

## St. Matt's Midweek Update – 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

How are you? If you've got children or young people still at school, or if you work in a school or nursery, keep going, you're nearly there!! We're praying for the strength and protection you need to get through to the end of term and stay well. We're also praying that you have some good rest and family time over the summer.

This week I've again been struck by how fragile our world is, and how other countries have got so much more than Covid to deal with at the moment.

This week here in the UK we have had the highs and lows of the football and the racism that followed. Our society has still got such a long way to go in stamping out these hateful and harmful views.

We've heard in the last few days about the riots and looting in South Africa - such a scary situation for anyone who lives in those areas and coupled with the pandemic which has ravaged that country.

The Olympics is due to start in a week or so in Japan, and they are battling with Covid and struggling to keep the athletes safe.

The USA and Canada are again facing wild-fires and soaring temperatures - another reminder of what we are doing to our planet.

And the list could go on. Countries who are dealing with war and famine and natural disasters. Maybe today you could pick one country that is on your heart and keep them in your prayers over the next few days. It is hard to imagine how, but God knows each country, each situation, each person, and is more grieved than we are by the mess this world is in.

But a verse of hope to keep fixed on...

"Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth'.... They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Revelation 21:1-4

### Notices



**This Sunday** is the last in our Wellbeing Journey series. The rules in church haven't yet changed, so if you are coming into church, please wear a face mask and keep social distancing.

We are still not yet sure what the easing of restrictions means in practice for church, but we'll let you know as soon as we do!



**Picnic in the park** - on Sunday 25th July, we will be having a picnic in Grosvenor and Hilbert Park at 12pm onwards. Bring your own lunch and something to sit on. It will be a great opportunity to reconnect and meet up with each other. Please do feel free to come, whether you have 'done' church that morning or not!

We will meet on the lower football pitch, near the Hilbert Road entrance (see the photo below).



**Children and youth** - all our children's groups have now finished for the term. Ignite has one last session on Tuesday, at Adamswell. If your young person would like to come (up to 18 years old) then please email the office [office@stmattschurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stmattschurch.org.uk)

If you need any help or support during the week, please be in touch with us in the office. We hope you have a lovely weekend.