

1st March 2026

Sharing Communion

Air to breathe, food to eat, and water to drink are the minimal essentials to stay alive.

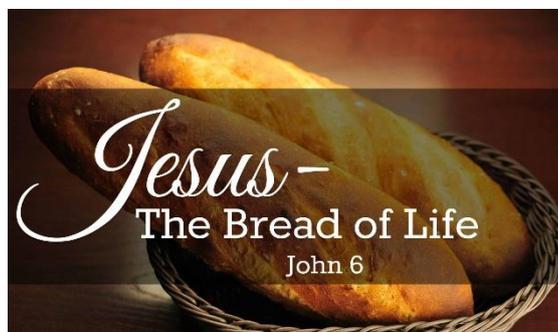
Most of us take the air for granted. We share the oxygen in the air with every other living person (and animal). As fast as we use it up, plants (and other photosynthesisers) replace it, so we never have to worry about having enough. When our lungs don't work properly, extra oxygen from medical devices can keep us going. For this, we are grateful for the human ingenuity that created those machines and for the carers who make sure those needing it have enough oxygen.

For food and drink we are much more dependent on the activity of other people to satisfy our needs. Safe drinking water supplied directly to homes is a benefit of civilisation and skilled engineers. There are still plenty of places in our world where water is collected from spring, well, river or lake and carried home for drinking and washing. Most human settlements cluster around a dependable source of clean fresh water, ideally available to everyone.

We may grow some food for ourselves but mostly we depend on others to grow, prepare and sell us the food we want – there is an extensive, complicated network of relationships that brings food to our tables.

God ensured that His creation contains all the resources to provide for our physical needs and gave us the knowledge and skills to exploit and share them. But He hoped for so much more for us – He wants us to know Him, love Him and live for Him and each other. To make sure we could do this he gave us Jesus whose life, death and resurrection opened the way for us to come close to God with our sins forgiven. Week by week we share in the simple meal by which Jesus asked us to remember Him. The bread and wine, a complete diet, with the Holy Spirit give us the all the air, food and drink we need to participate in His kingdom. There we are all equal and able to share everything we have so that nobody goes without.

Lindsay



Please pray for...



Phil Turnock; Malcolm Grey-Smart; Sue Norman; John Corney; John Panter; Joe McPhee; Pam Clarke; John and Ray Reynolds.

We also pray for the families and friends of Margaret and Dennis Neville, Helen Venables and Ronald Hand. *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.*

Children's Corner

If you are able to help with our Children's Corner on the 1st or 3rd Sundays of the month, please speak to Carol Preston or Catherine McBride for more information.

Support for 'Open the Book' in Schools



'Open the Book' presents the Bible in a fun drama form, ideal for school assemblies. We're putting together a team to go into the schools in our town. If you'd like to be involved, please talk to Carol Preston to find out more.

Draw Near – Lent Booklet



If you have taken one of the Lent booklets, but are yet to pay, please let Catherine have your £2 as soon as possible please. Many thanks. There are still a few of the children's booklets left.



Worship @6
Market Drayton
Methodist Church

Sunday 8th March, with speaker Rev Anthony Clowes: church leader, church planting coordinator and leadership coach for both the Methodist Church and the Church of England. All are welcome.

Phoenix Group

(for those who are bereaved)
The next event is lunch at The Red Lion on Friday 13th March at 12.00 (a week earlier than normal). Please give in your menu choices as soon as possible.



Services

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

Sunday 8th March

9.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.30am CW Morning Worship

Readings: 1 Corinthians 11. 17-26; John 6. 48-58

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>

Bring and Share Lunches

If you would like to host a lunch, please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome area.

Girls Friendly Society (GFS)

GFS meets at the Parish Rooms each Thursday during term time, now at the new time of **5.30pm – 6.45pm**.



The annual Mothers' Union Cake and Preserves sale will take

place after both services on **Sunday 8th March**. All proceeds and donations, will go to MU projects in Rwanda, transforming the lives of mothers and their families.



Our next MU meeting is on **9th March** at 2.30pm, when our speaker will be our Diocesan President, Deb Tudor. It will be a great honour to have her with us.

Wine Tasting



Saturday 18th April 7.00pm in the Parish Rooms. Tickets £10, in aid of the Organ Fund. Only 30 tickets are available, so book soon to avoid disappointment!

Foodbank Items Needed



Stock Items urgently required:

LOW STOCK: **UHT milk (green semi-skimmed) long-life fruit juice; tinned fruit; male/female deodorant.**

Instant mash; custard; instant noodles; sponge puddings/cakes; small jars of coffee; washing up liquid; anti-bacterial wipes/spray & bleach; toilet roll; shower gel; shampoo.

We have plenty of: Cereal; rice; baked beans; rice; pasta.

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

Games Café

The remaining Games Cafés are on **Tuesday 10th and 24th March at 2.00pm** in the Parish Rooms. Come along and join an afternoon of fun with board games, coffee and good company! Bring your friends and find warmth and a welcome this Winter!

Film Club



Christ Church Little Drayton on **Thursday 19th March 12.00-3.00pm** showing Crocodile Dundee. Light lunch and raffle. ALL FREE and everyone welcome.

Children's Society Box Holders

Please return your boxes to Elaine Mason. Many thanks.

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

Children and Families Worker: Carol Preston

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E-mail: Families@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Operations Manager: Elaine Cook

Phone: 07454 441943

E-mail: OperationsManager@stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

Vicar: Revd Catherine McBride

Phone: 01630 656943

E-mail: vicarofstmarys@gmail.com

Donations can be made by scanning the QR codes:



General fund



Organ fund



Security fund