

OFFICIAL

August 2025 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

Church Wardens

Pat Catterall

0161 370 0039

Beth Cutler

0161 376 9407

*Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your souls before him;
God is a refuge for us.*

Psalm 62: 8

August Services 2025



3rd August - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Hosea 11: 1-11 and Luke 12: 13-21

10th August - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20 and Luke 12: 32-40

13th August – 6.00pm – Informal Holy Communion

17th August - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Isaiah 5: 1-7 and Luke 12: 49=56

24th August – 10.30am – Morning Worship

Jeremiah 1: 4-10 and Luke 13: 10-17

25th August – 12noon Fellowship Lunch and Holy Communion

31st August – 10.30am – Holy Communion

Jeremiah 2: 4-13 and Luke 14: 1, 7-14

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

Time to Rest!

Rest can sometimes seem hard to come by in our fast-paced world. Even when we're not working (or volunteering at church and other organisations), many of us are always connected with emails and messages on our phones. Have you ever tried a digital detox – limiting your time on your phone (or other digital device!)

The principle of sabbath is deeply imbedded in biblical thinking. Not only in terms of a day of rest (important as that is), but in its deeper significance of accepting joyfully our limitations, appreciating God's wonderful goodness in caring for us, recognising the importance of relationships and enjoying creativity in all its various forms. All of this means it really is good for us, in every way, to take time to stop working (including volunteering), and to let our minds calm down, taking time to be with family and friends, to pursue other interests, and for many of us, simply to catch up on much needed sleep. Going away somewhere nice can help us to rest, but we can do all of these things from home too.

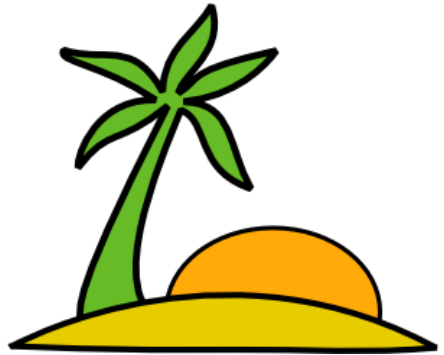
God is with us in all of life, whether working or resting. But within our resting it is good too to intentionally take the time to deepen our spiritual life, and often much easier than when our minds and hearts are busy and distracted – maybe to develop the practice of prayer, read part of the Bible you don't know so well, or explore an aspect of Christian life and



faith in reading books or listening to podcasts.

What would you like
to do to rest:
spiritually, physically and emotionally?

Rev Cath



Mid-Week Informal Holy Communion

An informal mid-week service of Holy Communion is being held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6pm.

Everyone is very welcome, especially those who find attending services at the weekend difficult. If you know anyone who may be interested in attending, please pass on the information.

Prayer Tree

You may have noticed that a new prayer tree is now located at the back of the church, next to the Book of Remembrance. There are pens and cards to write your prayers and prayer requests on. Please be assured every card left is prayed over with faith, courage and strength that each one is heard no matter how small.



Children's Group

Children's activities are now available during term time, in the Church Room every 3rd Sunday for children in year one and above.



Tea and Toast Drop In

Tea and Toast Drop In. Every Wednesday morning from 9am during term-time. Everyone is welcome, come along for a chat and a chance to meet someone new.

Fellowship and Holy Communion



The fellowship lunch and Holy Communion Service for August will be at 12noon on Monday 25th August (Bank Holiday Monday).

July's service will be Monday 28th July at 12noon, everyone is very welcome. If you know of anyone who would like to come to this service, please let them know.

Bible Study Groups

Bible study groups meet in the Emmaus Room twice a month on Tuesday evening or Thursday afternoon 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 or Stephanie (Tuesday group) or Christine, Pat or Jim (Thursday group).



**There is no meeting in August, the next meeting will be on
Tuesday 2nd September at 7pm**

Speakers – Christine and Meryl

Journeys to Rome

Welcome!

God never ceases to amaze me.

Today I was having a couple of radiators replaced by quite a young plumber, he had noticed a picture of Jesus and asked me if I was Catholic, I explained I was C of E and we had a chat about it.

The reason for the article, is that he explained how he had been to an aunt's funeral and been moved to buy a Bible, unbeknown to him every one of his three brothers had done the exactly the same thing!

The chat continued about how he was reading and understanding especially when it came to the Old Testament which can be daunting

without guidance, and he explained that he can use TikTok to find likeminded Christians to explain the meaning of what he struggles with.

He's thinking of going to church as his next step and I hope he finds a spiritual home there.

We hear how young people are beginning to return to church and can see the beginnings at St Mary's and now I received confirmation in my own home how wonderful is that.

Barbara Walton

PS He's a really good plumber too



Scout Group Garden Party

This year's Garden Party was a great success. The party was to celebrate the formation of the new Squirrels section for 4–6-year-olds and the return of the Explorers for 14–18-year-olds. All users of the hut were invited. St. John's Band played the starring role and provided a joyful accompaniment to the home-made cakes and scones. Tesco kindly donated additional scones which were served with jam and cream.

Garden games such as Splat the Rat, Open the Box and Quoits were played outside and Number Pong and Play Your Card Right were played indoors. They were run by the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. S'mores were eaten on the campfire and paracord bracelets were made in one of

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our new tents. These new tents were paid for as a grant from the Volunteer Celebration Fund. Leaders worked together to see how quickly they could assemble the tent. A raffle was held and all proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the Scout Hut. Rhubarb was dug up from the allotment plot and given away.

We wanted to bring together all the sections that make up the 250th Manchester Scout Group, the parishioners of St. Mary's Church and the wider community.

Thank you all for coming and being so supportive.

See you at our next event.

Julie Artingstall

Squirrel's Leader



Amazing – Look Carefully



Confirmation

If you have been Baptised but haven't been confirmed yet and are thinking of taking this next step in your journey of faith, please have a chat with Rev Cath or Rev Nancy.

There will be a Confirmation service in October, with some preparation beforehand.

A Golden Age

Old age is golden so it is said
But I sometimes wonder, as I get into bed
My ears are in a drawer, my teeth in a cup
My eyes on a table for when I get up
As sleep comes to me, I say to myself,
Is there anything else I should put on the shelf?

When I was young, my slippers were red
I could kick my heels, right over my head
When I was older, my slippers were blue
But still I could dance the whole night through
Now I am old, my slippers are black
I walk to the store and puff my way back
I get up in the morning and dust off my wits
And pick up the paper and read the "Obits"
But my name is still missing so I know I'm not dead
So I have a good breakfast and go back to bed!

Vivian Shaw

Cub Park News

This evening, our Cubs got stuck in with a fantastic community litter pick!

Armed with gloves, litter pickers, and big smiles, they managed to collect 4 full bags of rubbish from the local area. If we had more time, we're certain they would have filled even more — their enthusiasm was brilliant!

This activity is part of their work towards the Environmental Conservation badge, helping them understand the importance of looking after our environment and taking practical steps to make a difference.

As part of this badge, we're also looking forward to a visit to the local recycling centre in two weeks' time, where the Cubs will get a behind-the-scenes look at what happens to our waste and how recycling plays a key role in protecting the planet.

Well done Cubs — you've made your community cleaner and greener !!!"

Kind Regards

Danielle (Akela 250th Cubs)



Finley's First Full Year in Scouts

Finley's first full year in Scouts has come to an end. I can't say it's been easy, but he's had a great time and really looks forward to it.

Before he started last September, he was bothered about not being able to go as often as he liked and having bought a uniform for him that he was worried it would be money spent and the uniform not used. I can hear you asking "why?"

Just like his older sister and younger brother, Finley plays cricket for Droylsden Cricket Club, he loves it and is proud to represent the under 11's team, which unfortunately also plays its games on Wednesday evenings.

It was all carefully explained that he wouldn't miss much scouting because let's face it the British weather isn't the best for cricket "just look how many games you had rained off last year Fin" and "don't forget Scouts don't meet during school holidays". Who would have predicted last September that we were going to have the most fantastic weather with no games rained off?

All that said, he's still managed to gain four badges, including his Cyclist Badge with grandad's help and most recently (on the hottest day) he went skiing.

He'd told me that "you have to dress for the arctic, gran". Finley is the coldest body you've ever come across. So, he was wearing a vest, T-shirt, two pairs of socks, water-proof trousers, hiking boots, and still wanted to put his hoodie on! I finally convinced him to put his hoodie and big coat on the backseat of the car until he got to The Chill Factor and grandad dropped him off.

Derek said they were sat in the traffic on the Mancunian Way with both front windows down and the fan blowing full blast when Finley said "grandad, I'm boiling!"

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When they finally arrived the temperature in the car was 28degs and inside The Chill Factor it was -4degs!

Finley rang me on the way home with his dad and he was buzzing, he told me about all the different things they'd done and what a great time he'd had. The following morning before school when he called to see me, he was still buzzing. By then I'd seen the photographs on Facebook that the Scout leader had posted. Guess who was the only person without his big coat on? FINLEY, when questioned he said, "but gran, I was boiling, I'd got three layers on!"

When they start back in September, Finley will be able to really have a full year of scouting, he plays under 13's cricket next season and that's on a Sunday morning!

Christine

PS. There's been a lot of scouting news this month showing that our Scout Group is thriving. I recently attended the funeral of a former Scout District Commissioner and although it's quite a few years since I was a Beaver Scout Leader it was amazing to see just how many Scouters (many of whom I know) attended in full uniform to honour a very dedicated gentleman. RIP Derek Casey

Amazing Grace

I was reading my Daily Bread and it mentioned the hymn, Amazing Grace. It urges us to count our blessings.

Sometimes in life we forget all the blessings we have had in our lives. List the blessings you have had in your life and you will be surprised.

In life we have good times, sad times, difficult times. But our Lord is there to help us along the way, whatever is thrown at us in life, our faith gets us through.

Ann Holland

Manchester Cathedral – Leaver's Service 2025

When we first sat down, they started playing religious music and we sang and danced to songs from I Sing Pop throughout. Then they told us a story about a king who always announced when he prayed and a tax -collector who prayed but he felt like he didn't deserve to due to his job. Then they explained that God loves humble people and that showing off when you pray takes away all the meaning.

The Years 7s stood up and they told us what it would be like in high school. We use sign language and said The Lord's Prayer and sang some more songs. When it was the last song, we were given glittery cloths that we could wave around and it looked amazing, seeing all the schools waving multi-colored cloths. When the service came to an end, we had pictures with the Bishop Mark.

Over all, it was a wonderful trip.

By Ellis Waugh.



Year 6's Leaver's Service

The Leavers' Service at Manchester Cathedral was a wonderful experience for me and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I loved singing and dancing with the other schools and learning all about God's Word and prayer. We also had some great advice from Year 7's about what high school would be like. They told us that we shouldn't worry or fear about the year ahead, instead we should look forward and be excited about high school. At the end, we all had the pleasure of taking a picture with Bishop Mark. On the whole, I had a marvelous time and I would definitely recommend it for all school leavers.

Michelle.



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St John's Castle Band, Droylsden

An inclusive, friendly brass band welcoming players of all ages and abilities!

Who are we?

A non-registered, fourth section band.

What do we do?

A good mixture of concerts, walks and local contests spread throughout the year.

Are you a young person who would like to learn to play or who can play a brass instrument.....?

- The best way to improve your skills and enhance your playing is to play with a band!
- So why not come and see what we are all about and have some fun at the same time..?

Rehearsals take place at 7:45pm

every Tuesday in Droylsden. For

further information, please contact our MD Peter, and visit our social platforms to find out more about us!



CONTACT US

Note: All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.



peter.douthwaite@virgin.net



0161 285 3583



Droylsden St John's Castle Brass Band



www.stjohnsdroylsden.org.uk

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Wednesday 6th August 2025
2pm – 4pm

Messy Summer



Crafts, Bible Stories and Simple
Worship followed by refreshments

All Primary School age children welcome with their parents or carers



Stuart and Michelle Ayling – MAF Support Staff

Eighteen years working for motor racing teams might seem like odd preparation for mission work in Africa, but apparently not to God! With our children Jack (1999), Harry (2001) and Robyn (2004), we moved to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in 2011 to take up new roles there with MAF.

Stewart was brought up in a Christian family and first made a commitment at the age of 15 during a youth group house party. He had always had a keen interest in motor racing and studied mechanical engineering at Hatfield Polytechnic, with the aim of pursuing a career in motorsport. In 1992, Stewart began working in touring car racing, followed by the Le Mans 24-hour race and later with Jaguar in Formula 1.

For Michelle, our life here is the result of a calling to mission in Africa which she first felt at the age of eight during a school assembly. After coming to know Jesus aged 19, she studied world religions and history at Crewe and Alsager College, then followed this up with a PGCE at Newcastle University to become a secondary schoolteacher.

After meeting in Michelle's hometown of Norwich, we married and moved to Kettering a year later. We joined Christ the King Church soon afterwards and were involved in a variety of activities but particularly in the children's and youth work.

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Feeling God calling us clearly into full-time mission service overseas led us on a brief trip to Tanzania in 2010 to explore potential opportunities to serve there with MAF. Stewart serves as Country Director in Arusha, overseeing the office and liaising with other mission organisations and NGOs in the region.

Stewart and Michelle rely on a team of partners who agree to pray for them and to provide the financial support which enables them to serve with MAF.

Stuarts favourite bible verse is:

'It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.'
- Hebrews 11:8

Please pray for MAF support workers

Dear God,

Thank you for Mission Aviation Fellowship and for people like Stewart and Michelle Ayling who serve far from home. Please bless Stewart, Michelle, Jack, Harry, and Robyn as they live and work in Tanzania. Give them strength, protection, and peace every day.

We pray for everyone in Mission Aviation Fellowship—the pilots, the workers, the families, and all who support them. Help their work to bring hope and help to people in need. Encourage those who give and pray for this mission.

Please guide and protect those who fly the planes and help everyone who works to serve others. Let Your love be seen in all they do. In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

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St Mary's Church, Droylsden

Coffee Morning

Saturday 2nd August

9.30am – 11.00am

In the Church Room



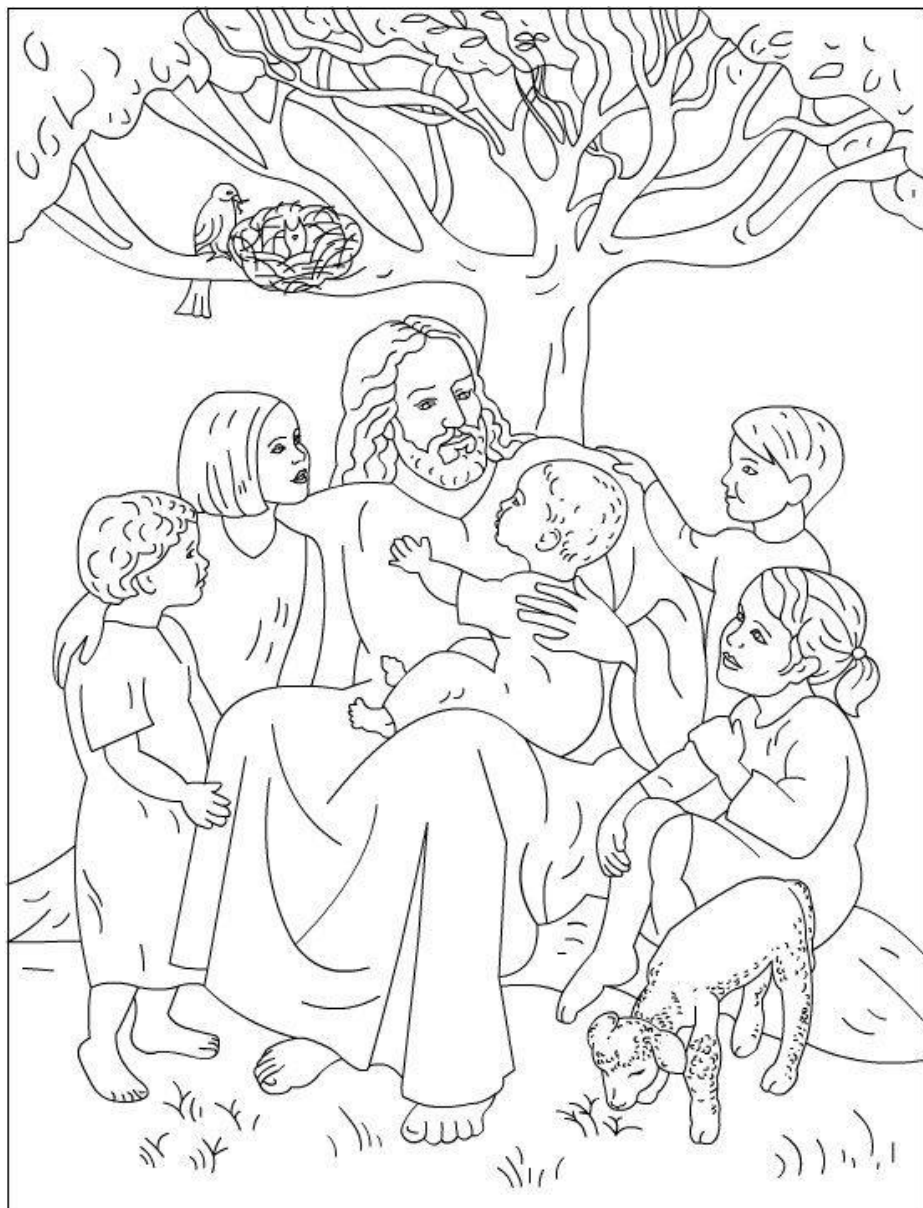
All Welcome

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Proceeds to Mission Aviation Fellowship



A Picture to colour



Read Matthew 19 verse 14

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

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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), Kathryn Hampson, Ann Holland, Jim Smith, Barbara Walton.

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Susan Marsh, Stephanie Rigg, Christine Withers

Sides People

Maureen Allison, Elaine Burrows, Carole Clayton, Joyce Cox, Julie Farrow, Gaynor Kirby.

Treasurer: Kathryn Hampson, 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

Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers - 07973739041

5th Droylsden Brownie Guides - 339 0016

Rainbow Pack - 301 4251

St John's Band - 285 3583