

St Matthew's News

The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath



Sunday Service Times

Sunday 2nd February

10:30^{am} Whole Parish Worship
incl. Prayer for Healing

All Other Sundays

9:30^{am} Formal Service

11:15^{am} Less Formal Service
(with children's groups)

links to Facebook and Twitter can be found on our home page
www.edgeleyandcheadleheath.org.uk

Love I had a row recently with a dear friend of mine. She claimed that Andrew Lloyd Webber was the greatest modern composer for the musical theatre and I disagreed, strongly. "Think about all the amazing shows he's written," she said, "Cats, Phantom..."

"Exactly!" I replied in my best Accrington Stanley accent, "Rubbish!" "Alright," she said, "What about Love Changes Everything. You must like that." "Oh, my goodness, that sentimental pile of rubbish. Are you joking?!"

But then I looked at the lyrics. "Love changes everything," it goes, "Hands and faces, Earth and sky. Love, Love changes everything: How you live and how you die." And it sort of does, doesn't it? Love comes into our lives and nothing is ever the same again, for good or ill.

I wish I had a penny for every time I've heard someone say that they wished they



Rev Sue Mayo

didn't love somebody who wasn't good for them. "I can't help it," people say, "I love them."

But when you meet real love, your life is changed forever. Real love changes everything because it starts something in us which is new and fresh and good. I know that romantic love can sometimes achieve this but too often romantic love lets us down, doesn't it? It's another sort of love, what the Bible calls *agape* love, which really goes deep. This sort of love is selfless; it gives and expects nothing in return. It's the love that Paul meant in 1 Corinthians 13 when he talked about love that was patient and kind,

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

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 **8th 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 1st February
8:30^{am} Prayer Breakfast
10^{am} Saturday Café

Sunday 2nd February
10:30^{am} 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, 4th February
8:30^{am} Home Group
1:30^{pm} Socially Yours

Wednesday 5th February
10^{am} Holy Communion
7:30^{pm} Home Groups

Friday 7th February
National Marriage Week
9:30^{am} Toddle Time @ St Matt's
7^{pm} Choir

Saturday 8th February
10^{am} Saturday Café

Sunday 9th February
9:30^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: David ~ Preach: Sue

11:15^{am} Morning Worship
Lead: Sue ~ Preach: Lucy

Tuesday 11th February
8:30^{am} Home Group
1:30^{pm} Socially Yours

Wednesday 12th February
10^{am} Holy Communion
7:30^{pm} Home Groups

Magazine Articles Due

Thursday 13th February
7:30^{pm} Mother's Union

Friday 14th February
9:30^{am} Toddle Time @ St Matt's
7^{pm} Choir

Saturday 15th February
10^{am} Saturday Café
1^{pm} Health & Safety training in church

Sunday 16th February
9:30^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: Julie ~ Preach: David

11:15^{am} Holy Communion
Lead: Julie ~ Preach: David

200 Club – Subs Due

Tuesday 18th February
8:30^{am} Home Group
1:30^{pm} Socially Yours

Wednesday 19th February

10^{am} Holy Communion

7:30^{pm} Home Groups

Friday 21st February

9:30^{am} Toddle Time @ St Matt's

7^{pm} Choir

Saturday 22nd February

10^{am} Saturday Café

Sunday 23rd February

9:30^{am} Teen Breakfast

at the Vicarage

9:30^{am} Holy Communion

Lead: David ~ Preach: Lucy

11:15^{am} All Age Signed Service

Lead: Lucy ~ Preach: David

Tuesday 25th February

8:30^{am} Home Group

1:30^{pm} Socially Yours

Wednesday 26th February

10^{am} Holy Communion

6:30^{pm} First Aid Training

in Church

7:30^{pm} Home Groups

Thursday 13th February

1:30^{pm} Twins and Multiples

Support Group in church

Friday 28th February

9:30^{am} Toddle Time @ St Matt's

7^{pm} Choir

Looking ahead

Saturday 1st March

8:30^{am} Prayer Breakfast

10^{am} Saturday Café

Sunday 2nd March

10:30^{am} Whole Parish Worship

Lead: David ~ Preach: Heather

Tuesday, 4th March

7:30^{pm} PCC at the vicarage

Ash Wednesday 5th March

Services with ashing

10^{am} Holy Communion

7:30^{pm} Holy Communion 

Lent Groups start the week beginning 12th

See Notice Sheet for details

Thursday 13th March

7:30^{pm} Deanery Synod

January Funeral

Hilda Pearce, Dot Brogan,

Margaret Hunt,

Vera Formby, Edna Wild

January Baptism

Harvey & Harrison Simmens,

Dominic Fitzgerald, Ruby Wild