

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 11th April 2025



I hope you have had a good week.

This Sunday is the start of Holy Week, as we celebrate Palm Sunday together. As we start the last week of Jesus' life, we see him riding into Jerusalem on a donkey.

Palm Sunday is a great reminder of who Jesus is and what he is coming to do. The Jews of the time were waiting for a mighty Messiah, who would fight to save them from the Romans. So Jesus is making a real statement by riding into Jerusalem on a donkey - an animal that represented peace, not war. But then we also see that there were crowds of people in Jerusalem and with Jesus who recognised that this man was something special. The laying of cloaks and branches on the road showed that they thought he deserved special treatment, that he was someone to be honoured. They may not have realised exactly who Jesus was, but they knew something important was happening. They knew he was coming in the name of the Lord.

So this Palm Sunday, as we get a sense of our gentle, loving King, let's remember that we are also called to be like Jesus.

Philippians 2:6-8 says,

"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!"

Notices



This Sunday (13th April) is Palm Sunday and we have our 10am service and 5pm service.

At 10am, there will be groups for children and young people and Chris will be speaking about Palm Sunday.

Trevor will be speaking at our 5pm service, with Chris leading the service and communion.



Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service	8pm
Good Friday Family Worship	10am
Easter Sunday Family Celebration	10am



Easter week services

Thursday 17th April 8pm - Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service - this is a quiet reflective service with communion

Friday 18th April 10am - Good Friday Family Worship - a more subdued and reflective family service

Sunday 20th April 10am - Easter Sunday Family Celebration - a joyful celebration with baptisms and communion

Don't forget to invite people along to church over Easter with our Easter flyers or by sharing the posts on Facebook and Instagram

<https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewshighbrooms>

<https://www.instagram.com/stmatthewshighbrooms/>

Sunday 27th April is Chris and Carole's leaving service with food and drinks afterwards.

Sunday 4th May APCM - We are going to have our annual meeting in the service on the 4th May. We will spend some time looking back and celebrating all we do as a church, and also looking forward as we start our time without a vicar. Children and young people will go out to groups during the service.

PCC nominations - At our annual meeting we elect PCC members (these are the trustees of the charity who deal with governance of the church). If you are interested in joining the PCC, please do come and talk to Brian or myself about it over the next few weeks. We can tell you what is involved.

Electoral roll - the electoral roll closes this Sunday, so this is your last chance to sign a form if you would like to be on the roll this year. Here is the online form <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/-/forms/gpuczzft>



Easter opening of the Larder - the larder is still open all through the holidays, but just a reminder that the larder will be opening on Easter Saturday, instead of on Good Friday that week.

Can you help Chris and Carole with moving?

Chris and Carole are going to do most of their moving house on the weekend of 3rd / 4th / 5th May and were wondering if anyone would be able to help.

The help that would be appreciated is:

Loading vans up in TW (around 8am onwards each day)

Having a van to use or being willing (and have experience of) driving a rental van from TW to Dorset

Help unloading in Dorset (about 1pm onwards each day)

Cleaning in TW

Taking furniture to tip or charity shops

If you are able to help with any of this, please can you let me know, with specifics about which days and times, and what you can help with? Thank you!

Could you join the Deeper team?

At the moment, we could really do with someone to join the Deeper team. Deeper is for those in school years 3-6 on Mondays from 3.30pm - 5pm. It's a fun group, but at the moment I help a couple of times a month to make up numbers, and I could do with reducing that if possible as we head into the interregnum. Please let me know if you would like to join the team, or come and have a taster session to see what it is like.

CPAS Falcon Camp leaders

Sue Shrubb (from Christ Church in Southborough) runs a CPAS Falcon holiday for children who are 8-11 years old and who need a break from everyday life. It's an action packed week of activities with Christian teaching.

She has a full camp of members but needs 2 more leaders (over the age of 18) - either 2 males or 2 females or a married couple (because of the room configuration).

It's August 2nd (Saturday afternoon) to set up & the children come Sunday morning until the morning of Saturday August 9th - it all takes place at Carroty Wood Centre North Tonbridge, so if local there could be a possibility of sleeping at home!

If anyone is interested, I can put you in touch with Sue.

Please do be in touch if you need any help or support at the moment.

I hope you have a lovely weekend in the sunshine, and we'll see you on Sunday.

Love and prayers,

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Registered charity number 1185772

An evening of worship and prayer for our nation



Celia and Lyndon
Bowring



Graham Kendrick



Dr RT Kendall



James Mildred

Please join Lyndon and Celia as they host our prayer for the nation evening. Graham and musicians will lead us in worship, RT will bring a specially recorded message and James will share CARE updates.

Wednesday 30th April

The Spa Hotel, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8XJ

6:30pm arrival for tea, coffee and pastries



Join us and invite friends! To RSVP please visit
care.org.uk/events or ring **020 7233 0455**