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# July 2026 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 964 9106**

*Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16*

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## July Services 2026



**5<sup>th</sup> July - 10.30am – Holy Communion**

**Romans 7: 15 – 25a and Matthew 11: 16 – 19, 25 - end**

**12<sup>th</sup> July - 10.30am – Holy Communion**

**Romans 8: 1 - 11 and Matthew 13: 1 – 9, 18 - 23**

**19<sup>th</sup> July – 10.30am – Holy Communion**

**Romans 8: 12- 25 and Matthew 13: 24 – 30, 36 - 43**

**26<sup>th</sup> July – 10.30am – Morning Worship**

**Romans 8: 26 – end and Matthew 13: 31 – 33, 44 - 52**

**27<sup>th</sup> July– 12noon Fellowship Lunch and Holy Communion**

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

## In Need of a Good Rest!

As we come into the summer months many of us will have more opportunity to rest (perhaps especially in the heat waves we seem to be experiencing!). Some will have opportunity to go away somewhere – maybe a familiar place or exploring somewhere new. Others may spend time with family and friends nearby or get involved with community events and activities. Whatever you will be doing, I hope we will all find opportunity to enjoy a slower pace of life for a little while, and find rest and refreshment for mind, body and soul.

In the 4<sup>th</sup> Century in Roman North Africa (what is now Algeria), St Augustine wrote a kind of spiritual autobiography called ‘Confessions’ all about how God led him to Christian faith. One of the most famous things he wrote in this book is “You have made us so that we long for you, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” This may be familiar to you, as the phrase has found its way into one of our Collects.

Whether we are busy out and about with family and friends or quietly



reading a book by a pool or in our own garden, with our hearts open to God and looking to him and quietly thankful for his good gifts to us, then may we find that deep, refreshing rest for our souls.

And for those unable to have any holiday this year there is a promise for you too in this: the deep rest for which we all long, we find inwardly, and truly, in our hearts from God (wherever we are), and not on the holiday of a lifetime.

May we all know the warmth of God the Son, the beauty of the Creator, and the fellowship of the Spirit with us in all our working and all our resting, no matter what the summer holds for us. God bless you all!

*Revd Cath*

## Prayer Tree

If you are new to church, our prayer tree is 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 June will be at 12noon on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July.



The service in June is Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

## 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.

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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 on 7<sup>th</sup> July, however, everyone is welcome to come along to:**

**Summer Refreshments**

**On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 1.30pm**

**Everyone is very welcome – you don't have to be a woman or a mother!**

### **The Sunday Group**

The Sunday morning children's group is now running on two Sunday's a month, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays.

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



## Craft Group

The Craft Group is a friendly group, meeting every Monday during the school term time in the Emmaus Room from 1.30pm.



Novice knitters are always welcome so if you'd like to learn or improve a new skill for the new year, please have a chat with Rosemary or Rev Lorraine.

The group support the Mothers' Union by knitting dozens of beanie hats and blankets for the neo-natal unit at Tameside Hospital – thank you ladies.

## Meeters and Greeters Wanted

Are you of cheerful disposition, chatty and happy to speak to people? Perhaps you might consider being a meeter and greeter before our services on a Sunday morning and taking the collection during service. Commitment is on a rota basis - the more people that get involved the better.

Please have a chat Barbara Walton





We are a loving organisation open to everyone who supports our vision and mission and shares our passion for strengthening family and community life, whether you are female or male, a parent, grandparent, single, or married. We believe that supporting families and communities is a shared calling enriched by many different experiences and perspectives. Whoever you are, you have a valued place in our MU family.

We started as a Christian group to support mothers and families and that remains at the core of our work and guiding principles, but we welcome you to join us whoever you are – you don't have to have children, be married, be a woman, or be a churchgoer.

However, you get involved, you are becoming part of a global movement for change four million strong. Joining the global movement is open to anyone who supports our vision and mission, who we are and what we do.

## **A warm welcome**

Be part of a movement 4 million strong around the corner and around the world working together to bring about change for families and communities everywhere.

### **Part of a community**

Ability to join local groups in person, and our Facebook group to connect with fellow members online. Join in shared moments of prayer and reflection with our Midday Prayers on Facebook and our global Wave of Prayer.

### **Active part in our campaigns**

Have the chance to take an active part in our campaigning work, community projects in your local area, or more globally through out strong international connections.

### **Which way of joining is right for me?**

We offer different types of membership to accommodate levels of time commitment and personal circumstances: new members can choose to become a **global member** or a **local member\***.

Our **global membership** is ideal for anyone who wants to be part of the global movement and supports its objectives without active involvement in local community outreach or volunteering.

By joining our global movement, the change we can achieve together is priceless. To join Mothers' Union as part of the global movement, please go to the MU website: [membership@mothersunion.org](mailto:membership@mothersunion.org)

Joining MU through a local group as a **local member** or friend is likely to be the right path for people particularly interested in getting involved actively to make a change in their local community, and in joining together with other members in faith, fellowship and friendship. If you would like to join locally, please have a chat with Maureen, Pat or Christine or check out the MU website: [membership@mothersunion.org](mailto:membership@mothersunion.org)

### **Benefits of joining**

When you join Mothers' Union, you become part of a worldwide Christian movement of prayer, care and practical action; the change we can achieve together is priceless.

#### **If you join as a global member, you will receive:**

- A welcome pack containing a welcome letter, an MU badge, the most recent hard copy of Connected (our bi-annual magazine), and the MU Prayer Diary, including key dates in the Church year.
- The option to receive our monthly e-newsletter.
- An invitation to join the Mothers' Union Facebook Group so you can connect with the movement online.

You will also be encouraged to take part in our work, especially by getting involved with your local MU group.

#### **If you are a global member who lives overseas, you will receive:**

- A welcome email.
- Electronic copies of Connected magazine and the MU Prayer Diary.

- The option to receive the monthly e-newsletter and to join the Mothers' Union Facebook Group, enabling you to connect with the movement online.

Local ways of joining and getting involved vary by country and province, so you are advised to contact your local MU directly.

**If you join a local group, depending on where you live and how you choose to join, you will receive:**

- Locally relevant newsletters, alongside Connected magazine and the MU Prayer Diary.
- Opportunities to take part in community projects and volunteering.
- Monthly meetings for discussion, prayer and fellowship.
- As a local MU member, you also have the constitutional right to vote in MU elections and to stand for election.

Please note that subscriptions rates are set locally and will vary depending on where you join. To find out more, please contact your local diocese using the interactive map.

Those who have been baptised in the name of the Trinity are welcome to join Mother's Union as members. Those who are not baptised are also warmly welcome as friends and participate fully in our community life.

Please don't forget you are all very welcome at our Celebration of 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 30<sup>th</sup> June at 1.30pm

Join Us, Join In

St Mary's Mothers' Union

## Helpful Information

Have you or anyone you know had a stroke? This is some useful information to help and support you:

Here are some stroke details, every Monday at 13:00 to 16:00 there is a meeting at United Church, Union Street, Hyde. SK14 1ND to get involve contact Tameside Survivors of Stroke phone number is 07907355105 Email address [deb6913@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:deb6913@hotmail.co.uk).

It is a weekly social club where they provide activities including bingo, quizzes, chair exercises and crafts, they do parties and celebrations plus trips out. There is a weekly payment of £4 and they provide tea, coffee cordial, biscuits and cake. This is where mum (Rhona Hopwood) and I volunteered; it is run by volunteers some are stroke survivors.

Helpline for strokes is 0303 3033100,  
Email [helpline@stroke.org.uk](mailto:helpline@stroke.org.uk) opening time are Monday to Friday 9am to 17:00 and Saturday 10am to 13:00

Helen Eckersley

Can I add to this please? A very dear friend of Derek and I recently had a stroke whilst on holiday abroad. Although he doesn't live locally these days, when we went to visit him recently, he told us how wonderful his local hospital support services had been. Not only has he been supported by physiotherapists, but he also takes part in a fortnightly zoom call with other stroke survivors which he has found very helpful as they are able to share tips and (his words) tricks that make life a little easier and also act as a sounding board when things appear to be getting on top of him.

I'm sure all this is available in Tameside just the same, please don't be disheartened but get in touch with the people Helen has mentioned and who knows what you will benefit from – understanding people to speak to at the very least!

Christine



Our aim is to raise awareness of a free community wellbeing activity that is open to local adults.

### Women's Only Walk and Talk

Join us for a friendly and relaxing community walk designed to support wellbeing, connection, and gentle physical activity.

Each session includes a gentle 30–35-minute guided walk led by a community walk leader, offering the opportunity to enjoy fresh air, socialise, and connect with others in the community. Following the walk, participants are invited to stay for refreshments and further socialising.

The sessions are completely free to attend, with optional donations welcomed towards refreshments. They are dementia friendly and open to anyone aged 18 and over, including non-Live Active members.

Please note that sessions do not operate during UK National Holidays.

Venue: Active Oxford Park, Pottinger St, Ashton-Under-Lyne, OL7  
0PW

When: Every Tuesday at 10:00 am

Booking: No booking required – come along.

Contact: Liza –

07923446387. Email- [Liza.Ahmed.Chowdhury@activetameside.com](mailto:Liza.Ahmed.Chowdhury@activetameside.com)

## **Worship Around the World – Manchester Cathedral**



You are warmly invited to a joyful and uplifting evening of worship, song and dance at our multicultural music celebration

**Worship Around the World**, will take us on a rich and vibrant journey across cultures through music and dance. Together, we will celebrate the beautiful diversity of the Diocese of Manchester, as different cultural heritages are showcased in worship.

You can look forward to:

- A multicultural gospel music group leading us in praise
- Musical performances representing communities from **Africa, Persia (Farsi), South India, Pakistan, Cantonese, and Europe**

- Inspiring cultural dance presentations, particularly from across the African diaspora

This promises to be a Spirit-filled musical experience and a powerful expression of unity in Christ, where many cultures come together in one voice of worship and praise.

Arrival - 2:00pm, Main programme starts - 2:30pm, International light buffet - 4:30pm. Guests are warmly invited to remain for Manchester Cathedral Evensong at 5:30pm.

Please book early to secure your place, as capacity at the cathedral is limited.

We would love for you to join us for this special celebration of faith, culture, and community. Please also feel free to share the link for this invitation widely with your networks.

The event is free but please book tickets using the link below:

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/worship-around-the-world-tickets-1990963557596?utm\\_source=Diocese+of+Manchester&utm\\_campaign=9](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/worship-around-the-world-tickets-1990963557596?utm_source=Diocese+of+Manchester&utm_campaign=9)



This is to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> July from 11am at

Hallé St Peter's, 40 Blossom Street, Ancoats, Manchester. M4 6BF

To book your free tickets, visit the [Lost in TV](#) website or call (020) 8530 8100.

## On Reflection

I read in an article by a rector of The Church of Scotland where he tells us he visits care homes and always looks forward to going.

This theme was "Let your light shine throughout the world". He told the residents, that at the heart of our thoughts should be:

 Light

 Shine

 World

They sang, Light of the World, Jesus Bids a Shine (which everyone remembered from their school days) and He's Got the Whole World in His Hands. Everyone joined in the singing.

The rector explained what Jesus meant when he said things about Christian people should think about in relation to light. Firstly, we must be the light of the world, secondly, we must uncover our light and let it shine, a light is meant to be seen.

A light makes clear the way and guides us. We must give the lead to others in ways which are noble, upright, honest pure and true.

In Jesus' day houses in Palestine were small dark buildings and little oil lamps were placed in lamp stands to light them and to guide people home. When He said we are the light of the world and to let our light show wherever we go and guide people home to Him.

Ann Holland



## St Mary's CE School and Nursery

You will be aware from previous articles in the diary over the last few months that St Mary's School is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year with a number of celebrations to which everyone is invited.

- ✚ Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July – School will be open from 11am until 1pm for past pupils, parents, governors and the church congregation to

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visit and have a look round. Staff will be on hand for you to have a chat to and some simple refreshments will be available.

✚ Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – A Celebration Service will begin at 1.15pm in church, the school prefects and Y6 pupils will line Church Street, and commemorative flags will be paraded into church.



# GARDEN PARTY

110 YEARS OF SCOUTING

CELEBRATING 110 YEARS OF SCOUTING

AT 250<sup>TH</sup> MANCHESTER SCOUT GROUP

SUNDAY 5 JULY 2026

AT THE SCOUT HUT  
12-2 P.M.

- BUILD A BUG HOTEL
- TASTY SAUSAGE BUTTIES ON BUTTERY MUFFINS
- CAMPFIRE WITH MARSHMALLOW TOASTING
- MAKE YOUR OWN MOVING PUPPET
- GARDEN GAMES
- GIANT CELEBRATION CAKE
- HERITAGE QUIZ
- PAINT A PEBBLE
- HOMEMADE SCONES
- RAFFLE

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS FUNDING OUR GROUP CAMP LATER ON IN THE YEAR



During the second week of the primary school Spring Bank holidays, lots of children and their parents joined together for a Messy Pentecost.

The children made lots of different crafts along the theme of wind and flame representing the Holy Spirit and the morning ended with a lunch of pasta, fruit, biscuits and a drink.

The next Messy Church is on 29<sup>th</sup> July 11am – 12.30pm



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# FRAUD AWARENESS

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**Come along to our fraud event to find out about the latest scams and how to protect yourself and others.**

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## WHAT WE WILL DISCUSS:

- Latest scams / frauds
- Keeping safe from scams
- Famous stories / cases
- Online safety
- Free materials
- How to report fraud

**Location:**

**St Mary's Church, Church Street, Droylsden**

**Time:**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**10am – 1pm**



[reportfraud.police.uk](https://reportfraud.police.uk)



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THIS EVENT IS HOSTED BY  
GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE  
ECONOMIC CRIME UNIT

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**Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> July**

**From 11am – 12.30pm**

**Messy Summer**



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

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



Mercy Ships is a faith-based international development organisation that deploys hospital ships to some of the poorest countries in the world, delivering vital, free healthcare to people in desperate need and working as part of and alongside the Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Conditions requiring surgical treatment kill more people in **low-income countries** than HIV/Aids, TB and malaria combined. Globally, five billion people have no access to safe, affordable surgery when they need it.

In sub-Saharan Africa, up to 69% of people live on less than £2 a day. Healthcare in these countries either doesn't exist or is unaffordable to the vast majority of the population.

To achieve this, Mercy Ships delivers a customised five-year partnership model with every country it is invited to support. Relationships are built with the national government and ministry of health, so that the needs of each country are met.

In this way, Mercy Ships doesn't just address the immediate need on the ground, but also works to strengthen the country's healthcare systems and drive policy change. The aim is to tackle the root causes of the problems rather than just the consequences.

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As well as completing thousands of urgent operations onboard our floating hospitals, the *Africa Mercy* and the *Global Mercy*, Mercy Ships volunteers also work closely with host nations to improve the way healthcare is delivered across the country, by **training and mentoring** local medical staff, and **renovating hospitals** and clinics.

Founded in 1978 by Don and Deyon Stephens, Mercy Ships has worked in more than 55 countries, providing services valued at more than £1.3 billion. By improving healthcare delivery in every country it visits, Mercy Ships is working to eradicate the diseases of poverty and effectively do itself out of a job. Mercy Ships follows the model of Jesus by “bringing hope and healing to the forgotten poor”, helping people of all faiths and none.

Among the countries Mercy Ships serves, which lie on the lower third of the World Health Organisation’s Human Development Index, access to safe, affordable and timely surgery is extremely limited. As a result, countless people suffer and die from “diseases of poverty” that can easily be cured. Please pray for the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship and Mercy Ships.

*Loving God,*

*We thank you for the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship and Mercy Ships.*

*Bless all who fly, sail, serve, and support these ministries. Keep them safe as they bring help, healing, and hope to places in great need.*

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*Strengthen their hands, guide their journeys, and fill their work with your compassion. May those they serve know your comfort, your peace, and your love.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

St Mary's Church, Droylsden

# Coffee Morning

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July

9.30am – 11.00am

In the Church Room



All Welcome

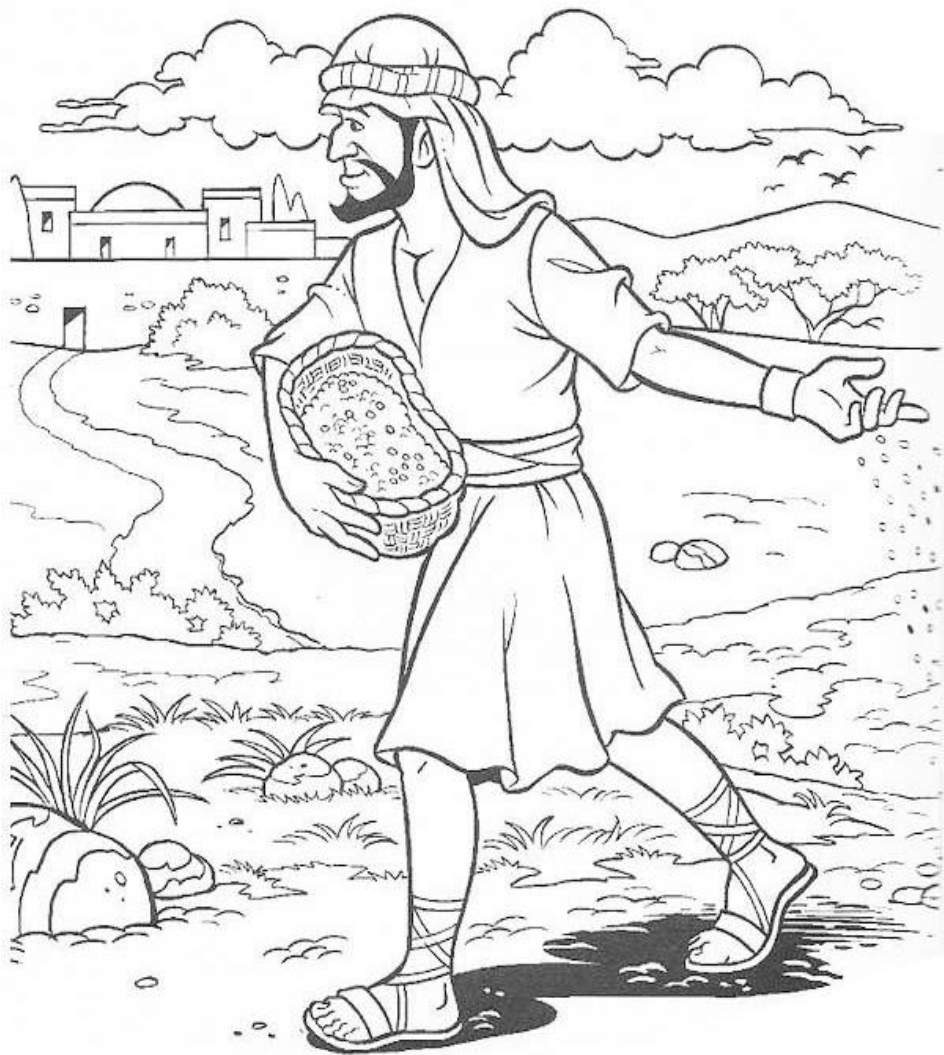
Proceeds to Mission Aviation Fellowship

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**A picture to colour, The Parable of the Sower**

**Read Acts Matthew 13: 1 - 9**



Deadline for the diary is always the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:christine.withers12@talktalk.net)**

**Telephone 0161 371 8825**

**Who we are:**

**St Mary's Church Website is**

**[www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk](http://www.stmarydroylsden.co.uk)**

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**Parochial Church Council:**

**Pat Catterall and Beth Cutler (Wardens), Charlotte Burrows, Joyce Cox, Paul Davies (Secretary), Kathryn Hampson, Ann Holland, Catherine Prescott, Mark Williams.**

**Jim Smith, Barbara Walton.**

**Deanery Synod Representatives:**

**Stephanie Rigg, Christine Withers**

**Sides People**

**Maureen Allison, Elaine Burrows, Carole Clayton, Joyce Cox, 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 Castle Band - 285 3583**