

# St. Matt's Midweek Update – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026



I hope you've had a good week and are looking forward to the weekend!

This Sunday is Mothering Sunday - it's inevitably a day of mixed emotions for lots of people. Although it is a joyful day for celebrating mothers and spending time with family, it also reminds us of the sadness, loss, trauma and hurt that we may have associated with our mothers or our own journey towards motherhood.

So here is a prayer from Pete Greig for Mothering Sunday - he has a way of saying things better than I ever can!!

*Today we pray for mothers to know love and joy.  
And for orphans, comfort.  
For not-yet mothers, hope.  
For single mothers, grace.  
And for those who are lonely, family.*

*We pray grace today  
For the mothers of prodigals,  
For those who've lost children,  
And for those who don't know where their children are.*

*May the embrace of grace displace shame  
For mums in prison,  
For those who can't feed a baby,  
For those who miscarried,  
And those who had an abortion.*

*May those who never held their own child,  
For whom today is sadder than it is happy,  
Know the joy of parenting sons and daughters  
Within the family of God.  
Amen.*

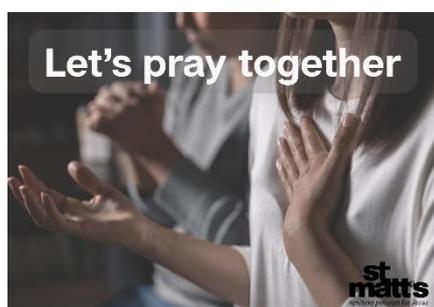
## Notices

### **This Sunday (15th March) is Mothering Sunday**

Our 10am service will be a family service to celebrate our mothers and those who care for us like mothers. I will be speaking on Colossians 3:12-17.



**Next Sunday (22nd March)** we just have our main 10am service and Anthony Hammill will be speaking to us and leading communion for us. We will be continuing our Journey to the Cross series.



### **Prayer Meetings**

Our next prayer meeting is on **Monday 16th March at 8pm in the church centre.**

Please do come and join us to pray for our world, our community and our church family.

We also have our monthly **Mission Prayer Meeting** next week, on Wednesday 18th March at 3.30pm at Mary's house.

## Easter at St. Matt's Church

Easter is now only 3 weeks away, so here are our Easter services:

Maundy Thursday (2nd April) - Tenebrae service led by Jane Edwards - 8pm in church and online

Good Friday Family Service (3rd April) - 10am in church and online

Easter Sunday 8am communion (5th April) - 8am communion service led by Richard Arding in church

Easter Sunday Family Celebration (5th April) - 10am in church and online, with talk and communion led by Sheila Perkins

There are some Easter flyers at the back of church if you would like to invite anyone along to our services, and I will get our advert on Facebook and Instagram on Monday for you to share.



## Electoral Roll and PCC

This year our APCM (annual meeting) will be on Sunday 12th April during our morning service. This means that we are updating our electoral roll, which is like a membership of the church - it's a way of saying that this is your church and you are invested in it. Being on the electoral roll also allows you to vote at the APCM and to stand for roles like PCC or church warden. If you signed a form last year, then you are already on the roll.

If you would like to join the electoral roll, there are some paper forms at the back of church, or you can use this online form <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/-/forms/gpuczft>

The APCM is also the meeting where people can stand for and be voted onto the PCC (Parochial Church Council). The number of elected members on the PCC is determined by the number of people on the electoral roll, and we can currently have 9 elected members. PCC members serve for 3 years, so 7 of our PCC members are carrying on, leaving us with 2 vacancies. The two current PCC members whose 3 year term is ending are willing to stand for re-election this year. We can also have 2 Deanery Synod reps on the PCC. These people are voted onto Deanery Synod (which covers the local area of Tunbridge Wells and brings CofE churches together for meetings 3 times a year) but are then also automatically on the PCC. One of our current reps is happy to stand for re-election, and we have one vacancy. Please have a chat to Mary if you are interested in joining the Deanery Synod.

**Unlock Walk** - Every year some of our congregation take part in the Unlock Walk in London, to raise money for urban churches.



The walk this year is on **Saturday 18th April** and will be around the areas of Kilburn and Hampstead. If you are interested in joining the walk, please talk to Liz.

**The next Unite town-wide youth event is today** at The Wells Church (above Tesco in town). This is for anyone in school years 6-13. More information and sign up [here](#).

**the noise**  
God's Love in Action  
1 John 3:18

**15th - 17th April 2026, 10am - 6pm**  
**St James' Church, T Wells.**

Free event for school years 6 - 13. Lunch provided.

Sign up to get involved in serving the local community and having fun together.

[madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/](https://www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/)

**Youth For Christ also run The Noise** every Easter for anyone in school years 6-13.

The Noise is a chance for young people to give up their time to serve a Tunbridge Wells community and show God's love through practical projects such as litter picking, gardening and running children's clubs, as well as learning more about God's heart for mission, both locally and further afield.

**The Noise is on 15th - 17th April at St. James' Church** in TW. Each day runs from 10am-6pm and lunch is provided. It is free to attend.

You can sign up for one, two or three days

here <https://www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/p26937.html>

St. Matthew's Church Office High Brooms Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9BW

01892 618108 [office@stmattschurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stmattschurch.org.uk) [www.stmattschurch.org.uk](http://www.stmattschurch.org.uk)

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