

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 5th May 2023



I hope you have had a good week. This week has felt very weird with the bank holiday Monday, and then I swapped my day off, so I don't know what day it is really, but I am glad it is the end of the week!

This morning the verse that I wanted to share with you is 1 Peter 5:7.
"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

It made me think about how we can deal with our worries and anxieties. One of the ways to do that is to share them with someone else. That's what Peter is saying in this verse - share your worries with God and He will help you to deal with them. He cares for us and loves us, so when we pray to Him about our anxieties, He will listen and will help us.

We can also share our problems and worries with other people, and that is part of doing the Christian life together. It always feels better when we can share our problems and worries with someone else, doesn't it? A problem shared is a problem halved. Speaking things out and talking them through can take a weight off our shoulders and minds, even if the actual problem isn't fixed. It helps to know someone else knows and cares.

So whatever worries or anxieties you have today, try giving them over to God, but also talking to someone else about them and asking them to pray with you.

And if your anxieties and problems are too big to share with friends or cope with on your own, please do seek professional help. And come and talk to us here in the church office if you need any support or guidance.

Notices

This Sunday we have 2 services:

8am Book of Common Prayer communion service. Anthony Hammill from St. James' will be taking the service this week.

10am coronation family service. Our family service this week will be based on the coronation, with activities around tables, a quiz, a short talk and the National Anthem at the end. We will all be in church together, and there will be activities for children on the tables, as well as toys dotted around church so that children can play where their parents are sitting.

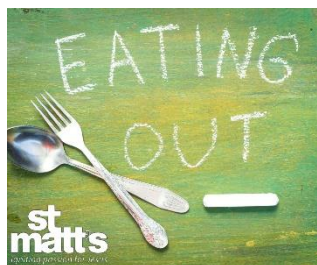
We will be having cake to eat during the service on Sunday morning, so if you are able to make some cakes or biscuits to bring (coronation themed if you can!) then that would be great!



Join the **walking hub on Monday 8th May** (bank holiday Monday) for their next walk and coffee.



They will meet at 9.30am at the entrance to St Johns Park in Beltring Road (TN4 9UA). They will walk to Hurst Wood to (hopefully) see the bluebells and then afterwards they will be going for coffee to Basil on St John's Rd, where Jan Gabriel will make us welcome - dogs are allowed there too! If anyone can't make the walk they are still welcome to join us after for coffee and chat - we should arrive at Basil around 10.40ish.



You can now book into the **"Eating Out at St. Matt's"** meal on Friday 19th May in church.

We know that people's finances are as tight as ever, so this is a chance to eat out for a small cost, and enjoy time with family and friends and delicious home cooked food!

The link to sign up is here <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/kxtv8bwf>

You can book in as a group / family - just put all the names of people coming with you when it asks for that in the sign up form.

This time we are asking people to pay what they can afford, with a suggested donation of £2.50 per person. If you can afford to pay a bit more than that, to help those who can't, that would be great. If you can't afford to pay that much, no problem! You can pay by card or cash on the door. We will open doors at 6.30pm and will eat at 7pm. Bring your own alcoholic drinks if you would like them - we will provide soft drinks.

This is only 2 weeks away, so please book in as soon as possible, so we know how many to cater for.

APCM - our annual church meeting is on Monday 15th May at 8pm in church.

The documents for the meeting are now on the website, including our annual report (with accounts), so do have a look before the meeting if you

can <https://www.stmattschurch.org.uk/2023/04/apcm-2023/>

There will be some paper copies of the documents at the back of church this Sunday for those who can't access them electronically.



Rosemary and her team will be holding their next **coffee morning on Tuesday 16th May** in the church centre, 10.30am - 12pm. There will be drinks and cakes, and also a raffle, books and bric-a-brac stalls. Any money raised will go to the ToCH Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Following our **prayer meetings** in Lent, we are going to start having monthly prayer meetings for anyone who would like to come along.

These will be on the first Monday of the month, at 8pm in the church centre.

The first one will be on Monday 5th June. The July one will move to 17th July, but then we will be back on the first Monday of the month in August.



Can you nominate us for a chance to win £1000? All you have to do is click [Movement for Good](#) and fill in your details. The church details will be there already. Thank you!

Finally, Hazel Hoad would like to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes since her operation a couple of weeks ago. She is recovering well.

Have a good weekend!