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September 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*

**September
Services 2025**



7th September - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Jeremiah 18: 1-11 and Luke 14: 25-33

**Wednesday 10th September – 6.00pm – Informal Holy
Communion**

14th September - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Jeremiah 4: – 11-12, 22-28 and Luke 15: 1-10

21st September - 10.30am – Holy Communion

Jeremiah 8: 18 -9: 1 and Luke 16: 1-13

28th September – 10.30am – Morning Worship

Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15 and Luke 13: 19-31

**Monday 29th September – 12noon Fellowship Lunch and
Holy Communion**

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

New Beginnings

Many of us can probably remember our first day at school: maybe a combination of nervous butterflies at the same time as feeling very proud and grown up in our new school uniform.

New beginnings can be a bit like that – whether a new school, or a new term, or starting a new activity or group, we often have a mix of excitement at new possibilities and nerves about the uncertainty of what we don't know.

New beginnings often need a bit of courage - to step out into something unknown. But with a bit of faith that God has good things for us and our families, and that people we don't know yet are likely to be kind and helpful, we can take a step to start something we've never done before, meet new people and find our lives enriched.

Whether you are thinking of your own new beginning, supporting a child or young person in theirs, trust that God is with us, ask him to give courage, and step out into something new. And then, after all the nervous excitement it is all the more sweet to return to the familiarity of home and family and friends for reassurance, comfort and rest!

Go with courage, hope and trust in God into whatever new beginnings are waiting for holds for you and yours this September.

Revd 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.



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 September will be at 12noon on Monday 29th September.

August's service will be Monday 25th August (Bank Holiday Monday) 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.



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).



Tuesday 2nd September 7pm

Speakers – Christine and Meryl

Journeys to Rome



Wanted for emergency toiletry bags for Tameside Hospital:

- Small tubes of toothpaste
- small bars of soap.

Please speak to Pat, Maureen or Christine

Children's Group

From this month the Sunday morning children's group will be running on two Sunday's a month, the 2nd and 3rd Sundays and will be called **The Sunday Group** and hopefully next month will have its own special logo.

All children of primary school age are welcome to come along. Sessions will be held in the Church Room at the back of church.

Kathryn



Sunday Morning IT Support

The music to accompany our hymns and PowerPoint presentations on Sunday mornings are played through our sound system on the vast majority of Sundays by Barbara with Christine filling in when necessary.

We would really like to set up a rota with a few more people helping out. If you think this is something you might be able to help with (full explanations will be available) please have a word with one of the wardens.

Thanks

Pat and Beth



Our Need for Prayer

On Sunday, 27th July, Steph and Beth led the church in our Morning Prayer service. The Gospel reading was **Luke 11: 1 – 13**, when Jesus was asked by one of the disciples to teach them how to pray.

Jesus taught them what we now call **‘The Lord’s Prayer’** and went on to illustrate the need for perseverance when we pray. Steph bravely shared some of the times when she too has persevered in prayer.

Later that afternoon I was preparing the lunchtime Holy Communion service for the following day and picked up one of the small A5 folders I use for my service notes. Tucked inside the front pocket was this poem:

The Difference

*I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish that I didn’t have time to pray.
Problems just tumbled about me,
and heavier came each task.
“Why doesn’t God help me?” I wondered,
He answered, “You didn’t ask.”
I wanted to see joy and beauty,
but the day toiled on, grey and bleak,
I wondered why God didn’t show me,
He said, “But you didn’t seek.”
I tried to come into God’s presence;
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,*

*"My child, you didn't knock."
I woke up early this morning,
and paused before entering the day,
I had so much to accomplish
That I had to take time to pray.*

Author unknown Pub by Tim Tiley Ltd, Bristol.

Thank you Steph, for sharing your thoughts with us and reminding us of our need of prayer in all aspects of our lives.

Revd. Lorraine

Droylsden & District Foodbank

As many of you will know Droylsden & District Foodbank has been established and appreciated in our community for over 11 years.

Many of our volunteers and Trustees have been with us from the start and over that time our circumstances and ages have changed. We have been delighted to welcome new volunteers and Trustees and very much value the experience and enthusiasm they have brought to our project.

The Foodbank is a charity and over the 11 years the governance of our foodbank, and other charities, has changed to ensure compliance with the Charity Commission requirements, safeguarding, data protection, health and safety etc etc.

We have a faithful and willing Trustee Board and wondered if anyone would like to join us in guiding and strengthening our future support of those in need in our community.

Does your current or recent work involve safeguarding, data protection, health and safety, writing policies and procedures? Do you have a couple of hours free four times a year to support our Trustees?

If you think you may be able to support us, or just want to learn more about our work please speak to Pat Catterall or email info@droylsdendistrict.foodbank.org.uk.

<https://droylsdendistrict.foodbank.org.uk/>



Thank you for your continued support.



On a not so bright day last month we welcomed old and new faces to our Messy Church, Messy Summer.

Everyone had a lovely time making all the different crafts and learning about Jesus's love for us.

As always everyone enjoyed hotdogs and cake after a story and singing Our God is a Great Big God.

From this month we will be having a Messy Church after school during term time as well as one during the day at half term so look out for details.

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Forward Planning



Sunday 5th October – Harvest Festival

All non-perishable goods more than welcome

Proceeds divided between The Foodbank and Lifeshare

**Sunday 19th October – 6pm Confirmation at Christ Church,
Denton**

Wednesday 29th October – 2pm Messy Church

The Hand That Helps

The hand that helps others also touches the heart of God, every blessing we extend, blessed Him in every caring act honours Him, every loving expression pleases Him.

As you go along the path that's God's chosen just for you, may he richly bless your life and bring joy in all you do. Of all the welcoming places where love and joy reside, a home with caring family holds the warmest love inside.

When life is hard, we depend on God to brighten our lives with joy. We trust in Him to give us strength and lean on His Gracee to sustain us.

Ann Holland



2025 – The theme is Architecture






Saturday 13th September

Church is open from 9.30am – 2.00pm



View Church Registers

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-  **Discover things about St Mary's Church**
-  **Children's Crafts**
-  **Build a Church**
-  **Find out about the men on our WWI and WWII Memorials**
-  **Sit and chat over light refreshments**

Everyone is very welcome – pass on the news to your friends and neighbours.



250th Manchester (St Mary's) Scout Group

The Scout Group would like to invite everyone to their Heritage Day Garden Party.

On Sunday 21st September

From 12noon – 2pm

Our Scout Group was formed in 1916 and we have a long history of providing fun, friendship and fresh air in our scout hut and garden. We are holding a Heritage Garden Party to celebrate our history with displays, garden games and refreshments.

- Afternoon Tea
 - Games
 - Quizes
 - Raffle
 - Displays

Everyone Welcome



Monday 8th September

From 3.15pm – 5.00pm

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Messy New Beginnings



**Come along and join in with free crafts, songs
and light refreshments**

**All Primary School children welcome with
their parents / carer**



Our work: An introduction to Christian Blind Mission

“Out of their gloom and darkness, the eyes of the blind shall see.”
– Isaiah 29:18

Cathleen’s story

Living with sight-loss because of cataracts in both eyes, three-year old Cathleen grew more and more frustrated. Her mother, Frimina, worried she would not have the same opportunities as her friends as she grows older. She couldn't see traffic or even distinguish her mother's face.

But thanks to the incredible generosity of Christian Blind Mission supporters like you, Cathleen has now been able to receive cataract surgery. Frimina took her daughter to our partner, the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Tanzania, East Africa, where ophthalmologist Dr. Godfrey Furahini diagnosed Cathleen and referred her for surgery.

The doctors carefully replaced Cathleen's lenses with artificial ones, managing to operate on both eyes in a two-hour operation. Just a few hours later Cathleen was wide awake and happy, even though her eyes were still covered with bandages. She sat on her bed and sang "Hallelujah" again and again.

Cathleen took a sight test using a Snellen chart, and it showed "a huge improvement" according to Dr. Furahini, who said, "She could only see the biggest letter on the chart before. Now she can see even the letters in the fourth line. This is a good sign that her vision will improve even more in the next weeks."

When the mother and daughter returned home, Frimina told us: "I am more than happy. And I am proud that she was so brave. Cathleen pointed to an airplane in the sky on our way home and asked me what it is. Now she wants to become a pilot."

Our achievements:

- Reached 5.2 million people in 29 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America
- Treated over 3.1 million people Carried out 111,107 Reached 5.2 million people in 29 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America
- Trained 16,603 doctors, nurses and other health professionals
- Carried out 111,107 sight-restoring cataract surgeries
- 3.1 million people for blinding and disabling diseases protected from blinding diseases like trachoma or river blindness

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- 1,404,838 people received eye health services 1
- 53,540 glasses and low vision devices distributed

Let us pray... Lord, God, champion of the poor, protector and healer of those who cannot see, or hear or walk. Give us your eyes to see, we pray that we might look with compassion and love on all your children. May our eyes not be distracted by empty things but be set on Jesus. Give us a vision of your kingdom and give us wisdom to know how we can work towards that together, guided by your Holy Spirit. Amen.

***If anyone has any old spectacles lying about the house that they don't know what to do with, Asda opticians will accept them for recycling.**

If you want to pass them on to me, I'm more than happy to collect them up and take them for you. I'll put a box in the church room.

Christine

St Mary's Church, Droylsden

Coffee Morning

Saturday 13th September

9.30am – 11.00am

In the Church Room – church

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remains open for Heritage Day until
2pm

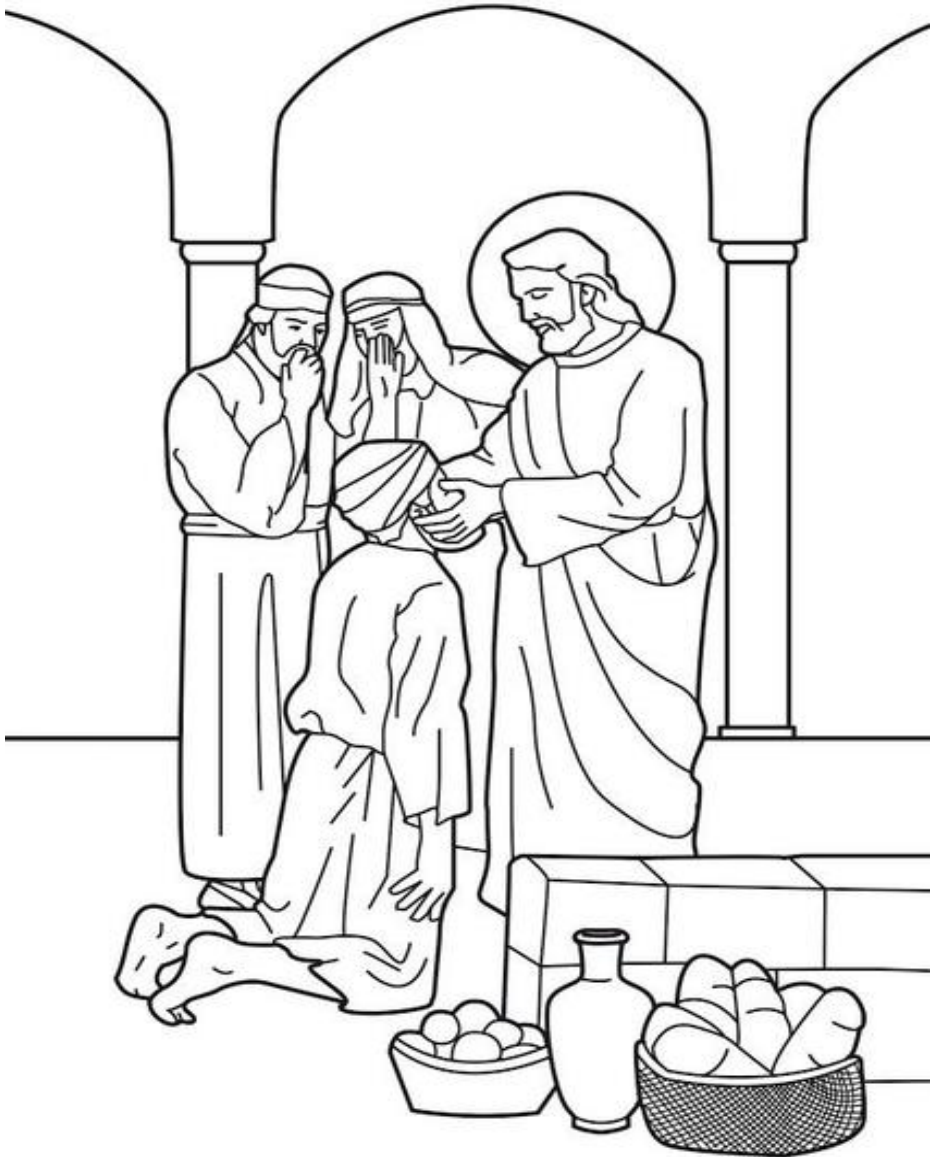


All Welcome

Proceeds to Christian Blind Mission.



A Picture to colour



Read John 9: 1-12 – Jesus heals the blind man

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, 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

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