

### Next week's Services:

10am	Christmas Nativity	Children & Youth
5pm	NO SERVICE	
7pm	Carols by Candlelight	Chris Wicks

### Midweek Activities:

<b>M</b>	18:30 - 20:00 Choir practice 20:00 - 22:00 Leadership Team	<b>T h</b>	10:00 - 11:30 Matt's Monkeys
<b>T</b>	08:00 - 09:00 Prayer meeting	<b>F</b>	8:30 - 10:30 Breakfast Café
<b>W</b>	18:00 - 19:30 Ignite	<b>S</b>	

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[www.stmattschurch.org.uk](http://www.stmattschurch.org.uk)



## NOTICES & NEWS

**11th December 2016**

### Welcome to St Matt's

**We hope you enjoy being with us today. Our church is informal and family-friendly, and we serve tea and coffee at the back of the church throughout the service, except during Prayer.**

### Today's Services:

10am	Not just for Christmas! (Romans 6:1-14)	Bill MacDougall
5pm	Advent - patience	Chris Wicks
7pm	Meals	

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## This week at St. Matt's

### Christmas Cards for our Link Mission Partners

Please sign TODAY!

We always like to send greetings to our Link Mission Partners at Christmas. We need to do this quickly to catch the post! Our children are doing the artwork for the cards, and the insides are ready to sign at the back of church.

Please could you do this TODAY! (It doesn't matter if you're not personally know to them, it's just encouraging for them to be thought of).

### CHRISTMAS OFFERING 2016

#### Refugee Children in South Sudan....ways you can give!

As usual, we will be giving the collections from our Christmas Services at St Matt's to make a difference to the lives of children who have so little and are in great need of help. This year we will be giving to work being done to support **Refugee Children in South Sudan**.

As well as the collections themselves, you can also give in the following ways:

**The giant St Matt's Christmas Card!** Instead of sending lots of cards to friends at St Matt's, how about signing the giant, joint card (available to start signing TODAY!) and give the money you would have spent on cards?

The front of the card will be unveiled on Christmas Day!

**The trusty 'Change' Jar** is coming out again because 'every little helps' and nothing is too small. The jar will be out at every service between now and Christmas for you to put your coins into!

### Choir for Carol Service

Choir practice this Monday, 6.30pm for children, 7pm for adults.

### Prayer meeting

Tuesday mornings, 8am—9am

Every Tuesday morning there is a prayer meeting in church, open to everyone. We spend some time looking at a Bible passage and then pray for the coming week.

## Gerald and Pat Hovenden

(Team Rector based at Christ Church, Southborough)

You may be aware that Gerald & Pat are retiring at the end of January. The plan is to have a team celebration on the Saturday evening (28th January) at 6.30pm at Christ Church with a hog roast, entertainment etc.

Then on the Sunday morning (29<sup>th</sup> January) there will be a team service at Christ Church at 10am.

If you would like to contribute to Gerald & Pat's leaving gift, you can either place a suitably labelled envelope in your church collection or you can make an online donation with reference to 'retirement' to Christ Church Southborough Account no 01207132 Sort code 30-98-77.

We do need to know numbers for catering so could you please let the Christ Church office know if you are coming to these events either by email [ccsouthborough@gmail.com](mailto:ccsouthborough@gmail.com) or leave a message on the answerphone 01892 513680. Thank-you.

### Christmas Flyers

You may have seen our Christmas flyers with details of all our Christmas services on.

Please take some from the back of church to give to your family, friends and neighbours, and start inviting them to come to our services over Christmas!

### Nativity set needs a new home

Would any family in the church like a domestic crib set? Gloria Moody has one which has everything - shepherds, sheep, magi, a camel, ox and ass plus a small timber stable with mains electric lighting, about the size of 3 shoe boxes. Very not new - she inherited it from her godmother and it has been on display each year. It has painted traditional plaster figures (not chipped) and well-modelled.

If anyone would this set from Gloria, please speak to her directly or contact Hannah in the church office.

### #stmattsnativity

Throughout Advent we will be tweeting a verse each day with #stmattsnativity. These can be seen on the front page of the website, or you can follow us @stmattschurch