by trade, he could recite the scriptures, read well and write a little. He was a Pharisee and spent a number of years going from synagogue to synagogue calling for the punishment of the followers of the new religion. In fact, it was recorded that Paul was present at the stoning of Stephen ("the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul", the witnesses probably being the ones doing the stoning, "And Saul approved of their killing him.")

But in chapter three he again tells his readers that God's grace and power had worked in him such a transformation that now he was trying his best to explain the mystery of Christ. "Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given to me". How good's that, as Shirley would have said. Every one of us is so precious a child of God that we can approach him without fear, with freedom and confidence.

He ends the chapter with a prayer for the Ephesians. It speaks for itself, needs no explanation and is as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago. It is my prayer for you too.

A Prayer for the Ephesians

For this reason, I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Rev'd Sue

Walk to York

In recent weeks I have been collecting the miles I walk together in an attempt to cover the equivalent of the distance from St Mary's to York Minster. The route I mapped passed through several small towns and each leg of the journey started and ended at the local parish church. In order to make the walk an act of worship I contacted the clergy at each one to see what they wanted me to pray for as I walked.

Each person who replied was grateful that they were being prayed for. What was striking was that they all wanted the same things held up to God. As with St Mary's, they are all concerned about reopening safely and how they might resume outreach work in their communities.

One of the priests (in Copmanthorpe just outside York) went to Littlemoss and his parents both came from Droylsden! His surname is Mumford. I wonder if anyone knows the family?

Anyway. That project completed, I have devised a new one. As I am currently 'in York' it seemed appropriate to head south to Canterbury Cathedral. Again, I have mapped a route via several parish churches. Each stop is further apart this time as the journey is somewhat longer - 285 miles in all. I will be contacting the clergy of the churches again to pray for them as I walk.

I've decided to make it a sponsored walk to raise money to help cover the cost of the dry rot repair in the Emmaus Room. Any excess will be donated to the Alzheimer's Society.

If you can sponsor me there are a few ways to help out.

- Visit my justgiving page https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/rev-sue-long-walk?utm_term=5mvd2ERQm
- Donate straight into St Mary's bank account - ask a member of the PCC for details
- Drop your donation into the offertory box in church with a message so I know who has donated.

The first church is St James, Selby (14.1 miles) and the second is St Nicholas', Thorne (29.1 miles). The Reverend Jill Cheverton at Selby asks that we pray for the youth and children's ministry. There is much made of children needing to be in school for social and emotional reasons, but she reminded me that we also need to support them spiritually. Please get involved by praying for these two congregations as they discover new ways of being church in their areas.

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I'll keep you posted about my progress and any messages of encouragement will be gratefully received - especially when the weather gets a bit grotty!

Since starting this article, I have received the following message:

Dear Sue

Thanks for your message. I hope your walk goes well.

Please pray for St Nicholas as it embarks along with all parishes in the Diocese of Sheffield, on a move from traditional parish ministry to Oversight Ministry and Focal Ministers. St Nick's, although the congregations are not aware of it until I make the announcement on September 6th, will be facing a period of interregnum as I retire on December 31. So please pray for us in that.

Many blessings
Rev'd David Green
Vicar
St Nicholas Parish Church, Thorne
www.st-nicholas-thorne.co.uk

Many blessings,

Rev'd Sue

As We Are Gathered

How different our worship has been over the past few months.

We have listened to services on the radio, watched them on the television, telephoned in, logged on to Sue and Nancy on YouTube and over the past few weeks visited St Mary's.

As the services at St Mary's re-started, we took gentle steps to ensure that we were all safe and felt comfortable in our surroundings. These steps have been reflected in Sue's Sunday morning service on YouTube so that we worshipped together similarly although apart. After the first step the next big step for me was when we introduced music into the service.

For those of you in the vicinity of the church building you may have heard the bells ring out. An invitation to join us and a reminder that we are still ministering to our community.

At the church service the hymn tunes are played, and we follow the words singing along in our minds. How melodic and tuneful my singing has been - the best ever (in my head!) For those of you worshipping at home you had the joy of being able to sing as loudly as you wished with no rules or masks to dampen your enthusiasm.

This Sunday the opening hymn was 'As we are gathered'. What wonderful words:

As we are gathered Jesus is here
One with each other, Jesus is here
Joined by the Spirit, washed in the blood
Part of the body, the church of God
As we are gathered Jesus is here
One with each other, Jesus is here

As I read the words listening to the music it brought each one of you to mind. Whether you were sitting in the church building with me or sat at home as we gathered for the morning service Jesus was with each one of us. One with each other joined by the spirit.

No matter what our talents or gifts are they have all been given by God. We are all a part of God's church. Only if we use our individual gift do we become Part of the body, the church of God.

As we take more gentle steps in our services towards a church family worshipping together once again let us remember that wherever and however, we worship that:

As we are gathered Jesus is here
One with each other, Jesus is here

I look forward to the time when the St Mary's building is filled to overflowing with our church family singing loud and long to the glory of Christ.

In the meantime, I will mask my singing and enjoy the glorious sounds within my head.

With my love and prayers for you all

Pat

Church Family

I would like to say a big thank you to my church family at St. Mary's, for I know I could never have got through the 14 weeks of shielding, and grieving for my twin brother Les without the love shown.

Every day I had a visitor, people waving and phone calls, I will never forget your kindness.

It brought me to think of Galatians 6 verse 10.

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

God Bless,
Ann Holland.

Covid 19 Nature Watch

One of the few good points that came from the restrictions is being able to spend time nature watching. I am fortunate enough to have a very long garden and grow a variety of plants.

This year I was able to watch the development from spring, buds to blossoms and in some cases to fruit and to watch the wildlife. With everywhere so quiet, there was plenty to see. I have never seen so many young starlings at one time on my feeding stations – very boisterous they were too and what messy eaters! The young sparrows amused me sitting there fluffing their wings and opening their beaks at any adult sparrow coming near, some were even pecking for themselves between parental feeding. This year for the first time I saw some young blue tits and gold finches waiting patiently to be fed. I even saw a baby robin for the

very first time – I had to look it up to see what it was. *(editor's note – so did my husband and I – one frequented our garden every day for a couple of weeks).* e

I've watched bees collecting pollen with their sacks hanging from their little legs, I left part of my lawn uncut for an extra fortnight as there were a lot of clover flowers in it and the bees were all over it. There were lots of different flies and other insets and of course slugs and snails. The snails I saw this year were a mixture of the usual large shells and many smaller, frailer snails with lovely, coloured rings round their shells, these were lovely.

Recently I startled a young frog whist I was weeding – it could have been a toad, but it wouldn't stay still long enough for me to check.

As I write this, I have seen spring turn to summer and harvested black and red currants, gooseberries and a few apples, it now looks like autumn isn't far away as the blackberries are ripe and I've harvested and eaten some potatoes and beetroot. I would have had broad beans, but I think the field mice beat me to it! The horse chestnuts on Greenside Lane are ready to play conkers with.

Isn't nature wonderful? Thank you, God for your great creations.

Jill

Winter is an etching
Spring is a watercolour
Summer is an oil painting
Autumn is a mosaic of them all

By Stanley Horowitz

Community Page

We mentioned last month that we are trying to start a new Community Page and hoping to include knitting patterns or recipes. Our first contributor is Jill Kennaugh who has sent a knitting pattern for a glove puppet. Ideal for a little one or to put in a Christmas Shoebox when we are allowed again.

Make 2 pieces

Size 8 (4mm) knitting needles and double knitting wool. K=knit

Cast on 18 stitches and K for 34 rows

Cast on 10 stitches at the beginning of the next row and K to end.

Cast on 10 stitches at the beginning of the next row and K to end. (38 stitches)

K 10 rows

Cast off 10 stitches at the beginning of the next row and K to end

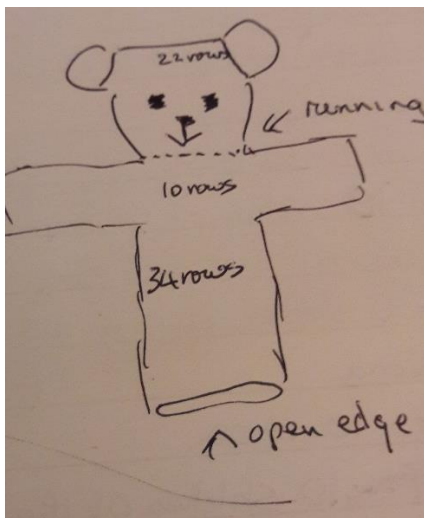
Cast off 10 stitches at the beginning of the next row and K to end (18 stitches)

K 22 rows and cast off.

Make a 2nd piece exactly the same

Sew the two pieces together up one side, across the top and down the other side (do not sew along the bottom – the child's hand goes in here). Turn right sides out. Tie off or stitch ears and embroider eyes, nose and mouth.

You can also do a running stitch around the neck and pull up slightly and fasten off securely.



Answers to Last Month's Quiz

Answers to Quiz Search 2

4 meats	Chicken, Pork, Beef, Lamb
4 soups	Vegetable, Tomato, Minestrone, Oxtail
4 curries	Biriani, Madras, Korma, Thai
6 vegetables	Cabbage, Onion, beetroot, Peas, Carrot, Potatoes
3 types of pasta	Tagliatelle, Farfalle, Penne
5 herbs	Thyme, Tarragon, Mint, Sage, Basil
5 fruit	Apple, Pear, Melon, Peach, Figs
5 fish	Seabass, Mackerel, Halibut, Salmon, Tuna

QUIZ SEARCH 3 – Famous people

R	O	B	E	R	T	W	A	G	N	E	R	B	S	S	P	R
A	O	M	I	N	A	S	T	R	O	N	P	I	L	I	H	P
G	A	A	R	R	N	L	O	O	N	Z	G	M	A	O	S	I
L	S	D	W	T	N	A	T	H	E	C	H	A	S	E	E	S
I	O	I	A	I	E	R	P	Z	O	O	T	B	G	A	N	A
A	C	Y	N	D	O	R	H	A	N	L	A	B	S	T	U	B
K	K	H	I	E	O	Y	I	S	E	I	B	E	N	A	L	A
E	A	M	S	B	C	H	L	N	R	N	L	Y	T	P	C	E
L	B	P	E	B	J	A	M	E	S	M	A	R	T	I	N	S
L	B	R	B	I	I	G	B	E	H	O	A	E	Y	E	I	R
E	T	A	S	E	Z	M	K	C	I	R	S	D	R	D	T	E
H	G	I	A	A	O	A	R	G	D	G	N	P	D	I	R	M
A	E	S	L	E	N	N	P	A	I	A	R	E	T	U	A	U
A	E	E	M	A	A	K	E	A	S	N	V	A	G	E	M	S
N	T	T	O	E	S	A	T	U	B	I	L	I	N	E	S	D
U	V	K	N	B	U	F	F	Y	A	C	K	E	D	D	L	I
T	O	M	A	T	S	M	A	I	L	L	I	W	K	R	A	M

Answers will be forward backward up or down or diagonal but always in a straight line.

Find the following

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Islands to highlands (chef) | 12. First name of Harry – Blondie Sugar |
| 2. Actor who plays Merlin | 13. First name of Davis – Tennable Host |
| 3. Actor who plays Doc Martin | 14. First name of Tennant – Dr. Who |
| 4. Actor who plays J R Ewing | 15. First name of Schofield – Presenter |
| 5. Actor who plays Jonathon Hart | 16. First name of Stein - Chef |
| 6. Actor who plays Father Brown | 17. First name of Calman – comedian |
| 7. Game show hosted by Bradley Walsh | 18. the vampire slayer |
| 8. First name of Judge Rinder | 19. Songs of |
| 9. First name of Goodman ex strictly judge | 20.. Murders |
| 10. First name of Titchmarsh Gardener | 21. Design |
| 11. First name of Toksvig. Q.I. presenter | 22. Downton |

Something To Think About

We've made start on our Community Page in the Diary. Perhaps you have a favourite recipe or knitting pattern you would like to share. Maybe you know of a charity fund raiser that needs some publicity. Have you some good news would like to share?

Please let us know. My contact details can be found below or speak to someone at the Service on Sunday Morning.

Christine

We would like to thank everyone who has made a contribution to this month's diary, without **you** there wouldn't be one

If **you** would like to contribute something to the diary, please contact:

Christine

christine.withers12@talktalk.net

Facebook

Enter St Mary's church on your FB page search bar and you will see our Facebook page

St Mary's Church Website is

www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk

Church Flowers and Bookstall - Details from Church

Mothers Union - Details from Church

Tots Time (pre-school) - Diane Heywood/Margaret McCracken

Lighthouse - Bubbles (3-5yrs), Splash (5-8yrs) 2nd and 4th Sundays in Church Room

St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Primary School

Head Teacher, Miss K Hampson - 370 3948

250th Manchester Scout Group

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers - 07973739041

5th Droylsden Brownie Guides - 339 0016

Rainbow Pack - 301 4251

St John's Band - 285 3583

