

OFFICIAL

May 2024 THE DIARY OF ST MARY'S DROYLSDEN



***A welcoming all-age community growing
and sharing God's love.***

Rector

Reverend Cath Hewison 0161 370 1569

Associate Minister

Reverend Nancy Alexander 0161 371 9667

Church Wardens

Pat Catterall 0161 370 0039

*'Arise, shine; for your light has
come, and the glory of the Lord
has risen upon you.'*

Isaiah 60:1

May Services 2024



5th May - 10.30am – Family Holy Communion

Acts 10: 44 – end and John 15: 9-17

9th May – 7.30pm – Ascension Day Holy Communion

Acts 1: 1-11 and Luke 24: 44-end

12th May - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-end and John 17: 6-19

19th May – 10.30am – Holy Communion - Pentecost

Acts 2: 1-12 and John 15: 26-27 – 16: 15

26th May – Morning Worship – Trinity Sunday

Romans 8: 12-17 and John 3:1-17

27th May – 12noon – Light lunch followed by Holy Communion

Please join us for Tea and coffee in the Church Room after service

Pentecost: The Gift of God and the Presence of God!

In April we celebrated the amazing, good news that Jesus, who died on the Cross, was raised to life three days later, and we hear the good news that we too receive new life through him. In May our Easter celebrations lead us to Pentecost, and the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church – the presence of God right with us.

For many of us it can be hard to understand what we should think of when we think of the Holy Spirit. We can at least begin to understand



Jesus coming among us as a man, but how to think of the Holy Spirit? On the Day of Pentecost, the disciples experienced the coming of the Holy Spirit as: something like the sound of rushing wind, and something like flames of fire resting on them.

Jesus said that he would send another Comforter (strengthened), who would be our teacher and guide, leading us into truth. He inspires us to call God 'Father' and enables us to know God's love in our hearts. He inspires and empowers our prayers. The Bible even says that he prays within us, with prayers too deep for words. It is the Holy Spirit who connects us with Jesus, making us part of the Church, so that we are also connected with one another.

Just as Jesus was present with the disciples, teaching and guiding them, so the Holy Spirit is present with us. We do not face our lives, and our challenges alone, but God's Spirit, his very presence, is with us to encourage and strengthen us, to inspire our faith and points us to Jesus.

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He empowers us to live as Christians and share that good news with others. We have much to celebrate and give thanks for!

Take courage: Christ is Risen! He does not leave us as orphans but has given us his Spirit!

Rev Cath

Pentecost Praise!

Celebrate together with churches from across our Mission Community:
Denton, Audenshaw, Droylsden & Haughton Green

A Celebration Service for all the family.

Sunday 19th May 4pm at St Martin's Church, Droylsden.

Prayer Tree

Please feel free to hang any prayer requests on the prayer tree at the front of church near the eagle lectern. Prayers may be asked for or thanks given.

You will find cards and pens there.



Sunday School

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Sunday School activities are now available in the Church Room every 3rd Sunday for children in year one and above.

Tea and Toast Drop In

Wednesday mornings during term-time from 9am. Call in for a brew and a chat and perhaps meet some new faces. Who knows what you might discover.

For more information have a word with Beth or Gaynor



Planning Ahead

Copies of the booklet mentioned in the March diary about planning your funeral is still available at the back of church. If you missed the article you can find it online or have a chat with Pat.

Photographic Exhibition

Do you enjoy taking photographs? During the summer do you manage to get out and about and visit different places of worship?

If this sounds like you, you may be interested in taking part in an exhibition planned for display in church at the end of the summer.

See the posters up in church or on the website for more information.

Fellowship and Holy Communion

The next fellowship and Holy Communion Service will be at 12noon on Monday 29th April and the one in May will be on 27th May (Bank Holiday Monday)



Please look out for the sign up sheet for catering purposes and of course everyone is welcome, please encourage anyone you know who you think might like to come along.

Childrens Society Boxes

Childrens Society boxes are now due in, please pass them to Rosemary as soon as possible.

If anyone would like to take up a Childrens Society box please have a chat with Rosemary.



Bible Study Groups

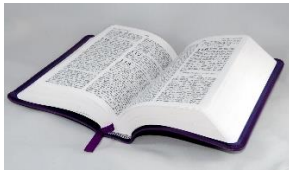
If you came along to the Church Open Day last year you will have seen a display by the Bible study groups that meet in the Emmaus Room twice a month on Tuesday or Thursday evenings to which everyone is welcome.



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These are informal groups and the studies usually include a video to watch then questions for discussion followed by a brew and a biscuit or slice of cake.

If anyone is interested in joining one of the groups, or would like more information, please have a chat with Charlotte, Doreen or Sstephanie (Tuesday group) or Christine, Pat or Jim (Thursday group)



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Next Meeting – 7th May at 7.30pm

Guest Speaker – Pat Catterall

10 years of Foodbank



Followed by a short AGM

Everyone welcome

Can You Help?

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My mum, Doreen Tunnicliffe, died last year and I'm looking for the hymn book that is dedicated to my late dad Norman Tunnicliffe so that I can add mums name to his.

I keep looking for dad's hymn book but so far, I haven't been able to find it. Can I ask if you would kindly have a look on the inside cover of your hymn books each Sunday and if you see my dad's name either pass the book to me or Christine so that I can have mums name added to his please?

Thank you in anticipation,

Val Riley

New Life

When I retired as School, one of the gifts I church.



Headteacher of St Mary's received was a bird box from

Recently, I was putting some jumper bobble / fluff into it and to my amazement, the opening was full of moss and twigs and grass. I could then hear a lot of tweeting from the surrounding trees so I might be a mum soon!

When I looked at the other boxes I have up, they seemed to be empty.

Kathryn Hampson

Kathryn didn't disturb the next, this is a photograph taken from the internet.

Creative Prayer

Take a look out of the window or go for a walk and take note of three things you see which give you pleasure.

Give thanks for the lens of faith and thankfulness through which we can appreciate and enjoy God's gift of abundant life.

Amen

Ann Holland



No Left Turn

Just a little reminder, it is against the law to turn left out of the church car park onto Church Street.

The CCTV camera on Church Street is being monitored more closely by the authorities because of several traffic and anti-social behaviour issues on Church Street.

Lent Course

Over the period of Lent Rev Cath ran a course at the Rectory

It was about the events of Holy week leading up to the crucifixion looked at from the perspective of some of the women who lived through that time. Some are mentioned in the Gospels, the widow with 2 coins, Mary wife of Cleopas, Mary Magdalene and Mary mother of Jesus, others are

not mentioned but some would be part of the crowd watching and waiting as events unfolded.

It certainly gave us a lot to think about and discuss especially thinking about Mary mother of Jesus being there to witness His crucifixion and the many emotions she would have gone through.

Rev Cath provided homemade soup each week which we all appreciated and it was good to sit round the table together, some of the ladies came from St Martins and it was good to get to know them. If we wanted to we could give a donation and £120 was collected which Rev Cath sent off to Christian Aid.

Diane Heywood.

Footnote:

I have checked with Diane that she is happy for me to add to her article with a bit of my own.

Unfortunately, I didn't attend any of the Lent Courses this year, but Diane agreed that this was still relevant.

For Christmas, my son Iain bought me a book called Daughter of Cana. It follows Jesus' life from the wedding where he changed water to wine right through to The Crucifixion. The story is told from a woman's point of view and although it is a novel, it is factually correct in as far as research can go.

The woman eventually marries one of Jesus' brothers, but the story goes through all the emotions at the time of Jesus' teachings, she discusses it all with his sisters and speaks to Mary, his mother. Meets women who have faith in Jesus unconditionally and although all the way through the book until the very end, she is a doubter along with most of the rest of Jesus' siblings she eventually sees what has been hiding in plain sight and becomes a believer.

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I don't read physical books much since I retired, reading mainly on my Kindle but I always have a physical book for the airplane. This book was compelling, and I finished it as the seatbelt lights came back on at Manchester Airport when we returned from Madeira this year. If anyone would like to borrow it, just let me know but I would like to get it back please.

Christine

St Mary's School Easter Experience

In the run up to the Easter break, the pupils from St Mary's School came into church to "Experience Easter."

The young people did lots of different activities related to Holy Week, starting with Palm Sunday, writing prayers on a palm prayer tree, through Maundy Thursday and the Last Supper, Judas' betrayal of Jesus and Good Friday's Crucifixion.

Below you will see some photographs of the things the young people wrote about what they learned and how they felt but a copy of the booklet can be found on the table in the church room for you too look at all of it.

All about the Easter experians.

I loved it.

It was spectacular because:
we put a needle in the cross,

wrote once palm branphe, did a
mosae art, wrote all my friends
names on the piece of paper
and we ate bread and wine.

The bread was Jesus body and
the wine was his blood.

By Amebel.

The Last Supper

On Maundy Thursday, Jesus and his
disciples gathered around a table and had
the last supper, this was bread to resemble
his body and drank wine to resemble
his blood. We re-enacted this across the school.
After everybody had had a piece
of bread and drank their wine, simon
asked them how they felt that they had
had food as some people aren't
as lucky as us and don't get food.
Most of them replied, "Grateful or
thankful," I also told them about the
Eucharist and what it is and what the
priest says when they give you the wine
which is, "Do this to remember me."

By Edward.

I liked the Easter experience
because I really liked the activity
and how much work the year 5's
put into it and I'm very grateful

I really liked the nailing into the
cross
and the bread and wine
and the palm leaves
and everything else

As I said I'm very very glad
for it

we made the nails
Roe

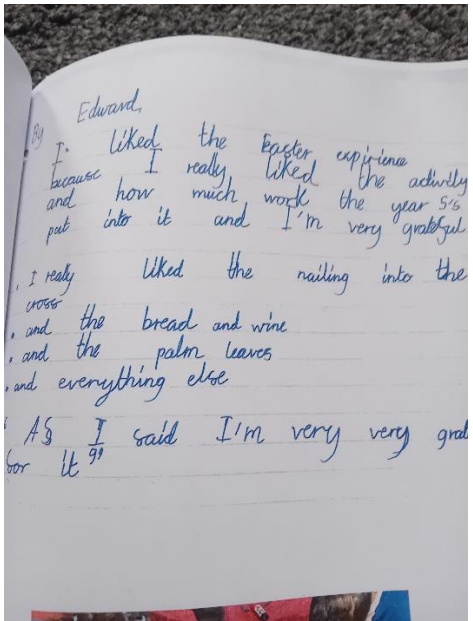
Our Easter experience

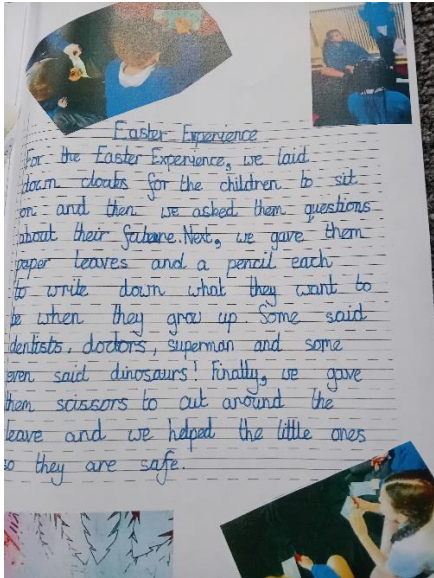
Reception

the bread was his body

Simon

we drank
the blood of
Jesus
Eucharist





Thank You

Dear Friends and fellow Christians,

On behalf of my wife Mildred and myself I thank you for the many cards and good wishes you have sent following her fall. It has been a painful and generally unpleasant experience for Mildred and one of great anxiety at times for me. I am pleased to report that although at the time of writing Mildred is still suffering pain, she is able to move about a bit with the aid of a Zimmer frame or a stick. And now after having a hair do she is looking and feeling better.

It is at times of great distress that one benefits from one's Christian belief and from the prayers and many kindnesses shown by church members.

We both thank you and may God continue to bless us all.

Brian Booth

Future Heroes

Volunteering for the Fire and Rescue Service, our work is very diverse, one of my favourite roles is supporting the Prince's Trust award evenings.

On Thursday the 11th April I was at Dukinfield town hall to witness Hyde team 33 get their well-deserved awards. My role was simply making sure the catering area ran smoothly and marshalling eight youngsters to make their entrance on key and in the right order simple.



The guests, usually parents, are treated to a filmed collage of what their children have been doing during the 13 week course, and the team have to make individual speeches outlining what they have gained during the course, they are always very nervous.

They are amazing youngsters most have dropped out of education and are spending their days in their bedrooms as keyboard warriors.

On the course they get involved in community work, team building, they get work experience and so very much more.

To listen to how far they have come, the confidence they have gained is inspirational.

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I'm so proud of each team and each individual member, they achieved so much and made friends for life and the percentage that go on to being employed is amazing.

For those that don't know, the Prince's Trust was set up when Prince Charles retired from the navy and wanted to spend his pension making a difference. It's soon to be renamed as the King's Trust because he wants to stay involved.

Please if you are able look at Hyde team 33 on Facebook, they really are our future heroes.

Barbara Walton

More of Finley's Cub Scout Journey

Regular readers of the diary will know about my grandson Finley's journey through Beaver Scouts and now Cub Scouts (and his occasional visits to church). His time as a Cub Scout is now coming to an end and he says he's looking forward to joining the Scout Troop (the jury is out on that at the moment).

He loves going to Cubs, as a rule I drop him off and Iain, his dad picks him up and Finley rings Derek and I to tell us what he's done that evening on the way home and he's usually full of it.

He's taken part in two football competitions, a swimming gala, he's not a confident swimmer and although the Cub Pack won the gala and Finley came fourth in his race gaining one point he was unhappy that he "came last" (still gaining one point and the overall competition was won by one point) there was no convincing him that his one point really counted, all we could get out of him was that "**last is last!!**" He's been canoeing and made a raft.

Finley can sew on a button, iron his uniform, bandage a wound. He knows about CPR, how to stay safe at home, on the internet, road and water. He's learned about different disabilities, recycling, his own faith and worldwide faiths. Finley has been a photographer, sportsman, scientist and entertainer. I've earned my "sewing on badges" badge as to date I've sewn on a total of thirty-six badges! The latest badge to be worked towards is the Home Help badge, and he's had us in hysterics with the photographs of him changing his bedding.

We've seen Finley grow in confidence as he's become first a seconder of his six and then a sixer. Sadly, that confidence hasn't grown enough for him to go to camp, but we can't have everything.

I was a Beaver Scout Leader for about 20 years and know just how hard the Leaders have to work to deliver an entertaining as well as educational program and Akela and her helpers will be thanked properly when Finley does move on up to Scouts but I'd like to put it in print while I can, just how grateful Finley's dad Iain and I are for their time and dedication.



Christine

PS Contact details for the Scout Group are on the last page of the diary.

What Are Seniors Worth

Did you know seniors are worth a fortune?
Silver in their hair, gold in their teeth,
Stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet,
And gas in their stomach.

I've become a little bit older since I saw you last,
A few changes have come into my life, and frankly,

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I've become a frivolous girl!

As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me out of bed.
I visit John next, then it's time for Mr Kellogg,
Followed by the refreshing company of Mr Tetley, or my other
Friend who I just call PG.

Then comes someone I don't like – Arthur Ritis,
He knows he's not welcome, but he insists,
And what's more he stays for the rest of the day.
He doesn't like to stay in one place,
So he takes me from joint to joint.

After such a busy day, I'm really tired, and glad to go to bed,
With Johnny Walker. What a life! I'm also flirting with AB Zhimmers.

The Minister called the other day and said at my age,
I should be thinking of the hereafter,
I told him. Oh I do all the time, no matter where I am,
In the bedroom, sitting room, kitchen or even the garden,
I stop and ask myself "now what am I doing here after?"

Vivian Shaw

To Make You Chuckle

Pick of the Archives #41



©Andy Robb



We provide specialist support that empowers young people to make positive changes and rediscover their hope. They want a future they can look forward to and we're here to make sure they get it. Working alongside young people, their families and community, we will not rest until together, step-by-step, we've created a society built for all children.

The young people who come to see The Children's Society often have low self-esteem. When they are living in families can't afford the next meal, the next size up in school uniform. Or when there's no one else to lean on.

Refugee and migrant children often land in this country alone and look to them for guidance to achieve the life they dreamed of. To have a settled home, a secure job and starting a family. They're not asking too much.

The Children's Society see teenagers in their services who want to quit using drugs or alcohol. Who are looking after mum, dad or siblings more than they had bargained for. Or who had been taken advantage of and find themselves carrying drugs to far away towns or having sex with strangers.

Often the hope inside them has taken a battering, it might only be hanging by a thread. But The Children's Society know it's there **and see a better future is within reach.**

Please remember your Children's Society boxes are due in this month, please pass them onto Rosemary and if you want any more information about taking a box, please have a word with her or Jill and try to join us for the **Coffee Morning on 4th May.**

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St Mary's Church, Droylsden

Coffee Morning

Saturday 4th May

9.30am – 11.00am

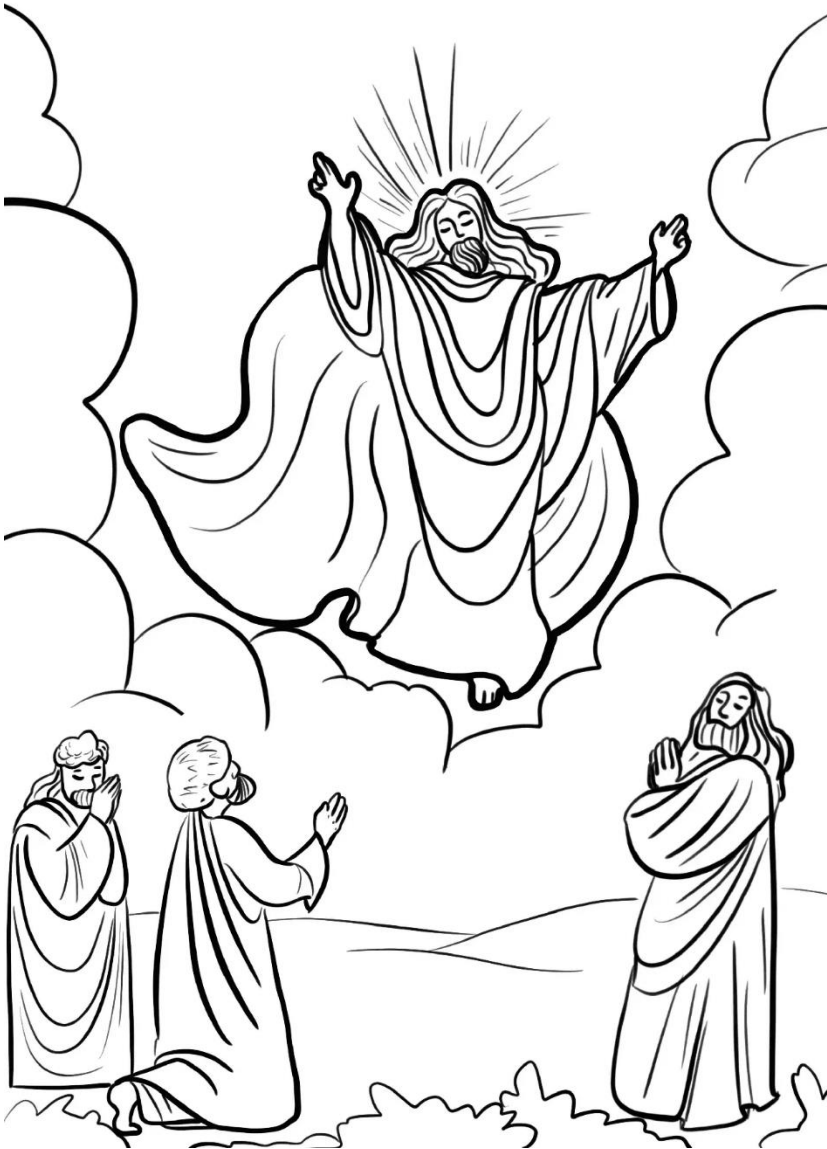
In the Church Room



All Welcome

Proceeds to The Children's Society

A Picture to Colour



Read Luke 24: 50 - 53

Deadline for the diary is always the 2nd weekend of the month unless there are school holidays when articles are required as soon as possible please.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this diary, without YOU it wouldn't be possible. If you would like to contribute to future publications, please contact me by email:

christine.withers12@talktalk.net

Telephone 0161 371 8825

Who we are:

St Mary's Church Website is

www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk

Parochial Church Council:

**Pat Catterall and Beth Cutler (Wardens), Charlotte Burrows, Joyce Cox, Paul Davies (Secretary), Iland, Jim Smith, Ann Holland
Barbara Walton.**

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Susan Marsh, Stephanie Rigg, Christine Withers

Sides People

**Maureen Allison, Elaine Burrows, Carole Clayton, Joyce Cox,
Gaynor Kirby, Stephen Marsh.**

Treasurer: David Artingstall, Electoral Roll: Lindsay Artingstall

Church Flowers and Bookstall - Details from Church

Mothers Union - Details from Church

St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Primary School

Head Teacher, Mr C Quinn - 370 3948

250th Manchester Scout Group

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers - 07973739041

5th Droylsden Brownie Guides - 339 0016

Rainbow Pack - 301 4251

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St John's Band - 285 3583