

31<sup>st</sup> March 2024



## Seeing is Believing

It was J. S. Fry & Sons Ltd who produced in the UK the first chocolate egg in 1873. The Bristol based chocolate business was founded by Joseph Fry, a Quaker. There are many traditions surrounding the Easter egg and the egg has been a symbol of new birth for many years.

The death of Jesus came as a great shock to those who knew him, but I wonder why? Jesus had told them many times what would happen but the “penny had not dropped”. I sometimes wonder how the disciples spent the rest of Friday through to very early Sunday morning - the 3rd day. I guess they were bewildered, distraught and very afraid. Would the Romans get them next? I suspect they were desperate to visit the tomb!

It is interesting that the two Mary's were at the tomb first and found that Jesus was not there. And even when presented with the evidence of the folded grave clothes at the tomb they were still mystified. Grave robbers do not leave grave clothes behind.

The angels' words “why do you seek the living among the dead, he is not here he is risen” made them remember Jesus words but they were still perplexed.

Jesus' death and resurrection heralded in new life for all, to say that Jesus' death accomplished redemption for us means that it accomplished deliverance from our captivity through the payment of a price. There are three things we had to be released from: the curse of the law, the guilt of sin, and the power of sin. Jesus' death did just that!

The women, Peter and John saw and believed but understanding would come later.

Only after Jesus was glorified did the disciples realize that the things that had been written about Jesus had come true, that may be the same for us.

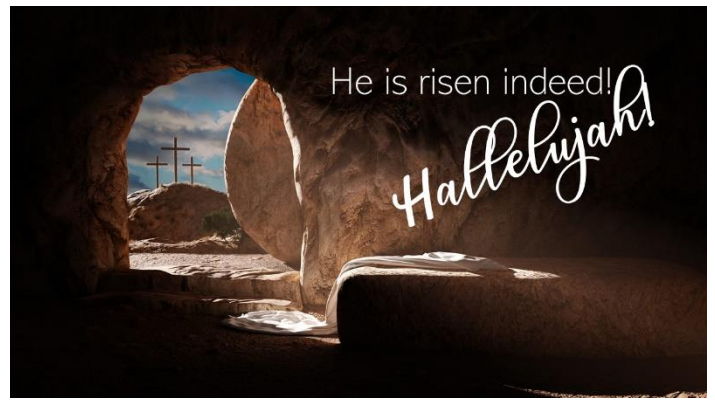
We are the other side of the cross and resurrection but as we eat our Easter eggs let's remember they signify new life in Jesus which is for everyone.

*Peter*

## Messy Church

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

3.30pm – 5.15pm in the  
 Parish Rooms



## Please pray for...



Ron Jones, John Panter, Laura McGarry, Beryl Hinton, Colin Smith, Helen Hughes, David Lucas, Ray Croucher, Helen Smith, Joe McFee's grandson Jaiden Roberts, Adrian & Jenny

Corney's friend Becky Turner, John Halford's brother David and Liz Barnes' brother John.

*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.*

## Easter Canal Towpath Outreach



We will be on the canal towpath near Bridge 62, Newcastle Road again this Easter giving away hot cross buns and small Easter eggs, inviting passers-by to Easter

services and running quizzes for families. This event has been running all weekend, please pray for the final event later today

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

You may recall that when David Costelloe stepped down as Treasurer there were no other volunteers at the time and the role fell to Lindsay Bashford as a Churchwarden. Lindsay will be stepping down at the next APCM (20<sup>th</sup> May) and so it is crucial that we appoint a new Treasurer, as we cannot expect a new Churchwarden to assume this role as well. In fact, without a Treasurer, it will become difficult to find those willing to take on the role of Churchwarden, so we can't stress enough how important this is.

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.

## Easter Day 31<sup>st</sup> March

6.15am Sunrise Service (in churchyard)  
9.00am Traditional BCP Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion



## Services

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

### 6.15 Sunrise Service

### 9.00am BCP Holy Communion

### 10.30am Holy Communion CW

Readings: Acts 10:34-43, Mark 16:1-8

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

As you are probably aware St. Mary's donates 10% of its income to Christian charities and this year one of the recipients is United Christian Broadcasters (UCB), based in the Potteries. We've been invited by Chief Executive, David L'Herroux, to visit the broadcasting site to view the facilities and to meet him over a sandwich lunch which UCB will provide free of charge.

The visit will be on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. The maximum group size is 20 so places are limited. If you would like to join the group I know you will find it very interesting and have the opportunity to learn more about the ministry of UCB, it's prayer line and outreach work including the Word for Today. Please contact Geoff Oakes as soon as possible if you would like to come by emailing him at [geoffoakes123@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffoakes123@btinternet.com) or leave a message on 01270-811017.



## Mothers Union



Our next meeting will be on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 2:30pm**. This will be a Holy Communion Service in church, with Rev. Christine Simpson.

## Foodbank Items Needed

Stock Items urgently required.



**Jars/tins of cooking/pasta sauces; dry cat food; tinned dog food; laundry powder/pods; washing up liquid; tinned rice pudding; tins/cartons 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 number in the current church directory). The trolley at the back of church is now in use and donations are gratefully received.

## Foodbank Trustee Needed

The Foodbank are looking for someone with a finance background to join the Board of Trustees. For more information please see the poster on the notice board at the back of church or speak to Catherine.

## The Church Directory

Thank you to everyone who has returned their forms. There is still time for submissions to the office.

## Helpers Needed

More helpers are needed for refreshments after the 10.30 Sunday morning services. If you are able to volunteer, please speak to Pat Fox.



## Dementia Friendly Songs of Praise



**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 10.45 – 11.30am** at Lichfield Cathedral. An informal service for all 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)

## 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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**Facebook:** @StMarysMarketDrayton

**Parish Rooms FB:** @TheParishRoomsMD

**Operations Manager:** Elaine Cook

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**E-mail:** [vicarofstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:vicarofstmarys@gmail.com)

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