

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 27th June 2025



I hope you have had a good week.

We just wanted to say thank you to everyone who filled in our short survey a few weeks ago, and to give you a little bit of feedback.

We had about 50 responses from across the age ranges and lengths of time at St. Matt's, which was great.

There were some common key themes in all the areas, which is really helpful as it shows where we are as a church and what we are looking for in the future. I haven't listed everything below, but these are the most common themes.

What we love about St. Matt's and what we are doing well had a lot of overlap.

The key themes were (in no particular order!):

Welcome and inclusivity

Focus on Jesus

Worship and music

Community and fellowship, including pastoral support

Authenticity and openness

Community outreach, including the larder and children and youth

Volunteer teams working well, with good admin and organisational support

Teaching and preaching

The most recurrent themes that came out of the question **"What could we do better?"** were:

Prayer and spiritual growth, including house groups and small groups

Follow up and integration of newcomers

Communication, within the church and to our community

There was a recognition that volunteer teams and resources are stretched, limiting what we can do in terms of community outreach, youth and children's work, etc.

And where do we see ourselves in 5 years time?

With a new vicar who can lead us into the future

Continuing to value welcome and inclusivity

Seeing growth and expansion in our church numbers, in people coming to faith, in community outreach, in our youth and children's work

Recognising that growth will take an investment in more resources

Working with other churches and community projects in the town

This has been so encouraging for us to read all of your responses, and really helpful as we get our parish profile together. We are feeding these things into our profile, and we will share this with you once it has been finished and approved next month.

Thank you, and let's celebrate what an amazing church St. Matt's is!!

Notices



This Sunday (29th June) we have our main 10am service and Sarah Finch, CEO of Life & Soul will be speaking to us and sharing more about their work with young people in our town. The Bible passage is Psalm 13. Children will go out to their group during the service, but our young people will be staying in this week.

Next Sunday (6th July) is the first Sunday of the month, so we have our 8am communion service and a family service at 10am.

Church lunch and afternoon at Adamswell - Sunday 6th July approx. 12pm - 5pm



Our BBQ lunch and afternoon of activities at Adamswell is just over a week away, **so please sign up if you are planning to come!**

Activities will include a bouncy castle, archery, axe throwing, rounders, walks - or you might prefer just to chill and chat to people!

We will provide the meat and rolls for the BBQ and some drinks, for a suggested donation of £2.50 per person. If you can bring a salad or a pudding that would be great.

You can pay on the day, and please also bring camping chairs or picnic rugs to sit on.

You can sign up here <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/kkeoe2br> or at the back of church.



Let's get together to pray!

Our next prayer meeting is on **Sunday 13th July 8.30am to 9.30am** in the church centre, with a simple breakfast. Please can you let Hannah or Mary know if you are hoping to come, for catering purposes. Thanks.

Midweek groups and activities

As we are heading into July, our midweek groups are coming to an end for the term. Some of these are finishing this week, due to volunteer holidays and commitments, and some have a couple more weeks.

Deeper - last session Monday 30th June

Ignite - last session Tuesday 8th July (Dunorlan Park boating)

Community Hub - last session Wednesday 10th July

Toddler group - last session Thursday 3rd July

Community larder carries on every Friday through the summer.

Meals please!

We would like to provide a week of meals for Fiona and Sophie now that baby Nora has arrived! They have asked for this from 14th July.

If you can make a meal that week and deliver it to them near St. John's Church, please let me know. Thank you!

Community Cafe at Milward House

Milward House Christian care home are starting a cafe for Christians who care for someone with dementia or have dementia and are being cared for at home.

It is on Monday 30th June at 10.30am.

Here is the flier with more information [2025 June Milward Community Cafe current.pdf](#)

I hope you have a good weekend and can stay cool!
Please do be in touch if you need any help or support.