

## St. Matt's Midweek Update – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025



I hope you have had a good week and have managed to enjoy the sunshine!

Well done for making it to the end of term if you've got children at school or you work in education! Praying you can rest and recharge over the next two weeks.

I'm just sending out notices today - not feeling very inspired, sorry!!

### Notices

Our services are not following the normal pattern over the next few weeks, so I've listed them out for the next month so you know what is happening!



**This Sunday (6th April)** is the first Sunday of the month, so we have our 8am communion service.

However at 10am we are not having another family service - we will be having a normal service with groups for children and young people. Chris will be speaking to us on 'Words that have shaped us'.

**Next 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.

### We are then into Easter week...

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

**Sunday 27th April is Chris and Carole's leaving service** with food and drinks afterwards so people can stay around and chat over lunch. There won't be any groups for children and young people so that everyone can be in church together. We will have things for children to do during the service in their seats, but you may want to bring some extra bits. It will be very busy, so there won't be space to have toys out.

**Sunday 4th May APCM** - this won't be a family service, as we'll have had two on the previous Sundays. 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.



**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.

**Easter break** - It's now the Easter holidays, so all our midweek groups and activities have stopped for two weeks. Everything will start back up from Tuesday 22nd April.



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



### Can you invite people to our Easter services?

There are cards in church that you can take and give to friends and family to invite them to join us over Easter. Our advert is also on Facebook and Instagram, so do share from our pages if you can.

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

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

### Men's event - Saturday 5th April



Kevin would like to invite you to coffee and bacon sandwiches in his garden bright and early on Saturday 5th April.

Similar to the beer and bangers event in December, we will be in the wooded garden and hopefully be surrounded by bird song as the sun rises while cooking sausages / bacon on the firepit and sipping fine coffee (well it might be instant!)

This will be an informal drop in gathering - approx. timings 7.30am to 10ish

Please rsvp to get an idea of numbers. No need to bring anything just yourself!



### Unlock Walk - Saturday 12th April 2025

**IMPORTANT** - if you are planning to go on the Unlock Walk, please can you let me know, so that any changes or plans can be communicated directly?

From Liz - Due to rail work at the weekend we have had to alter the plans to get to the Unlock walk.

We will need to meet at High Brooms station on Saturday 12th to catch the 8.46 to Tonbridge, changing there to get the 9.07 to Victoria, where we will change to get to Vauxhall to start the walk. If you prefer to catch the train from Tonbridge please do.

You need to buy your ticket in advance if possible or allow time to buy at the machine at the station, as the ticket office is rarely open. Return journey is flexible.

Please bring snacks or lunch (you should be able to buy food on your way round, or in the churches, but maybe easier to have your own), also maybe some small change in case you want to donate cash to any of the churches or buy a drink, etc.

Wear comfortable shoes and warm enough clothes.

### 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.



### Some town-wide Easter events...

- **Tunbridge Wells Choral Society** - Enjoy a beautiful selection of varied choral music to mark Palm Sunday, sung live by the Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society with professional musicians and soloists at the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells on Sunday 13 April, at 3pm. Tickets are available from <https://rtwcs.org.uk/>. Prices range from £13 to £28 (inclusive of booking fee) with student and child tickets from £8 to £15.50. The concert lasts approximately 2 hours, including a 20-minute interval.
- **An Easter Meditation** - An evening of reflective music and readings will take place at the Salvation Army, Bayhall Road, Tunbridge Wells on Monday 14th April 7.30pm. The South London Fellowship Band and the Tunbridge Wells Songsters will lead this reflective time. All are very welcome to attend.
- **Good Friday Witness** - Come join Christians from across the town for the Good Friday Witness on Friday 18th April, 11.25-11.45am at the Millennium Clock.

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