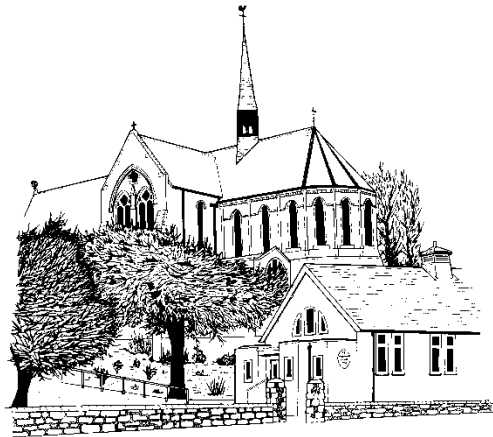


St Matthews



Welcome to the Christian family here at St. Matthew's.

We are part of the Church of England, in the diocese of Chichester and in the deanery of Hastings.

We are a member of the Evangelical Alliance, and we also belong to the Sussex Gospel Partnership

In the Church of England, you become a church member by joining the electoral roll. This leaflet includes a form to enable you to do that and a questionnaire about your gifts.

We want everyone who is committed to St. Matthew's as their church to express this by:

1. **COMING** to church every Sunday
2. **JOINING** the electoral roll
3. **SERVING** in ways appropriate to their gifts
4. **PRAYING** for the work of St. Matthew's
5. **SUPPORTING** the ministry financially
6. **BELONGING** to join a small group

More details inside.....

1. Coming

Do make the commitment to come to a worship service every Sunday.

2. Joining

Please use the form opposite to join our Electoral Roll. Membership of the Electoral Roll is open to all those aged 16 or over who live in our parish or who have been coming to St. Matthew's for at least 6 months. We strongly encourage all new members of St. Matthew's to join the Electoral Roll—it's making a commitment to St. Matthew's as your church

3. Serving

We believe in the ministry of every member of St. Matthew's and so would like to know what your gifts are. Do please fill in the reverse of the form opposite, indicating those areas where you would be willing to serve at St. Matthew's.

4. Praying

Part of your commitment to St. Matthew's is to pray for the people who are St. Matthew's and for the ministry of this church. Please use the prayer diary every day (it's distributed on the first Sunday bi-monthly) and make the monthly Prayer Gathering a top priority. We meet on the first Sunday of the month between 9.00 am and 9.45 am and the third Wednesday of the month between 7.45 pm and 8.30 pm in the church.

5. Supporting

We ask every member of St. Matthew's to support the ministry financially, and in all our giving we encourage people to be generous and consider the biblical principle of 'tithing' (giving 10%). There is a separate leaflet '*Giving to St. Matthew's*' available.

6. Belonging

We ask every member to commit themselves to a small group that meets regularly for bible study and prayer. These are invaluable for support, encouragement, and growing in the Christian faith.

Joining St. Matthew's

Application for enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll

Title Surname

Usual first name

Address

.....

.....

Postcode _ _ _ _ _ Tel no. _ _ _ _ _ - _ _ _ _ _

Email

Date of birth __ / __ / ____ (Optional, but very useful for church records)

When did you first come to St. Matthew's?

I, (full name) apply for entry on the Church's membership list (electoral roll) and I confirm that:

- I am a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and have been baptised (either as an infant or adult)*
- I am 16 years of age or over*
- I have been attending St. Matthew's Church since (minimum of 6 months if not resident in the parish).*

Signed Date

We see Small Groups as an ideal way of expressing our commitment to one another and growing in our discipleship.

Please tick if you would like more information on Small Groups

We like to encourage all church members to give regular financial support to the work of the church, either by standing order or weekly envelopes.

Please tick if you would like more information on Giving

Serving at St. Matthews

We aim to enable every member of the St. Matthew's Church family to identify the gifts God has given them and to use them to serve the church and honour God. Various areas of possible ministry are listed below; please indicate anywhere you believe you may have a contribution to make. It may be helpful to talk with others who know you well.

Outreach

- Literature distribution
- Organising events
- Visiting enquirers
- Concern for home/overseas mission

Sunday Services

- Music: Instrumental

Please State:.....

- Music: Singing
- Leading a service
- Leading Prayers
- Bible reading
- Prayer ministry Group
- Children's Talks

Sunday Ministry

- Welcome Team
- Computer/projector operation
- Crèche helpers rota
- Sound system rota
- Coffee rota
- Library/Bookstall

Pastoral

- Visiting: Newcomers
- Visiting: Housebound
- Visiting: Bereaved
- Visiting: General
- Visiting/helping older people

Bible Teaching

- Leading Christianity Explored groups
- Homegroup leading
- Giving occasional talks
- Schools work

Practical

- Property maintenance
- Any particular skill?.....*
- Grass cutting/Gardening.
 - Cleaning rota
 - Flower arranging
 - Catering for events
 - Hospitality / providing meals
 - Baby sitting

Administration

- Health and Safety
- Secretarial
- Financial
- Publicity / media
- Website designing / updating

Children & young People's work

- Helping on Sundays
 - Helping midweek
- Any particular age?.....*

Other Any other areas you are interested in being involved with

Would you like to talk to someone about your involvement in the church family?

We will use this form to create a database and will be in touch with you about serving at St. Matthews in due course. I agree to these details being kept on a secure database in the church office.

Signed:

Name: