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October 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

October Services 2024



6th October - 10.30am – Harvest Holy Communion

Joel 2: 21-27 and Matthew 6: 25-33

13th October - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Hebrews 4: 12-16 and Mark 10: 17-31

20th October – 10.30am – Holy Communion

Hebrews 5: 1-10 and Mark 10: 35-45

27th October – 10.30am – Morning Worship

Isaiah 55: 1-11 and John 5: 36-end

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

Harvest Thanks

A Time to Rejoice

In the beauty of the autumn colours with the sunshine glistening through the changing leaves, (or maybe the raindrops splashing in the puddles!), we remember the goodness of our Creator, and the many good gifts to us through the abundance of his creation.

A Time for Giving Thanks

We pray 'give us today our daily bread', and he gives us not just bread, but our treats of chocolate, coffee, sugar, and all that we can make with them! Our lives are enriched by many good gifts of home and family, warmth and comfort, beauty and enjoyment, as well as the necessities of food and shelter.

A Time for Reflection

How often do we stop to think how many countries the food on our plates comes from? We can eat lamb from New Zealand, green beans from Kenya, chocolate from Ivory Coast... People across the world plant, harvest, process and transport the food we buy right here in Droylsden. There are a number of schemes that can help us to buy food wisely: the Fair Trade scheme works with suppliers and farmers in developing countries to defend the rights of workers, ensuring fair pay, community development and environmental care; Rainforest Alliance works with farmers to protect forests and prevent child labour; the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil certifies oil produced from sustainable plantations (their website says that palm oil is in half of all supermarket products –

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from biscuits and chocolate to soap and toothpaste.) As we give thanks for God's goodness, let's also do all we can to promote a fairer world through the products we buy and the food we put on our tables.

Rev Cath

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

Sunday School 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 new people.

Fellowship and Holy Communion



The next fellowship lunch and Holy Communion Service will be at 12noon on Monday 28th October

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.

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.



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 Stephanie (Tuesday group) or Christine, Pat or Jim (Thursday group).



Tuesday 1st October – 7.30pm

Speaker – Kathryn Hampson

Crafting and Me

(there will be a making opportunity too!)



Everyone Welcome

Operation Christmas Child



OCC Gift in a shoebox, gives us a once-a-year opportunity to brighten up a child's life in a far-away country where conditions are basic for most children and their families. Many of the children will live in orphanages due to family poverty, for some, their homes will have been lost to warfare.

To be part of this you can fill a gift shoebox or donate. The donations help with transporting thousands of boxes to those far-away countries and then getting the boxes to the local areas to distribute to the children.

There will be OCC Leaflets, Donation Box, OCC Shoeboxes (50p each) and a Fillers Box in the Church Room during October and early November.

Dates to note - **Saturday 5th October** there is an OCC Coffee Morning also the added attraction of viewing Chrutine's Display of our holiday Visited Church Pictures around the church. Please bring in your completed boxes by the end of October or at the latest to the OCC Boxes Dedication on **Sunday 3rd November**.

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If you wish to
about
Purse/OCC,
box on-line
the web-link
are also
you can



learn more
Samaritan's
or even do a
then please visit
below. There
several Videos
watch.

[www.samaritans-
we-do/operation-
child/](http://www.samaritans-we-do/operation-child/)John Sporne

[purse.org.uk/what-
christmas-](http://purse.org.uk/what-christmas-)



Tuesday 29th October
2pm – 4pm

Crafts, simple worship followed by refreshments

All Primary School age
children welcome with their
parents / carers

Technology – How to Fight Back

(It will make you smile but you will see the point!)

A little old lady found the bank and said to the cashier “I would like to withdraw £10 please”.

Harassed Cashier – “For withdrawals under £100 please use the ATM”

Old Lady – “I don’t understand why”

Irritable Cashier – “These are the rules. Please leave if there is no further matter”

Old Lady (after a pause) – “Please let me withdraw all the money that I have”

Astonished Cashier (when she checked the balance) – “You have £300,000 in your account but this branch doesn’t have that much here. Can you make an appointment to withdraw?”

Old Lady – “How much can I withdraw now?”

Respectful Cashier – “Any amount up to £3,000”

Old Lady – “Well then, please let me have £3,000 now”

Friendly, smiling Cashier – “Certainly madam, here is £3,000”

The old lady carefully put £10 in her purse and counted out £2,990 and handed it to the red-faced cashier to put back into her account!

The moral of the story? Don’t be difficult with us old ‘uns, we have spent a lifetime learning the skill.

Ann Holland

Cancer Research

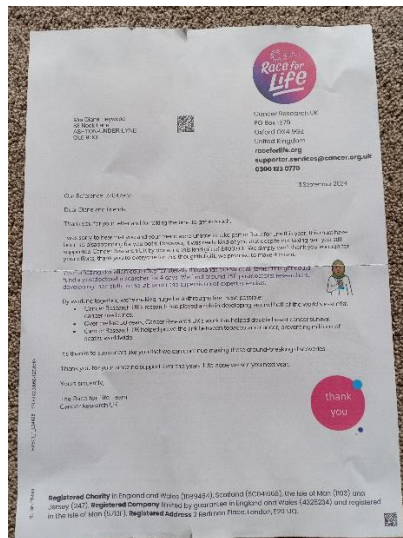
Doreen and I have taken part in race for life every year for a number of years now, due to Doreen's problems after a couple of falls this year we haven't been able to take part.

Barbara wrote an article in the diary that, as she has always sponsored us in July, she would be doing the same this year, Barbara has good reason to be thankful for the breakthroughs that cancer research have made, as do many others so encouraged one of us to announce at Church that we were sending a donation along with Barbara.

Thank you so much to all who responded along with Barbara's donation and the donation from myself and Doreen we sent a cheque for £400 to cancer research UK.

Doreen had a bad fall 4 weeks ago and is recovering in hospital she thanks everyone for their prayers and get well cards and hopes to be back at Church when she has fully recovered

Diane Heywood.



60 Years and Counting.....

One of our former Rectors, The Reverend Canon Michael Williamson, was born and brought up in Cambridge.

After training for the Ministry in London God led him north and he was ordained Deacon in Manchester at Michaelmas 60 years ago.

He has spent the whole of his ministry in our Diocese and he retired in 2004 after 27 years here at St. Mary's.

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The Bishop of Manchester sent him a card to mark the anniversary which read:-

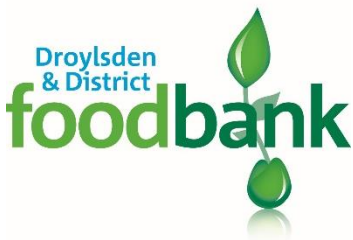
Dear Canon Michael,

It has come to my attention that this year marks the 60th anniversary of you being ordained in this Diocese.

Please accept my deepest thanks for your long service and best wishes for the rest of your ministry.

David Manchester

Jean Driver



Over the past few months, we have seen a marked increase in the number of clients referred to us. We also

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anticipate that in the lead up to Christmas this will be repeated and may further increase.

At the same time some of our volunteers are not as active as they once were but still support us where they can. Do you have a couple of hours to spare on a Friday from 11-1pm? Are you happy to pack and lift shopping bags full of tins etc. If you would like to know more, please have a chat with Pat.

At our church service on 6th October, we will accept the harvest gifts from our church family which will once again be shared between the Droylsden & District Foodbank and Lifeshare.

Both organisations support those in crisis locally and throughout Greater Manchester and rely on donations to be able to carry out their services. But this year is proving to be tougher than ever. The economic uncertainty has fuelled the growing need for support for those in crisis at the same time as households are seeing a squeeze on their budgets. Donations to both charities will be a challenge over the coming months.

If you are able please support both organisations with donations of long dated non-perishable items it would be much appreciated

Some suggestions for donations are:

Cereal	Tinned Fish
Pasta sauces	Tinned and packet soups
Rice pudding	Meat free tinned meals
Tinned meat	Tinned fruit
Tinned vegetables	Pot Noodles
Cereal Bars	Biscuits

Matthew 25:35

**For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty and
you gave me drink**

Pat



Song of Gold

The harvest fields, now painted gold
With seas of ripened wheat,
Mark time with sigh of drifting leaves,
That gather round my feet.

A blackbird pecks at russet fruit,
Then from its throbbing throat,
There pours a liquid melody,
With gold in every note.

September pipes a mellow tune,
When summer, past recall,
Yields up her wealth on autumn's breath
A song of gold, for all.

Submitted by Ann Holland



Samaritan's Purse

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse. It is a hands-on way for you to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, personal care items, school supplies, and fun gifts.

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations

After receiving a shoebox gift, children have the opportunity to enrol in The Greatest Journey - 12 fun and interactive Bible lessons, where they get the chance to discover who Jesus is and how to begin their own journey of faith.

Every shoebox gift delivered by Operation Christmas Child is a tangible expression of God's amazing love. But a shoebox is just the beginning. It also presents an opportunity in more than 100 countries for our church partners to invite children into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through The Greatest Journey.

The goal of the programme is for children to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ in their daily lives as they share Him with family and friends. And it all starts by training local teachers who love kids and are passionate about making disciples. More than 35.4 million children have enrolled in The Greatest Journey since 2009.

After completing The Greatest Journey, children attend a graduation celebration and receive a certificate. Most importantly, they are given a Bible that includes the New Testament in their own language. Complete with illustrations, it is often the first copy of God's Word the child, or their family, will own. After seeing the transformation in the students, their loved ones' hearts are open to hearing the Good News for themselves.

Prayer is a vital part of our ministry and an easy way to get involved with

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what we do. Our offices around the world meet daily to pray for our projects and partners globally. Will you join us in praying for the work of Samaritan's Purse and our Church Partners worldwide?

Please pray for OCC UK, volunteers and staff, that we would be of one vision and that we would give God the glory for all that we do in and through the ministry of OCC.

Pray that they will grow in relationship with one another, that there will be a spirit of unity across all teams.

Pray that logistic volunteers will come forward, particularly for the role of Collections coordinator in areas across the regions.

Pray for the network of drop off locations in each sending country. Pray for our international teams as they select and train ministry partners who are committed to evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication.

Pray for all the children and young people who will receive a shoebox and give thanks for everyone who will collect items to make a gift shoebox.

Amen

St Mary's Church, Droylsden

Coffee Morning

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Saturday 5th October

9.30am – 11.00am

In the Church Room



All Welcome

Proceeds to Operation Christmas Child



A Picture to Colour



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Read Luke 8: 5 - 15

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), 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, 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

Squirrels, 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