

12th October 2025



Hallmarks

Hallmarks are outward signs of inner quality. We are most familiar with them on articles made of precious metals like platinum, gold or silver. These trustworthy, official marks tell us when and where the article was tested, who made it and just how much of the precious metal it actually contains. Both of our readings this week talk to us about the hallmarks of good behaviour in people with impeccable inward values.

Jesus, towards the start of his earthly ministry, returns to Nazareth, where he grew up. In the synagogue he reads a prophecy from Isaiah and explains how it refers to him. The hallmarks of Jesus' behaviour in his earthly ministry will be: preaching good news, freeing prisoners, restoring sight, relieving oppression and proclaiming the greatness and goodness of God. Just what we expect of someone who truly expresses the inexhaustible love of God for us all. Later, Jesus will bear the hallmarks of our redemption and reconciliation with God - the scars and the wounds of the cross.

Paul writes to the church in Rome to describe the typical behaviours he expects of Christians in the new church there. His own life experiences had shown him that when he, and the people to whom he preached, truly and fully accepted Jesus into their lives they were transformed, changed completely and for the better. One outcome of that transformation are actions that characterise Christians and their communities – the hallmarks of lives that have turned to Christ.

Just as Jesus taught, Paul puts love at the top of his list. This is a rich, deep love. A love that is sincere, brotherly and sisterly, that puts other people's needs first. Such love fosters joy, hope, faithfulness, hospitality and empathy in communities of believers, the new churches. Paul is quite realistic and acknowledges that, in our flawed world, evil persists and continues to call us away from God. Perhaps the most defining hallmark of Christian behaviour is that, though we are tempted to respond to evil like for like, we fight it by doing and being good. This high calling was true for the Christians in Rome then and remains true for us today.

Lindsay



Please pray for...



Rachel; Sue Norman; Hazel Haskayne; Brian McClellan; John Panter; Joe McPhee; Nita's grandson, Ben; Helen Hughes' brother-in-law, Jack; Finley Parton; John and Ray Reynolds.

We continue to pray for Roy Senior and his family as they mourn the loss of Mary.

Please let the Church Office know if you would like your name added or removed from this list. The list will be routinely reviewed every few months.

Mothers' Union



Our next Mothers' Union meeting is on **Monday, 13th October at 2:30pm** in the Parish Rooms. Speaker – Rosemary Walker – a past Diocesan MU President.

Children and Families Worker

We are advertising for a part-time Children and Families Worker - full details are on our Website. Please pass on this information who is a committed Christian and might be interested in working with children and families. The closing date for applications is **31st October**. Please pray that the right people will apply and that those interviewing will be guided by the Lord in the decisions they make.



All Souls Service to be held on Saturday **1st November at 10.30am** in St Mary's. Everyone is welcome to attend and you are invited to add the name(s) of anyone you would like to be remembered specifically at that service on the list in the Welcome area. The names of those who have died in the last year are already included on the list.

Services

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

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am CW Morning Worship

Readings Romans 12.9-21; Luke 4.14-21

The 10.30 service will also be on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337124930?pwd=NFdMTzRMR2JXbXR0SctVRS9PSkZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 853 3712 4930 Password: 867888

Wednesday Morning Prayer 9.00am ZOOM

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

Meeting ID: 899 4327 8704 Password: 730701

Sunday Sermons

These are available on our website:

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

Christmas Choir - will you join us?



'Christmas Choir' practices for St Mary's Carol service on 21st December start at 7.30pm on Thursdays from 23rd October for harmony singers with tune singers joining

from 27th November. Please let Elaine Cook know if you would like to take part. Everyone is welcome.

Phoenix Group (for those bereaved)

We are meeting for coffee, cakes and chat at the Festival Drayton Centre

10:30am on Friday 17th October



Games and Gossip

The inclement winter weather can stretch on for months and leave some people feeling very lonely. This winter, we are hoping to set up a fortnightly session in the parish rooms from October to February to provide refreshments, games and gossip.

These sessions would start on 28th October and subsequently be on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, from 2pm to 4pm, making a total of nine sessions. There would be an entrance fee of £1.

To get this off the ground, we are looking for willing volunteers to help as they can. You needn't be available for all nine sessions, but any help you can provide would be much appreciated.

Please sign the sheet in the welcome area to let Avril know if you are able to help.

Foodbank Items Needed



Stock Items urgently required:

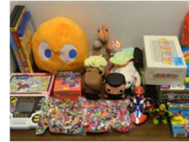
UHT milk (green); washing up liquid; shampoo; deodorant (M & F); anti-bac spray/toilet cleaner; shower gel.

We have plenty of:

Cereal; pasta; rice; tea; baked beans.

The trolley at the back of church is now in use and donations are gratefully received.

Swap Shop – Saturday 8th November



Taking place in the Parish Rooms. Helpers as well as items would be much appreciated.

Next Organ Social - 29th November

Our next organ fund raising event will be a social along similar lines to the very successful one held in May.

There will be a meal interspersed with entertainment. We are still looking for offers of help. **Please let Elaine know if you are interested in helping out in any way, including food preparation and serving as well as contributing to the entertainment.**

Singing for the Brain

Thursdays, 1.45pm – 3.15pm at the Beacon Centre. £2.50 pp inc tea, coffee & biscuits



Operation Christmas Child



Shoeboxes will be collected from 10th November. Please save and fill your own boxes. Contact Hilary Talbot for further information.

Christ Church, Little Drayton Film Club

16th October – Dad's Army



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

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Vicar: Revd Catherine McBride

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