

5<sup>th</sup> July 2026



## My yoke is easy

When we read Paul's Letters (Epistles) in the New Testament, I wonder what impression of Paul they give us. Surely a man of tremendous faith, a man totally convinced of the resurrected, living Lord Jesus, and totally committed to serving His Lord. No matter what the personal cost in both physical, emotional and spiritual suffering, his one desire was to bring the Good News of salvation that God has provided through His Son to both Jews and Gentiles. As we read his letters, he also challenges our faith in Jesus, our commitment to live as Jesus asks of us, and our desire to bring the Good news of Jesus to those around us. Such was Paul's devotion to Christ that he even suggested that we should follow his example in the way we live out our lives here on earth by allowing the power of Jesus to transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body (Phil. 3:17-21). Reading this, we may well feel demoralised thinking how could we possibly be anything like Paul, whose standards were so high. It is for this reason that I so much appreciate what Paul has written in Romans Chapter 7, which is our reading for today. Here Paul lets us know that he is human after all! Here we find that we can identify with him when he says: *"I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do – this I keep on doing"*. We can agree with Paul as he says: *"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?"* But he goes on: *"Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!"* Because Jesus lived among us, we can be assured that Jesus knows our weaknesses and accepts us as we are. Jesus lives alongside us and He says to us: *"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

*David*

## Messy Church

On **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 3.30pm** in The Parish Rooms.



## Please pray for...



Helen Hughes; Dean Price; Sue Norman; John Panter; Pam Clarke; Hazel Haskayne, John and Ray Reynolds. Also, the families and friends of Michele Padgett.

*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.*

## Confirmation Service

We will be hosting a confirmation in September (probably the afternoon of Sept 6<sup>th</sup>). If you would like to join others in marking your journey of faith, or are interested in finding out more, please speak to Catherine.

## Welcome Tea

If you have joined St Mary's in the past year or so we'd love to invite you to **Afternoon Tea at The**



**Vicarage on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 2.00pm.** You'll meet key members of our team and find out more about our church life. If you'd like to come or want to know more, please speak to Margaret Deaville 07922 629248 [deavillemargaret1@gmail.com](mailto:deavillemargaret1@gmail.com)

Thank you to those who have offered to make cakes for this event. Please let Margaret know what cakes you plan to make. She or Pat will let you know where and when to drop them off.

## Mothers Union



Our next meeting is on **Monday, 13th July, at 2.30pm** in the Parish Rooms. Our speaker will be Carole Higgins from the Drayton Civic Society and Museum.

## Phoenix Group



Our next meeting is on **July 17<sup>th</sup>**, for afternoon tea at Fletcher's Garden Centre. Pick up **1.30pm** at Lidl car park.

## Services

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

### Sunday

**9.00am BCP Holy Communion**

**10.30am CW Holy Communion**

**Readings:** Romans 7.15–25a Matthew 11.16–19,25-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 Holy Communion 10.00am**

## Sunday Sermons

These are available on our website:

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

## Foodbank Trustees Needed

Market Drayton Foodbank is in the process of developing a new strategy, aimed ultimately at reducing the need for the Foodbank by addressing the underlying needs of our clients. We are, therefore, seeking people of energy and commitment to help us do this; particularly, but not limited to those who can bring other skills, such as financial, legal, governance (health and safety, safeguarding), human resources or public relations experience.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact our Foodbank Chair – David Strudley at [chair@marketdrayton.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:chair@marketdrayton.foodbank.org.uk) to discuss further and obtain an information and application pack. Applications should be received by 7<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Interviews will be held week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

## PCC and Deanery

We delighted that Ellie Carr has offered her services as PCC Secretary. The email for PCC items remains the same [pccofstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:pccofstmarys@gmail.com). We still have vacancies for PCC and for Deanery Synod Representatives. Please speak to Catherine to find out more about both roles.

## Bring & Share Lunch Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July



All are welcome.

The next Bring & Share Lunch will be at Julia and Simon Farrant's house:  
Longford Old Hall, Longford TF9 3PW.

## Foodbank Items Needed



### Stock Items urgently required:

**Fruit juice; biscuits; tinned fruit; soup; jam; deodorant.**

*Low stock Items:*

Rice pudding; custard; instant mash (single packs); shower gel; toothpaste; anti-bacterial wipes/spray/bleach; washing-up liquid; shaving gel.

**We have plenty of:** Baked beans; washing powder/pods, toilet roll.

See the Foodbank website form more details. The trolley at the back of church is now in use and donations are gratefully received.



## Donations for Venezuela

The Disaster Emergency Committee have opened a Venezuela Earthquake Appeal.

Please consider making a donation at [donation.dec.org.uk/venezuela-earthquake-appeal](https://donation.dec.org.uk/venezuela-earthquake-appeal).

## 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](mailto:stmarysmarketdrayton@gmail.com)

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

**Facebook:** @StMarysMarketDrayton

**Parish Rooms FB:** @TheParishRoomsMD

**Children and Families Worker:** Carol Preston

**Phone:** 07878 926853

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**Operations Manager:** Elaine Cook

**Phone:** 07454 441943

**E-mail:** [OperationsManager@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk](mailto:OperationsManager@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk)

**Vicar:** Revd Catherine McBride

**Phone:** 01630 656943

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

**During Helen's absence, please continue to use the church email address in the usual way.**

**To ensure Elaine has a break from work on her days off, please avoid speaking to her about office matters on a Sunday. She is happy to talk to you about music, AV or Gift Aid matters. Thank you.**



**Deadline for newsletter articles Wednesday noon.**