

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 11th March 2021

How is your week going?



For some of us this week, getting the children back to school will feel like we can take a breath, release some of the pressure that was on us. For others, it will add another layer of anxiety - the easing of lock-down means cases may rise, and the mixing of our children opens our households to more risk. For yet others, life goes on as it has been, with no difference this week to last week, whether that is good or bad.

The verse of the day today on the You Version Bible app is Colossians 3:23:

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

It struck me that we are all in different situations, with our days filled with different things, but whatever we do, we can do it with an attitude of serving the Lord. We can ask God to be in all that we do, we can choose to praise God in the most mundane of tasks.

So, I just wanted to encourage you today that whatever you are doing, it is worthwhile and God can work in it and in you as you do it. You can pray and worship and invite God in, and he is there. At the school gates, in your makeshift home office, in the house work, in the long days of joblessness or furlough or retirement, in the child care, in your place of work, in the phone calls and the zoom calls. Do it all for God, and ask him to use you through it, and you may be surprised at what happens!

Notices



Now that schools have gone back and infection rates in this area are much lower, we are looking to reopen church. We will be going back to what we had before Christmas - online church as normal but with a limited capacity in church (2m apart, wearing masks and no singing still, I'm afraid!). We are aiming for this to start on Palm Sunday (28th March) as we still need a couple more weeks to get the building back to normal inside and out! The building work will have finished by then and we will have installed all our cameras and wiring, instead of having it spread across church!

So, this Sunday we are still just online and it is Mothering Sunday. It will be a family service, celebrating and remembering all those mother figures in our lives. Do join us at 10am on [Facebook](#) or [You Tube](#).



This Friday is our worship and prayer evening on Zoom, which everyone is welcome to.
Join us at 8pm on Zoom for an hour.
To get the zoom link, please email office@stmattschurch.org.uk

This month's Mission Prayer Meeting is on Wednesday 17th March, at 3.30pm on Zoom. All are welcome to join in hearing about and praying for our mission links around the world. Please let me know if you haven't been before and would like the zoom link (office@stmattschurch.org.uk).





(Photo by
[Daniel Reche](#)
from [Pexels](#))

Revive (our St. Matt's Women's Ministry) will be holding a morning of walks for women, on Saturday 10th April 2021, with varying start times between 9am and 10am. By then, we should be able to meet in groups of 6 individuals (as long as restrictions are eased as planned), so we have 4 different walks for women to choose from, to help build connections and support.

We do need you to sign up for a walk in advance please, so that we can make sure we are sticking to the right numbers and have enough walk leaders. You can find all the information and sign up here <https://stmatts.churchsuite.co.uk/events/wuhjifbn>

Just a reminder about the Church of England's free 24-hour phone line, Daily Hope 0800 804 8044. It is aimed at those over 75 but can be used by anyone. It offers hymns, the live lent series, chair exercises, the weekly service, morning and evening prayers, and more. The content is updated regularly, and since its launch last April, it has received over 300,000 calls from nearly 50,000 individuals. Please do pass on this number to anyone you know who might benefit from it.

And finally, please do be in touch if you need any help or support. We are here for you.

