



Cheadle
PARISH

In Touch

August 2025

New Pattern for 10am Services at St Mary's

From September, there will be the following weekly service pattern for St Mary's 10am service:

1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month

On these weeks there will be a morning service with separate Sunday School and Rooted sessions as previously. Sunday School will continue with the same syllabus, but Rooted will be following the adult teaching programme so they feel more included in the church.

2nd Sunday of the Month

There will now be a monthly all age service with refreshments in the Upper Room afterwards. This service has three aims.

1. To include children with the whole church family and give them an accessible experience of church.
2. To be a follow-up to regular outreach ministries such as Mustard Seeds and Filling the Gap.
3. To be inclusive and accessible to neurodivergent people.

4th Sunday of the Month

In the holy communion service, Sunday School children will begin at the Upper Room and be brought back to join in with the Lord's Supper. Parents will be requested to drop off their children at 9.55am, and parents of Creche and Starters and Followers children will be asked to go and collect them at the beginning of the distribution of the Lord's Supper. Children in Adventurers and Discovers will be brought across to church by their leaders. Members of Rooted will stay in the service - there will be a shorter, simpler sermon and they will be provided with a worksheet.

As you can probably gather, the aim of these changes is to include children in church services so that as they grow they become integrated into the church family as individuals.

Confirmation Service

Sunday 5th October, 6.30pm

At the beginning of October we will be having a confirmation service at St Mary's evening service with Bishop Mark. If you would like to be baptised and/or confirmed as part of this service, please speak to George or Stan.

The Vibe

The Vibe was an incredible week filled with fun, faith, and unforgettable moments. With our "Down Under" theme, members enjoyed a packed program of exciting games, creative activities, and plenty of fun.

Each day included Bible teaching from the book of Daniel, with powerful messages about standing strong in faith and trusting God no matter what. It was amazing to see members engaging with the stories and growing in their understanding of who God is.

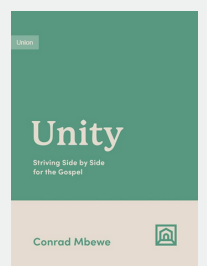
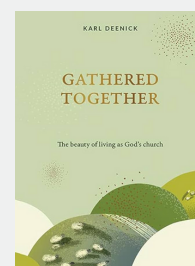
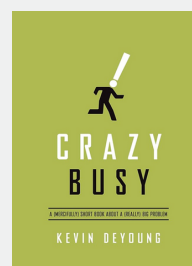
A massive thank you to everyone who made the camp possible - our amazing leaders, volunteers, and especially those who faithfully prayed in the lead up and throughout the week. Your prayers made a real difference, and we're so grateful for your support.

Amy Killingbeck (Youth Worker)



Summer Reads

There is still time to grab yourself one (or all) of our Summer Reads! They are £5 each, and available in both St Cuthbert's and St Mary's church buildings and the Upper Room Café. If you want to hear more about these books, speak to Beth, Jo or Maddy



Finance Updates

Grant Income

Did you know that we regularly apply for grant funding to help us carry out our ministry?

In the last 12 months we have partly funded the following ministry from grant income:

- St Mary's Church:
 - QI works – the last quinquennial inspection highlighted areas where work was required on the church. Grant funding was received from both National Churches Trust, £1000 and Benefact Trust, £2300.
 - We received a grant of £834.60 for the VAT element of work repairing the clock, surveying the drains and electrical repairs to the lighting
- Filling the Gap – provision of children's activities and free lunches during some school holidays. We received a total of £1742 from Transforming Lives Together towards this ministry
- St Cuthbert's fun Day in the Park – Thanks to SMBC we were able to pay for face painting and zorb ball activities.
- Warm Spaces – providing a warm and welcoming space, £1000 from SMBC
- Christmas Market - £1000 from SMBC
- St Cuthbert's Old School Nursery – planting shrubs to form a hedge between the play area and the road, thanks to a fully funded grant from the Tree Council Branching Out Fund.

Easy Fundraising

We're now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! We have been using this internally and have already raised £168. St Cuthbert's Old School Nursery have raised nearly £200 in donations.

All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at:

St Mary's



St Cuthbert's



Jo Davids (PCC Treasurer)

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

FILLING THE GAP

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY TIME

BIBLE STORIES

PUPPETS

CRAFTS

The Upper Room Café will be providing free meals to children every day throughout Stockport's School Holidays. Children's Activity Zone will be open from 11am-2pm Tuesday to Thursday during August Beginning 5th August 2025

GAMES

Special "Sunday" Filling the Gap during August!

Meet in St. Mary's Church building at 10am for the first part of the church service then we'll head over to the Upper Room for all the usual Filling the Gap activities!

THE UPPER ROOM CAFE

in conjunction with

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

Cheadle PARISH

Creative Vision Day

9.30am An introduction to being creative in God's image

1.00pm Creative prayer, rest and growth

Join Us to Pray, Rest & Grow through various creative mediums

Saturday 16th August
The Upper Room Cafe
between 9am and 3pm

SAVE THE DATE !

more details to follow

"His reputation in the magic world is among the very best"
DERREN BROWN

"Amazing"
SIMON COWELL

"Hugely Funny, Hugely Talented, ...a Superstar."
DAVID WILLIAMS

"One of the funniest men I know"
TIM VINE

CHEADLE PARISH & SMBC PRESENT

COMEDY & MAGIC

...FROM BRITAIN'S GOT TALENT SEMI-FINALIST 2019

JOHN ARCHER

SAT 11TH OCT - 8PM

@ ST MARY'S CHURCH, HIGH ST, CHEADLE, SK8 1PX

Reuben serving at The Oakes

Reuben Boyd will be starting a gap year at The Oakes in September. Attached [here](#) is his prayer letter with more details



Soul Space

Soul Space offers an innovative approach to discussing faith and addressing questions. The program examines the lives of Abraham, Joseph, Moses, and Saul (Paul), exploring their experiences and the implications of these for us today.

Come and join us as we take some time out to think about the people God wants us to be.

THE WIRED WORD

BIBLE

SOU SPACE WORSHIP

SOUL SPACE WORSHIP

LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

6:30 pm

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH, EDGELEY

SHARE • RESPOND • CHANGE • SERVE

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Soul Space will be a place to explore who we are and how God uses us today to reach out to other people, in a safe space where all are welcome.

With some Light Refreshments
Over the next 4 months, starting on 31 August 2025, at 6.30pm at St Matthew's Church, Edgeley, SK3 9EE

For more details speak to Phil James 07923457573

Dates for August

Wednesday 6th - Be Still Service, 8pm in St Mary's

Saturday 9th - Summer Barbecue, 9am-3pm in the Upper Room Café

Monday 11th - Funeral of Eric Cox, 12.30pm in St Mary's church

Tuesday 12th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at Trish Well's house

Thursday 14th - Funeral of Sonia Goody, 1pm in St Mary's church

Saturday 16th - Creative Vision Day, 9am-3pm in the Upper Room

Saturday 16th - Vow renewal of Eric and Sylvia Dodman, 4pm in St Mary's Church

Wednesday 20th - The Big Read, 7.45pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 21st - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 23rd - Wedding of Charlie and Alicia, 12pm in St Mary's Church

Tuesday 26th - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Dates for September

Wednesday 3rd - Monthly Prayer Meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Saturday 6th - Hard of Hearing Support Group, 11am, in the Ashfield Room of The Upper Room

Monday 8th to Saturday 13th - Harvest Afternoon tea, in the Upper Room Café

Tuesday 9th - Mission Partners Prayer Meeting, 8pm at the Parikh's house

Thursday 11th - Men's Pub night, 8pm

Saturday 13th - Cheadle Board Room, 9.30am in the Upper Room

Tuesday 16th - Ladies Coffee and Cake evening, 7pm in the Upper Room Cafe

Wednesday 17th - The Big Read, 7.45pm at St Cuthbert's

Thursday 18th - Prayer for our country and the world, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 20th - In Stitches, 9am at St Cuthbert's

Monday 22nd - PCC meeting, 8pm in the Upper Room

Tuesday 23rd - Open Doors Prayer meeting, 7.30pm at the Southgate's house

Saturday 27th - Men's Breakfast, 8am in the Upper Room Café

The Serpent & The Seed

Discipleship Tech, the charity behind PrayerMate, have released a new game! It's truly beautiful and so refreshing to play. Recommended for ages 9+

Thorns & thistles have overtaken a world ruled by a Serpent.

you are a robin, Mungo, who knows there must be something better.

An old, mostly forgotten book holds a promise: the Seed of Eve, the only hope for salvation. Are you brave enough to discover the adventure within its pages?

Find out more: <https://discipleship.tech/serpentseedgame/>



ReStore

ReStore in the Upper Room has been restocked with new cards and now has Paua Shell jewellery! Why not pop in and take a look? You can tick off a birthday present or grab yourself a treat for under £10 and support our ministry at the same time!



Mission Partners

During this month it will great to welcome back to Cheadle Adam and Nomfi Tomalin and on this occasion they will be accompanied by their baby daughter Thandiwe. It is an exciting time for them and of course for Stan and Anna and Josh and Francesca as they meet her for the first time

They are here to have a time of relaxation but will also be doing some deputation work visiting other supporting churches around the country raising their profile in order to get some more personal support for the work they are undertaking in South Africa under the Crosslinks banner.

Please do say hello when you see them in church or around the village. Please pray for them as they travel around the UK getting the right balance of work and relaxation. Pray that Thandiwe will cope with the change of climate and also all the different things that she will experience for the first time. Please pray for enough preparation time for Mum and Dad as they formulate their presentations for the speaking slots coming up.

Their slightly dated prayer letter can be found using the attached [link](#).



Crosslinks
God's word to God's world

Let the Little Children Come

I can't recall much of my childhood, but I do remember being told that children 'should be seen and not heard'. I remember it because it made me feel worthless and sad. I was a quiet, diligent child, and I spent most of my time reading books. I read the Bible every day with my parents and spent most of Sunday on some Bible project of my own design. I wondered if just *being* a child was a sin. I didn't understand grace until I was an older teenager, I thought Christianity was all about being well-behaved and particularly being quiet and still in Christian meetings.

When Jesus's disciples saw people bringing children to him, I wonder if they had the same thought. They rebuked them (Mark 10:13), but Jesus took a different view.

When Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.' (Mark 10:14)

Jesus is actually furious about this, which is interesting. Some of us might feel some kind of righteous indignation when a child runs around making noise in a service, but exactly how righteous is it? Jesus felt indignation about children being sent away, and he is the Son of God.

I believe that children should be seen, heard, welcomed and celebrated in church. Especially by those who are much older. Those for whom their greatest delight is grandchildren, or would be if only they had any. Well - church is family, and these children are your family too. They can bring you real joy and you can have a huge impact on them.

What do you think children need most from church? Fun? Good Bible teaching at the right level? Their own space? We can provide all of that, and we do - we have talented and committed children's and youth leaders who volunteer huge amounts of their time joyfully and sacrificially. Yet there is nothing explicit in the Bible about church-based youth and children's ministry, there is simply a command to parents to teach their children, to 'bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord' (Ephesians 6:4). That said, I think it is real blessing and a massive spiritual asset to have excellent provision for children and young people in the local church - we are one big family.

I think what children need most from church is good relationships with mature Christians. And I am convinced that much older Christians can be a wonderful blessing to them. My children did not grow up in church with other children their own age but they had lots of spiritual grandparents and spiritual aunts and uncles. That is the one thing they loved most and I believe it is a big reason they are following Jesus today.

I wonder if you think about how this parish is perceived by the wider church. Are we considered wealthy? We probably are but no-one really cares about that. Do you think people are impressed most by the large number of adults who attend both churches? Is that what gets the Diocese of Chester or the national church excited or even local government interested? It's important, but it isn't very inspiring. No - the one thing that everyone is most interested in is how many children come to church. I was recently asked to join a national programme because of the number of children we have church - that was the only statistic that mattered (I declined).

Church is one big family, and it is a rare and wonderful blessing to have so many children attending services across the parish - they are part of the family. The vast majority of parishes across the Church of England have little or no children attending services. Very few have double figures.

All this is to say why we are changing the pattern of services at the St Mary's 10am service, and also, I think, to account for some of the changes over the last year at St Cuthberts. From September, there will be a monthly all age service at 10am in St Mary's, and children will be included in the monthly Holy Communion service (for more details see elsewhere in this edition of In Touch).

It is all aimed at including children and helping them to integrate into church as they grow. Children are very valuable part of the church family, and we need to help them understand that.

Rev George Crowder
Rector



Contact Information

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churchoffice@cheadle.org.uk 0161 428 8050 (Open weekdays 9am-3pm)

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