

Julie Barham runs a book group at the Vicarage once a month, and Peter shows Railway and Archive Films at St Matthew's Fellowship Room every couple of months - even if you're not really interested in trains, it is good social history, and we have doughnuts. Other local churches have Coffee Mornings, Knit and Natter, Games Clubs and Craft days - ask for details.



We also have people who do flowers in both churches, maintain the churchyards, help provide refreshments for the Parents' and Toddler Group ... you would be welcome to get involved. We welcome singers, readers - and can put you in touch. We have groups meeting for Prayer and Discussion, and there are many opportunities to broaden the mind and explore what life means. If you need more than friendship, perhaps money advice or practical help, do ask. Bereavement Counselling and help with grief is also available - again, please ask. (We are used to maintaining confidences if necessary).

Both our churches have websites

<http://www.stedmundsallestree.org.uk/>

<https://stmatthewschurchdarleyabbey.wordpress.com>

and facebook pages, and produce monthly magazines (available in church, ask if you want to receive it regularly).

If we can help, or you need a chat, please phone the Reverend Peter Barham on 01332 551404 or drop me an email on [revpeterbarham@btinternet.com](mailto:revpeterbarham@btinternet.com)

PB 140217

The Parishes of St Edmund, Allestree  
and St Matthew, Darley Abbey



## Activities and Support after a Funeral

I hope that you have felt supported as we have planned and conducted the funeral of your loved one. Please don't feel that this link has to end.

If you need somewhere quiet to think and pray, St Edmund's is usually open during the day. It is a good place to gather your thoughts, and there is a prayer area (if you want to light a candle, you might be wise to bring some matches). We are working on having St Matthew's open more regularly. Both Churchyards are beautiful spots too.

You would be very welcome to come to a service - there is no need to feel guilty (or worried) if it is a long time since you've been. People are friendly, but you won't feel swamped. The main



Sunday services in both churches are at 10 am, and are followed by coffee. There are also services at 8 am, 11.15 am, and in the evenings at 6.15 (St Matthew's) and 6.30 (St Edmund's). The evening services are quiet and musical, and help put the world into perspective. There is also a Wednesday morning service at St Edmund's at 10 am. It lasts about ½ hour and is followed by coffee.

There are also other opportunities to make friends, and eat lunch. In the Fellowship Room, Darley Abbey, there is a Third Thursday Lunch between October and March, organised by St Matthew's Church, starting about 12.15. A

two course meal plus tea or coffee costs £3.00. Transport can usually be arranged. The Fellowship Room also hosts the Live At Home Darley Abbey Lunch on the second Thursday of every month from 12 noon



to 2.15 pm. A three course meal plus speaker or activity costs £5.00, and transport can usually be arranged. At St Edmund's Church Hall in Allestree there is a fortnightly Luncheon Club on a Tuesday, from around 12 noon to 2 pm. For £4.00 you get a three course meal plus coffee or tea, and the chance to have a good chat. Transport is not provided, but some members come by taxi and it may well be possible to share. There are also lunches at Broadway Baptist Church on some Wednesdays, and St John's Methodist Church on some Thursdays. In addition to these regular lunches, there are quite often coffee mornings, lunches, breakfasts - even pancakes - in the Church Halls and at the Vicarage.

The Friends of St Matthew's meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 2 pm in the Fellowship Room. They have interesting speakers, and an opportunity for friendship and support. It costs £1 per meeting, or £5 for the year. Once a month - usually on the morning of the second Tuesday - they meet for a Craft Morning. They are currently making a collage for Darley Abbey Day.

St Edmund's Ladies Thursday Group is a church organisation linked to the Mothers' Union. They meet in the Church Hall on King's Croft at 8 pm, roughly fortnightly, for a talk. If you're worried about making your way there alone, do ask and we can arrange for a member to come with you.