

# St. Matt's Midweek Update – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026



It was lovely to see some of you at our prayer meeting last night.

Linde shared a couple of Bible verses which I thought I would share with you today.

We prayed for our world, and there are so many places that are struggling with war and conflict at the moment. It can feel overwhelming. But we had a map of the world and we put tealights on the places we were praying for, that God's light would break into those places, and into the peace negotiations happening behind the scenes.

Lamentations 3:21-24

"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

We also prayed for our church and for Rob and Alice joining us soon. We prayed for those feeling weary from keeping everything going during the interregnum and we prayed for those in our congregation who are ill or struggling in some way.

Isaiah 40:31

"Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;

they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

So this week, if you are feeling worn down by everything going on in the world, or if you are struggling in your own life, remember that our hope is in the Lord. He is faithful, his love never runs out, he will carry us and renew us when we call on him.

## Notices



**This Sunday (3rd May) we have two services at 8am and 10am.**

8am is our Book of Common Prayer communion service.

10am is our family service and I will be speaking about Mary and Martha from Luke 10:38-42.

**Next Sunday (10th May) we also have two services at 10am and 5pm.**

Our 10am service will have groups for our children and young people. Dedo will be speaking to us about Naomi and Ruth.

Our 5pm service is more traditional and Trevor will be leading this for us.

## This week in church

It's bank holiday Monday so there will be **NO DEEPER on 4th May.**

Everything else is running as normal next week:

Ignite for young people - Tuesday 6pm - 7.30pm

Community Hub - Wednesday 11am - 2pm

Toddler Group - Thursday 9.30am - 11.30am

Community Larder - Friday 9.30am - 10.45am



## Other things coming up this month:

Youth team meeting - Thursday 7th May 7.30pm (for anyone who volunteers with youth)

Leadership Team meeting - Monday 18th May

Mission Prayer meeting - Wednesday 20th May 3.30pm at Mary's house

Children's team meeting - Thursday 21st May 7.30pm (for anyone who volunteers with children)

Knitting Hub - Saturday 23rd May 10am - 12pm in the church centre

## Rob's Licensing Service

This service to license and install Rob Byrne at St. Matthew's Church will take place on **Tuesday 16th June at 7.30pm in church.**

The service will be led by the Bishop of Rochester, Bishop Jonathan, and will officially make Rob our Vicar.

Part of the service is us as a congregation welcoming Rob and committing to supporting him in his ministry, so we would love to see as many of you there as possible. Get it in your diaries!

It is a more formal service than we are used to, so it probably isn't suitable for younger children.

We are expecting a full church as Rob will be inviting his friends and family, as well as people from his previous churches.

CHRIST CHURCH,  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS

10AM-12PM



RAISING MONEY FOR THE CHARITY **life & soul**

**Life & Soul Plant Sale - on Saturday 2nd May between 10am-12pm**, there will be a wonderful array of plants for you to purchase. Every plant bought will enable L&S to continue improving the mental health of young people in the local area. The sale will be next to our office, out the front of Christ Church TW, or just inside the church if the weather is particularly bad.

**The next YFC Unite event is on Friday 8th May at 5.30pm - 8pm at The Wells Church.**

This is for anyone in school years 6-13 and some of our young people go each month.

You can book in

here <https://www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/p20047.html>

« Unite. » youth  
#FUN #FOOD #FAITH  
@ The Wells Church, Hanover Rd, TN1 1EY  
5:30-8pm School years 6 - 13  
Suggested donation £3 on the door  
**Summer 2026**  
**One God**  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
**Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup>.**  
Guest speaker plus football, food, music,  
dancing, craft, games, consoles,  
drama, bible study and friends!  
Follow our social media for speaker information  
and photos after the event @twyfc  
Tunbridge Wells  
YOUTH  
FOR CHRIST  
@twyfc  
Bookings and info  
scan QR code or  
[www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/](http://www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/)

Tunbridge Wells  
YOUTH  
FOR CHRIST  
**26-Mile Sponsored-Walk**  
between Rochester Cathedral and Bessels Green  
Baptist Church (nr Sevenoaks)  
**WHY???**  
because we are about seeing young people's  
lives changed by Jesus through:  
The Youth Centre  
school Christian Unions and Alpha courses  
Unite Youth events and Satellites trip  
and all this costs! We are seeing an increase in  
curiosity from the young people and we want  
to grow our staff team to reach more young  
people in 2026.  
Please sponsor the walking team via  
<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/twyfcwalk2026>  
**Walk 2026**

## TW Youth For Christ Sponsored Walk

The staff and trustees at Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ are walking 26 miles from Rochester Cathedral to Bessels' Green Baptist Church (their newest church link) on Saturday 30th May. They are seeing an increase in interest in the Christian faith from the young people in the town and are wanting to increase their work in the local schools and with local churches in response to this. However, this will cost more! Please consider sponsoring YFC as they do this walk. Every penny really helps them in their mission to see young people's lives changed by Jesus.

Here is the link to

donate <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/twyfcwalk2026>

## **Clothing Donations for Crowborough Camp**

Asylum seekers at Crowborough Camp are moved on every 90 days, so there is a constant need for clothing. Donations are being collected from churches in partnership with Care4Calais, and you can help by bringing items to our church.

### **Items currently needed:**

Men's casual clothing in good condition (jeans, tracksuit bottoms, t-shirts, jumpers)

Men's shoes and coats

### **Please note:**

We are not accepting smart clothing at this time

Underwear, socks, and pyjamas must be new and in unopened packs

If you're able to help, please bring your donations to church, and we will arrange for them to be collected. Thank you so much for your support.

If you need any help or support at the moment, please be in touch with me in the office.  
I hope you have a lovely weekend - see you on Sunday!