



not proud and boastful or easily angered. Love that always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. A love that never fails.

This is the sort of love God has for us and we know it whenever we think of Jesus and his life of love. It's the sort of love we're to have for each other too. This is the sort of love that transforms individuals and turns the world upside-

down. Let's love for all we're worth this year, not counting the cost but letting love really change everything! Real love, after all, will never, never let you be the same!

## **Marriage Week**



National Marriage Week is celebrated 7-14 February. Take a look at the Mothers' Union table or go to [www.marriage-week.org.uk](http://www.marriage-week.org.uk)

## **A Safe Church**

Keeping our people and our property safe is very important to us and we have been doing a lot of work 'behind the scenes' to assess our risks and make our activities as safe as possible.

We all have a responsibility for keeping ourselves and others safe, so make sure you tell us if you notice anything that looks unsafe.

We have arranged some training courses, which are **free** to anyone at St. Matthew's who is prepared to get more involved in keeping our church safe, just sign up on the sheet in church.

To find out more, please see Mark Rushton, our *Health and Safety Officer*.



## **Not About Me**

Here are some things I have learned whilst volunteering at St Matthew's:

**It's not about me, it's about Him.** Everything I have done, and continue to do, is part of God's amazing plan, not my own selfish ambitions.

**It's about people, not performance targets.** Whilst it is important to use our resources well, it is far more important to build relationships with people, meeting them where they are, just as Jesus did.

**I'm not supposed to do it all by myself.** I have learned that I am not meant to do things alone. God wants us to work together, to encourage and build each other up.

**Don't think you are too busy to pray.** That's when you need prayer the most.

**What's the smallest thing you can do?** When you don't know where to start, start small. Just as our faith need only be as small as a mustard seed, so the smallest job can result in great achievements.

**God provides. Abundantly.** God has called so many different people to St Matthew's, all with unique stories, skills and experiences.

**We are all part of God's family.** I am not just working with colleagues, I am working with my brothers and sisters in Christ.

**When you love your job, you will never work a day in your life.** God has given us all a purpose – when you find yours, you will find true contentment and joy.

**Everyone needs a Sabbath.** Take time to rest, be creative, go for a walk, be still.

**God provides the ultimate business model.** Genesis 1 tells how God saw what needed to be done (the Plan), He created (the Act), and He saw that it was good (the Review).

**It's in God's time.** There are some things we have tried

but haven't been able to get off the ground. It's not personal, it's just not time.

**The Spirit leads.** There are times when an idea comes out of nowhere and takes a life of its own. That's the Holy Spirit. Lead on...

**Pam Robinson**

## Coffee & Community

Next month, we will host the first of our new monthly coffee mornings, with a visit by **Healthy Stockport** on **8<sup>th</sup> March** to our Saturday Café. It's free, so tell your friends and come along to find out more!



**We would appreciate extra help, to welcome people and serve in the kitchen.** Please see Pam or Audrey.

*Have you prayed about it as much as you've talked about it?*

Matthew 21:22

## Team Talk

Here's what's happening in the ministries this month:

**Social & Community:** Watch this space for news of curry lunches, pub quizzes and more!

**Children & Young People:** We have made plans for fun activities throughout the year with our partners, Stockport Baptist Church, so watch out for details in the Notice Sheet and website.

## What's on this month

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February*  
**8:30<sup>am</sup> Prayer Breakfast**  
**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February*  
**10:30<sup>am</sup> Whole Parish Worship**  
*Lead: David & David ~ Preach: David*

*At communion we offer prayer for healing for you and those for whom you care.*

**No Parish Lunch** this month

*Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February*  
**8:30<sup>am</sup> Home Group**  
**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**

*Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February*  
**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Home Groups**

*Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February*  
*National Marriage Week*  
**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time @ St Matt's**  
**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir**

*Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February*  
**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**

*Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February*  
**9:30<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**Lead: David ~ Preach: Sue**

**11:15<sup>am</sup> Morning Worship**  
**Lead: Sue ~ Preach: Lucy**

*Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February*  
**8:30<sup>am</sup> Home Group**  
**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**

*Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February*  
**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Home Groups**

**Magazine Articles Due**

*Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February*  
**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Mother's Union**

*Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February*  
**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time @ St Matt's**  
**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir**

*Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February*  
**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**  
**1<sup>pm</sup> Health & Safety training in church**

*Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February*  
**9:30<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**Lead: Julie ~ Preach: David**

**11:15<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**  
**Lead: Julie ~ Preach: David**

**200 Club – Subs Due**

*Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February*  
**8:30<sup>am</sup> Home Group**  
**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**

*Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February*

**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Home Groups**

*Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time @ St Matt's**

**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir**

*Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February*

**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**

*Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Teen Breakfast**

*at the Vicarage*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**

**Lead: David ~ Preach: Lucy**

**11:15<sup>am</sup> All Age Signed Service**

**Lead: Lucy ~ Preach: David**

*Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Home Group**

**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Socially Yours**

*Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February*

**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**

**6:30<sup>pm</sup> First Aid Training**

*in Church*

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Home Groups**

*Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February*

**1:30<sup>pm</sup> Twins and Multiples**

**Support Group in church**

*Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February*

**9:30<sup>am</sup> Toddle Time @ St Matt's**

**7<sup>pm</sup> Choir**

## ***Looking ahead***

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March*

**8:30<sup>am</sup> Prayer Breakfast**

**10<sup>am</sup> Saturday Café**

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March*

**10:30<sup>am</sup> Whole Parish Worship**

**Lead: David ~ Preach: Heather**

*Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March*

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> PCC at the vicarage**

***Ash Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March***

***Services with ashing***

**10<sup>am</sup> Holy Communion**

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Holy Communion** 

*Lent Groups start the  
week beginning 12<sup>th</sup>*

*See Notice Sheet for details*

*Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March*

**7:30<sup>pm</sup> Deanery Synod**

### **January Funeral**

Hilda Pearce, Dot Brogan,

Margaret Hunt,

Vera Formby, Edna Wild

### **January Baptism**

Harvey & Harrison Simmens,

Dominic Fitzgerald, Ruby Wild