

20th July 2025



Fully Human, Completely Divine

Do you remember how and why you came to faith? For some, like Paul, it was a single transformative moment; for many others, including me, it was the gradual realisation that life and living only makes sense when Jesus is at the centre of all that we think and do. There are many ways to identify with and follow Jesus. Most of us will remember particular moments of recognition, inspiration and transformation which put us on a path of reconciliation with God, through discipleship and growth to become more like Jesus.

In Paul's letter to the Colossians a key theme is that Jesus is, all the time, both God and human. Here he affirms Christ's presence and active engagement in creation – there is nothing that He has not touched. This is Christ as God, awesome, unfathomable and all powerful. And yet, despite all this, He came to us, a baby born in the usual way who grew up, just as we do, to be an adult in a complex bewildering world. We can respond to Jesus through our common humanity and this connects us directly to a God who yearns for us to love him just as he loves us. Notice how Paul identifies himself as a servant of the gospel. He reminds us and encourages us that, like him, our role is to serve the gospel, to follow God's working through it and to listen to where it leads.

In Luke's gospel Jesus teaches us through word and example, through story and memorable sayings, through healing and deliverance. He is building a community shaped by the values of God's Kingdom – radical ways of thinking, behaving and relating that nurture the well-being of all at the expense of none. At Martha and Mary's house we find the King of Kings and Lord of Lords taking the time, as a human, to rest and recover from His work. Above all, He gently listens to the tribulations of Martha and lovingly points her to the best way forward, reconciliation with Him and with Mary. Now that's an example we are all able to follow.

Lindsay



Please pray for...



Brian McClellan, John Panter, Jenny Wade, Mary Senior, Joe McPhee, Cherion George, Nita's grandson, Ben, Debra Deeley's son-in-law, Andy and Helen Sweet's son-in-law, Alan Dean.

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

Mothers Union Summer Outing



The MU outing on 11th August, is to the Royal Horticultural Society's



Garden at Bridgewater near Salford. The coach will leave at 9.30am and return here by 5.30pm. The total cost of garden admission and the coach is £28. If you would like to join us, please contact Barbara Bashford asap.



Deanery Synod

At the moment Richard Betham and Geoff Oakes serve on the Deanery Synod. There is still one vacancy if anyone would like to be involved as we are allocated 3 places. Members are ex officio members of the PCC but can choose not to be if they so wish. If you would like more information please have a word with Catherine, Richard or Geoff.

Bring and Share Lunch.



Justin and Sue Frankfort look forward to welcoming all who are available, to join the church family at Grosvenor

Dene, 5 Prospect Road, TF9 3AP at 1pm.

It's probably best to park either at Morrisons or Raven House (though official permission has not been sought), and walk up Prospect Road where the house can be found opposite the distinctive white wall and bus stop on the RIGHT (going UP the hill). Number 5 is the first of the big Edwardian semis on the LEFT. There is limited parking on the drive. (There are steps up to the front door. The back door has flat easy access).

Services

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

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am CW Holy Communion

Readings **Colossians 1. 15-28 Luke 10. 38 - end**

The 10.30 service will also be on Zoom.

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

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

Thursday 10.00am BCP Holy Communion



IONA Communion

Sunday 27th July at 6.30pm

Sunday Sermons

These are available on our website:

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

Refreshments

Everyone enjoys the social time after our 10.30 service on Sundays, but it often slips our minds that the refreshments are made and served by an unsung group of volunteers. We are in desperate need of extra people to help provide these refreshments. So, if you enjoy a coffee and nibbles on a Sunday morning, please consider joining our group of volunteers. Contact Pat Fox if you are interested.

Newcastle Domestic Abuse
Services would like to thank

everyone who generously
donated clothes, toys and gifts to the Women's Refuge
in Stoke on Trent. Everything donated will be a
comfort to all the women and children at the refuge
and will help when families are able to move into their
own homes

glow

Foodbank Items Needed



Stock Items urgently required:

UHT Milk (blue & green); Long-life Fruit Juice; Jam;
Tinned Wet Dog Food; Women's Deodorant;
Anti-bac spray/wipes; Washing-up Liquid

We have plenty of:

Cereal; Pasta; Rice; Tea; Baked Beans; Custard.

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

Concert in aid of our organ fund



**Saturday 23rd August at 7.00pm in
church.**

Enjoy the sound of the Shifnal Male Voice
Choir, with guest soloist Elaine Cook.

Tickets £10 from Elaine. All proceeds to the organ fund.

Rural Leaders Retreat

Friday, 12th Sep-2025

9.30am - 4:00pm at Yarnfield Park Training &
Conference Centre Yarnfield, Stone

Meet with other Rural leaders in the New Wine family,
seeking God in prayer and worship. Please click on the
link for a program of events and speakers

<https://nwln.churchsuite.com/events/oadwatvg>

Tickets are £60 and includes a 3-course lunch and
refreshments throughout 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

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