

21<sup>st</sup> April 2024



## Is Jesus our only saviour?

At my 'selection conference', to determine if I would be recommended for ordination, I was chatting with one of the other candidates as we were hanging around between interviews. She was telling me all about her work as a volunteer chaplain at her local prison and how she enjoyed working with the members of the team from other faiths. 'After all', she said, 'it's all the same really, isn't it'. 'Interesting', I thought.

At my next interview, the interviewer asked me what words I would use to describe my relationship with Jesus. 'Friend, lover, captain, guide, brother, master, Lord, Saviour', I replied. He paused. 'And would you say that Jesus is the only one who can save us? Is he our only Saviour?'

My mind started racing, thinking back to the conversation I'd just had with my fellow candidate. Was it a trick question? What answer was he expecting? What answer did he want? Was I supposed to say Jesus was, of course, only one of any number of possible Saviours and that there were many other routes to salvation? It probably only took a few seconds for all that to go through my mind, but it seemed to last a lot longer before I said, sheepishly, 'Well, yes, actually I do.' 'Oh good', he beamed 'So do I'.

I never found out whether the lady I'd been talking to had been posed the same question or how she had answered or whether, indeed, she was recommended for ordination. I had gone on to reflect with the interviewer that, of course, we are called to treat everyone and their views with respect and it is valuable to have an understanding of different religions and there is much we can learn from one another – but they are not all the same, really. And one of the most fundamental differences is that question of how we are saved. And Peter – and your Vicar – are clear – it's all about Jesus: salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

*Catherine*

## Word for Today

Copies of the Word for Today covering May/June/ July 2024 are available on the desk at the entrance to church.



**JESUS ANSWERED,  
"I AM THE WAY AND  
THE TRUTH AND  
THE LIFE. NO ONE  
COMES TO THE  
FATHER EXCEPT  
THROUGH ME.**



## Please pray for...



Ron Jones, John Panter, Laura McGarry, Helen Hughes, Beryl Hinton, Colin Smith, Sarah Moss, David Lucas, Marilyn Reeves, Ray Croucher, Helen Smith, Joe McFee's grandson Jaiden

Roberts, David Halford and John Barnes.

*We periodically update our prayer section. Please let the Church Office know if you wish names to remain on or be removed from the list.*

## **\*\*Treasurer Needed\*\***

Lindsay Bashford will be stepping down as Churchwarden the APCM (20<sup>th</sup> May). Lindsay has also been covering the role of Treasurer. Since we can't expect a new Churchwarden to assume this additional role, it is really important that we appoint a new Treasurer. In fact, without a Treasurer, it will become increasingly difficult to find those willing to take on the role of Churchwarden. We have now developed a team approach to managing our church finances, so that the burden doesn't fall on one person. In addition, we also now have Elaine as our Operations Manager, who is able to assist in many ways. If you think you may be interested in taking on this important role and would like to find out more (a role description is available), please speak to Catherine McBride (details overleaf) or Lindsay Bashford (01630 652656). Thank you.

## Dementia Friendly Songs of Praise

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 10.45 – 11.30am** Lichfield Cathedral.



An informal service for those impacted by dementia' with Tony Christie and the Cathedral choristers. The service will be filmed for BBC Songs of Praise. Contact Canon David to register: 07946 222667

[david.primrose@lichfield-cathedral.org](mailto:david.primrose@lichfield-cathedral.org)

## Bring and Share Lunch

From 1pm **TODAY, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April**, hosted by Hilary Talbot in the Parish Rooms.



## Iona Communion Service

**6.30pm** next week, **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April**.

## Services

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

### 9.00am BCP Holy Communion

### 10.30am Holy Communion CW

Readings: Acts 4: 5-12, John 10: 11-18

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

## UCB visit

There are still a few places left for the visit to United Christian Broadcasters (UCB) on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. This will include a sandwich lunch. Final deadline is 25 April as we have to send numbers to UCB for them to provide the lunch. Please see Geoff Oakes or contact him by phone (01270-811017) or email ([geoffoakes123@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffoakes123@btinternet.com)).

## RNLI 'Sing to Save Lives' Concert



Elaine's choirs are joining together in St Mary's at **7.30pm on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April** to support the RNLI's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary campaign. Please help them support this very worthy cause. Wine and soft drinks provided at the interval. Tickets are £10 each and available from Elaine Cook.

## Longlands appeal for plants



We're looking to spruce up and further develop our school garden and could use a little help from our community. If anyone is splitting their plants or ideally has any spare perennials that will come back year on year, spare summer flowering bulbs, or extra seeds lying around, we'd be incredibly grateful to put them to good use. Help make our garden bloom! Please bring items into our school reception or drop us a message at [admin@lon.mmat.co.uk](mailto:admin@lon.mmat.co.uk) if you can contribute. Thank you so much in advance!

## Swap Shop



The next Swap Shop will be on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**, from 10.30 in the Parish. Donations, as well as offers of help, would be gratefully received. Please tell friends, family, neighbours.

## Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required.

Tins/cartons of custard.

**We have plenty of**—Cereals; Pasta; Rice; Tea; Baked Beans; Tinned Tomatoes.

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.



## Dementia Week Coffee Morning and 'Bake-Off'



**15<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am-12.00pm.** Proceeds for a performance of the "Disappearance of Eliza Grey" to be held in church 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Donations of baked goods appreciated, there are sign up sheets at the back of church.

Also at this coffee morning, the St Mary's 'Bake-off' scones heat will be judged. The winner will go forward to compete with the winners of heats from other local churches making a Victoria Sponge on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** in aid of Foodbank. **Participants needed – entries most welcome.** *Scones are not made live, as on TV, but in the comfort of your own kitchen!*

To do all this we would really be glad of some help! If you can assist in anyway, big or small, we would love to have you join us! Please speak to Val Creasey, Steph or Malcolm Grey-Smart or Avril Innocent for more information and to enter the 'Bake-off'. Thank you.

## Weekly Giving Envelopes

Envelopes for the new tax year are ready for collection by the Noticeboard at the back of church. If you wish to change your stewardship method from envelope to direct bank deposit, please contact Avril Innocent.



## 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

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**Website:** [www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk](http://www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk)

**Facebook:** @StMarysMarketDrayton

**Parish Rooms FB:** @TheParishRoomsMD

**Operations Manager:** Elaine Cook

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