

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 2nd July 2026



I hope you have had a good week.

Last Friday, I went to two very different gatherings.

In the morning, I went to Zara's leavers' assembly at school. There were lots of lovely things said about her year group, about the teachers, and parents were thanked for supporting their young people through their A-levels.

Then in the afternoon, I went to Helen's service of thanksgiving. Again, lots of lovely things were said about Helen by people who loved her and will miss her.

It made me think, that as much as it is great to be able to give tributes about someone at a funeral, how much better it is when we can say those things and thank people who are still with us. One of the head girls at TWGGS spoke about the support of parents in general, but included a very personal thank you to her mum and shared all the ways she had been there for her, and it was really special.

In 1 Thessalonians 5, Paul says "Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

Let's make sure we are encouraging each other in our walk with God. It means so much when people tell you what you're doing well, or what they value about you, so let's build each other up in that way.

Notices



This Sunday (5th July) we have our monthly 8am communion service and our 10am family service.

Rob will be speaking at the family service, continuing our series on the Marks of Mission, with Teach. The Bible passage is Matthew 28:16-20.

Next Sunday (12th July) we have our 10am service (with groups for children and young people) **and also our 5pm service** (with communion).



Rob and Alice will be hosting a BBQ and open afternoon in their garden next Saturday (11th July) to get to know people more.

BBQ food will be available from 1ish till about 3.30pm. Feel free to drop in any time and stay as long as you want.

Please can you sign up this weekend if you would like to come, so that we can cater for the right number of people and the right dietary requirements. You can sign up

here <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/xuucsyph>

Sausages and burgers will be provided but if you would like any other meat, please bring your own. Some drinks will be provided but please bring a bottle if you can, either alcohol or soft!



Would you like to join the welcome team?

We would love one more person to join the welcome team, to welcome people on the door one Sunday a month.

If you would like to join this team, or to know more about what this would entail, please let me know.

Funeral for Mike Southwick

Just a couple of reminders for Mike's funeral tomorrow. Everyone is welcome to all parts of the funeral, here at church, at the crematorium and at the wake.

The family have said that Mike liked loud shirts, so if people could wear bright colours or blue for Chelsea, that would be amazing.

There will be refreshments in the church centre between the church service and the wake, for those who decide not to go to the crematorium, so do feel free to stay around for a bit if you would like to.

Lastly, just a heads up that Sandhurst Road is closed at the bottom, and so is Ferndale, so you probably want to head back up the hill and into town to get to the Crematorium or the wake, rather than trying to go down to North Farm / Upper Grosvenor Road.

Do be in touch with Rob or I if you need any help or support at the moment.

Have a good weekend.