



st. matthew's
UNITING CHURCH
BAULKHAM HILLS
growing together



Weekly Newsletter

2 November 2025

Pentecost 21

Bible Readings

Luke 19: 1-10
2 Corinthian 5: 17-21



Response after Bible Readings

Leader: In this we hear the word of God

Response: Thanks be to God who speaks to us as spirit.

Welcome to St. Matthew's Community Room.

Children are very welcome at St. Matthew's and that means their noise is welcome too. This room is here if you feel the need to step out of the service or would like some more privacy but still want to see and hear what's going on in the service.
OPEN FROM 9AM

21st
Sunday
After
Pentecost



twitch.tv

Livestreaming at
8am and 9.30am only

8am—Worship

Led by Jon Humphries
and Geoff Stevenson

9.30am—Worship

Led by Jon Humphries
and Geoff Stevenson

Followed by morning tea

KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8

6.45pm—Worship

Led by Jon Humphries

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

What's happening this week at St. Matthew's

MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER

9am—Sorting & Pricing for
Op Shop & Garage Sale *lower hall*

7.30pm—Christian Meditation

TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER

9am-2pm—Op Shop open

9.30am-11am—Christian
Meditation
community room and church

WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER

9am-2pm—Op Shop open

10am-12pm—In Stitches
Upstairs hall

7pm—Finance Committee meeting

THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER

9am-2pm—Op Shop open

10am-12pm—Coffee & Discovery

FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER

5-7pm — Fusion Youth Group
"Video Games"

SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER

9am-12pm—Christmas Market
lower hall

9am-12pm—Op Shop

SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER

9am—Combined Worship

9am—Worship @ the Willow's

KUCA Preschool,
Years K-2 & Years 3-8
Followed by morning tea

11am-3pm— Picnic Lunch at
John Curtin Reserve
Huxley Drive, Winston Hills

6.45pm—Worship
Community meal



22nd
Sunday
After
Pentecost

MINISTER

REV JON HUMPHRIES

Email: jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au
jhumphries@nswact.uca.org.au

PASTORAL CARE WORKER

SARA WIENAND
SUNDAY am , MONDAY, TUESDAY
Email: saraw@nswact.uca.org.au

CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARY

LYNN SAMUEL

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 8AM-2.30PM
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

OFFICE : 9686 3003
Email: office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

MIKE UNDERWOOD
Email: mikeu@nswact.uca.org.au

CHAIRPERSON OF ELDERS

HELEN OLLEY
Email: helen.olley@optusnet.com.au

LOCATION:

CNR CHARLES & EDGAR STREETS
BAULKHAM HILLS

POSTAL ADDRESS:

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WEB SITE: www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au
Weekly newsletter available on website

FACEBOOK:

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PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR 9639 8570

SONALI WANIGESEKERA
PO Box 321 BAULKHAM HILLS 2153

EMAIL: director@stmatthewsps.net.au

Something to think about

2 November

Pentecost 21

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalm 119:137-144

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

All Saint and All Souls

All Saints' Day is a Christian festival on November 1st that honours all saints, both known and unknown, who are believed to have lived virtuous lives. It is also known as All Hallows' Day and is followed by All Souls' Day on November 2nd to remember the departed faithful. The holiday has origins in the early Church and was established to commemorate a large number of martyrs whose individual feast days couldn't all be assigned.

In the church, a saint refers to all Christians. The word comes from the Latin 'sanctus' which means holy or "hallowed." While the term originally was about everyone in the Church, today it often denotes individuals like martyrs, saints, and other holy figures who are seen as heroes of faith and any person who lived a heroically virtuous life and is considered holy. In some traditions people become these special saints either through formal canonization by the Church or through unofficial recognition.

Their lives are often used for inspiration, as they are believed to be in heaven and can intercede with God on behalf of those on Earth.

As we come into our month of celebration of being 50 years on this present site, it is good to think about all the saints who have made up St. Matthew's over all those years. In this time of celebration, it is good to think back on all those who have played a part. There are those who had up-the-front roles, those who have led groups and initiative, but also it is good to remember and give thanks for all who have just served in the kitchen or the Op Shop, Church Council, Elders, or all of the many committees over the years. It is just as important to remember, give honour to and be thankful for all those who have set up for things such as Garage Sales, Mega Marts or just put up chairs and tables for Coffee and Discovery.

As Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12 about the Body of Christ, it is good to honour all members of the Church. "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body - whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.” [1 Corinthians 12: 12-20]

He then writes, “But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.” [1 Corinthians 12: 24-27]



All saints, for us, should not just be about the famous or special saints. They have their place and can be an inspiration, but the notion of sanctus/holy where we get our idea of saint from comes from the Latin *sancire* means to "make sacred," "confirm," or "ratify" and to consecrate. We are all sanctified in Christ [Hebrews 10:10] In the midst of our celebrating let us make time to consecrate some moments to remember those in the Church that you can look back and remember doing things to help us as individuals or as a community. Let us call to mind faces and names and savour the fact that all who have offered their gifts of time and energy in the Church have made it what it is.

Thinking of all who have contributed to the life of St. Matthew's in small or big ways over the last five decades and seeing that as being a blessing is something to definitely think about and honour.

*God bless
Jon*

Listening Forums

We will be holding listening forums ahead of our voting to decide who is permitted to be married within our Church spaces here at St Matthew's. These will be times when people can ask questions, seek clarification about things and express their thoughts and feelings in a safe and respectful forum.

These will be held in the main Church space.

Saturday 15 November @ 10am

Sunday 16 November @ 11am

Tuesday 18 November @ 7.30pm

The voting is currently proposed to take place on December 14.



St Matthew's

HAPPY HOUR!



With a Twist

Come to our house

9 Attlee Place, Winston Hills

7
NOVEMBER | **5 PM**
FRIDAY



PLEASE BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT
AND YOUR OWN DRINKS. WE'LL
SUPPLY BAKED HAM.

RSVP to Belinda
belinda.schuster0709@gmail.com



Can you
help us?



**St Matthew's
Netball Club**

St Matthew's Netball Club would like someone to voluntarily review this year's accounts. Please see Belinda Schuster if you are willing.

50th Anniversary Picnic Lunch

9 NOVEMBER 2025

FROM 11:00 AM

JOHN CURTIN RESERVE

HUXLEY DR WINSTON HILLS

BBQ FACILITIES

**MEETING ROOM WITH KITCHEN
FACILITIES**

**BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH
FOLLOWED BY GAMES AND
T10 CRICKET MATCH**



**COME AND JOIN US FOR LUNCH,
SHARE STORIES AND PLAY GAMES**



50th Anniversary Games Night and Dinner

Saturday 15 November from
5.30pm

Tickets will be available to purchase after both morning services commencing this Sunday 26 October.

- ◇ \$20 Adults
- ◇ \$40 Families

Come join us for a night of fun, sharing food stories and games.

Morning Tea Help Required

There will be a special Morning Tea following the Anniversary Service on ***Sunday 23 November***

If you are attending the Service, it would be appreciated if you could bring a small plate of food to assist with the catering.

Help will also be required to set up, serve and pack away – if you will be available to help can you please either contact Barbara Gibb or the Office.

With Thanks from the 50th Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee

PEOPLE NEWS

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



Judy Yeoh

Our very best wishes to all the St. Matthew's community who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

2—8 November

Canada, United States



Volunteer Form

Assisting with Morning Services



Please return completed forms by
26

December 2025, January, February 2026

Have been emailed or collect a copy from the foyer.

**NEW HELPERS
WELCOME
ASAP**



Please return forms to the blue mail tray or church office.

UNITING CHURCHES
BROOKHAMPTON
growing together

SYNOD SPOTLIGHT

Uniting Church Synod of NSW and the ACT

Uniting Church Synod Spotlight Newsletter

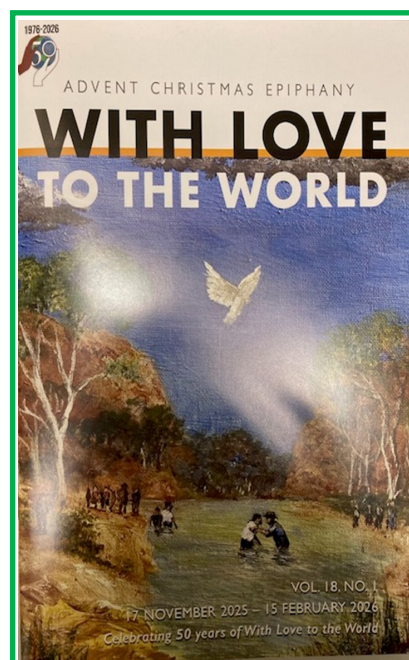
For (24 October 2025) please see link to Synod weekly:

[Synod Weekly Spotlight 2025 - 24 October](#)

Church Diary for 2026

A note to all group leaders — If your group is planning to use a part of the church property please ensure the area is available before finalizing your program.

Please send your 2026 programs to the church office ASAP.



Advent Christmas Epiphany

**WITH LOVE
TO THE
WORLD**

a daily Bible reading guide based on the Revised Common Lectionary

**Volume 18,
Number 1**

**17 November 2025
To**

15 February 2026

is available in the church foyer.

Please place \$7 in offering bag to cover costs.

St Matthew's Social Action Missional Ministry Team

How doing little things makes a big difference.

Topic: Drug Treatment Reform – from Uniting Fair Treatment email 24th October:

It has now been three weeks since the Government's deadline to respond to the Drug Summit Report passed. We have received word that the response could be released any day now.

Last week, two incredible mums, Lorena and Jess, met with the Premiers office to share why action on reform can't wait. Lorena's son died of an overdose in a public hospital bathroom in Liverpool. Jess's son missed out on the treatment that he needed. Both of them spoke with incredible courage and love, with one simple message: we need a health and well-being response to drug dependency, and access to new supervised injecting facilities.

Their stories remind us of what's at stake, and why we must hold the government to account when their response drops.

This is your final opportunity to write to Chris Minns ahead of the government announcement, to let him know you have high expectations for the response - he needs to know that the community is watching, listening and will keep up the pressure regardless.

The Drug Summit and its report gave us an opportunity to open the door to change - the government's response will show whether they want to walk through it.

Emma Maiden, Director of external relations and Advocacy at Uniting NSW.ACT featured on an amazing interview with the ever-insightful Reverend Bill Crews, to discuss the Drug Summit Report, the delayed response, and what we want to see from the Premier.

What we can do:

Listen to Bill Crews' thought provoking interview with Emma and write to our state politicians in regard to the release of the response on the 2024 NSW Drug Summit.

Link to listen to the interview with Bill Crews <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69Sijzbc9OQ>

*Blessings,
Alexander
Social Action Missional Ministry Team (SAMMT)*

To ask about joining the Social Action Group at St Matthew's
email Alexander on alexander.lawless7@gmail.com



Celebrating 50 Years

St. Matthew's Uniting Church & Preschool's 50th Anniversary

Celebrate with us in November 2025!!

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

9 NOVEMBER 2025

9:00 AM

**FOLLOWED BY
MORNING TEA**

BRING A PLATE OF FOOD TO SHARE

**GUEST PREACHER
REV NICHOLAS FRIED**

PICNIC LUNCH

9 NOVEMBER 2025

FROM 11:00 AM

**JOHN CURTIN RESERVE
HUXLEY DR WINSTON HILLS**

**BBQ AND KITCHEN FACILITIES AVAILABLE
BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH**

**FOLLOWED BY GAMES AND
T10 CRICKET MATCH**

GAMES NIGHT

PLUS TRIVIA AND OPEN MIC

INCLUDES DINNER

15 NOVEMBER 2025

FROM 5.30pm

TICKETS

\$ 20 ADULTS

\$40 FAMILIES

**TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE
OR AFTER CHURCH SERVICES**

**COME JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN
SHARE FOOD STORIES AND GAMES**

50TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE (CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL)

23 NOVEMBER 2025

9:00 AM

FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA

**BRING A PLATE OF FOOD TO SHARE
AND BBQ LUNCH - DONATION**

SHARE WORSHIP FOOD AND STORIES

**A SHOWCASE OF CHURCH AND
PRESCHOOL HISTORY ON DISPLAY**

**CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF PLANNING TO
ATTEND FOR CATERING (02) 9686 3003**



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

ST MATTHEW'S UNITING CHURCH
AND PRESCHOOL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrate with us In October/November 2025!!!

You have saved the dates!
Now it's time

SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2025

SYDNEY WELSH CHOIR PERFORMANCE 2:00 PM

SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2025

WORSHIP SERVICES WITH GUEST PREACHERS 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 6:45 PM

SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2025

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE – FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA 9:00 AM

PICNIC LUNCH AT JOHN CURTIN RESERVE WINSTON HILLS FROM 11:00 AM

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2025

SOCIAL EVENTS AT CHURCH

- DINNER, OPEN MIC & GAMES NIGHT FROM 5:30 PM
(SHARE FOOD, STORIES & GAMES)

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2025

WORSHIP SERVICES WITH GUEST PREACHERS 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 6:45 PM

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2025

50TH ANNIVERSARY - CHURCH & PRESCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM

- CHURCH & PRESCHOOL SHOWCASE (AFTER WORSHIP)
- MUNCH (SHARE FOOD & STORIES) (AFTER WORSHIP)
- YOUTH SERVICE (INCL SHINE CELEBRATIONS) 6:45 PM