

# St. Matt's Midweek Update – 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025



I hope you are coping ok after a difficult week.

Please do be in touch if there is anything we can do to help.

I just thought I'd share a verse with you to keep us going as we journey through advent, maybe faster and more stressfully than we'd hoped!

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

Maybe today you just need to refocus your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Let his peace and his joy and his hope fill you this advent, even in the midst of chaos.

Writing this has prompted me to put some worship music on as I write - fill us Lord as we look to you.

## Notices



**This Sunday** (7th December) is the first Sunday of the month, so we have our 8am communion service as well as our 10am advent family service. I will be speaking about finding joy in the waiting.

**Next Sunday** (14th December) we have our 10am morning service with communion. We will also be baptising Nora Wilson, so David Kitley will be with us to speak and take the baptism and communion. We will have groups for our children and young people - the last ones before Christmas.

We also have the first of our **Christmas services** on 14th December - our Reflective service.



Here is a list of all our services this Christmas:

**A Reflective Christmas** - Sunday 14th December 5pm

**Christmas Nativity** - Sunday 21st December 10am (in church only)

**Christmas Carols** - Sunday 21st December 7pm

**Christingle Service** - Christmas Eve 4pm (in church only)

**Midnight Communion** - Christmas Eve 11.15pm

**Family Christmas Celebration** - Christmas Day 10am

There are plenty of Christmas flyers in church for you to take and give out to friends and family. I will get our advert on our Facebook and Instagram today (hopefully!), so please do share those when they appear! You can also find details of all our Christmas services on our website here <https://www.stmattschurch.org.uk/2025/12/christmas-2025/>



### Our Christmas Craft Event for ladies is tonight!

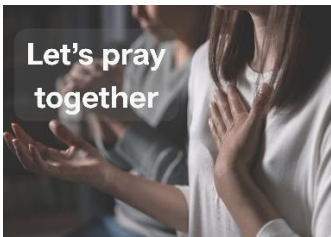
Thank you to everyone who is helping to make this happen, and to everyone coming along to make crafts.

There is still space for more people, so please do just turn up and buy a ticket on the door if you would like to come along - 7.30pm to 9.45pm.

### Men's night - change of plan!

It's going to be very wet tonight, so Kevin is now going to be at the Brickworks pub on High Brooms Road from 6.30pm tonight for any men who would like to join him for a drink.





Our next prayer meeting is on **Wednesday 10th December** at 8pm in the church centre.

It's such a busy time of year, but we really want to make time to pray for our future vicar and also to pray for all our Christmas services and all those who will come through our doors this year.

We hope you can join us!



### **Christmas Offering to Life and Soul**

Every year at Christmas we raise money for one of our mission partner charities, and this year we have chosen Life & Soul. We will be giving you more information next week about how you can give and what Life & Soul will use the money for.

**Tearfund thank you** - we also wanted to say a big thank you to you all for the money we have raised for Tearfund this term through our Harvest service and our quiz. We are able to send them almost £1,600, with any money they receive at the moment being matched by a generous donor.

### **Other things coming up this week**

We've got a busy week coming up, with our last sessions of most of groups happening.

Deeper will have a Christmas party in church on Monday.

Rosemary and her team are having their Christmas afternoon tea in the church on Tuesday for older members of the community.

Ignite are going ice skating on Tuesday evening.

The Community Hub has its last session of the term on Wednesday.

Toddler Group are having their Christmas party on Thursday morning.

And we have the school in on Friday morning to practice for their carol services which will happen on the 15th December.

Please do pray for everyone involved in these events, especially considering the water issues making things a bit more complicated.

### **How we are dealing with the water issues:**

We've got a good set up in the kitchen at church now for while the boil notice is in place.

We have bottled water for cold drinks, and big containers of water from unaffected houses for everything else. We have also turned the taps off in the kitchen so no mistakes can be made!

Tap water can be used for flushing the toilets and washing hands, as long as you use soap on your hands.

Please do ask if you have any questions or are concerned about anything.

I think that's all for now!

I hope you have a good weekend and we see you on Sunday at one of our services.