

5 July 2020

[www.st-matthias-church.org](http://www.st-matthias-church.org)



## Welcome Services online

☺ Thanks to our musicians who are recording each week (and last week's 'Cornerstone' is now on the YouTube channel)

Services – all available on the church YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCopwyXTvmHCMOUSKeJJf6YQ>

or via the church website:

<https://st-matthias-church.org/about-us/covid-19-corona-virus/>

(or follow links from 'covid/coronavirus' or 'services' tabs on home page)

<b>Sunday 5 July</b>	<b>9.30am Breakfastzone</b>
	<b>10.30am Coffee on Zoom</b> <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73949588004?pwd=WHhZVkVMRnBIV1RXSmtLTWk2TVIEZz09">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73949588004?pwd=WHhZVkVMRnBIV1RXSmtLTWk2TVIEZz09</a> Meeting ID: 739 4958 8004      Password: <b>Coffee</b>
	<b>11am Holy Communion (CW)</b>

**Bible readings for today: Philippians 2:12-16a and 19-27**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+2%3A12-27&version=TLB>

**Matthew 5:13 – 16**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A13+%E2%80%93+16++&version=NIVUK>

### Next week

<b>Sunday 12 July</b>	<b>8am Holy communion (BCP)</b>
	<b>9.30am Church Family Worship</b>
	<b>10.30am Coffee on Zoom</b> <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73949588004?pwd=WHhZVkVMRnBIV1RXSmtLTWk2TVIEZz09">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73949588004?pwd=WHhZVkVMRnBIV1RXSmtLTWk2TVIEZz09</a> Meeting ID: 739 4958 8004      Password: <b>Coffee</b>

### Collect

Gracious Father,  
by the obedience of Jesus  
you brought salvation to our wayward world:  
draw us into harmony with your will,  
that we may find all things restored in him,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### ALPHA?

Questions about life?  
and about the Christian faith?

We hope to begin an Alpha Course  
over the summer, face to face or online!



Contact the Church Office if you'd like to find out more

[admin@st-matthias-church.org](mailto:admin@st-matthias-church.org)

01803 214175

## For our praise and prayers this week

<b>Sun</b>	As we worship in our homes or elsewhere, may we remember that we are still in the presence of the Living God and so worship Him with all our heart.
<b>Mon</b>	The PCC are meeting electronically tonight. We pray they have real wisdom in their discussion and decision making, especially in regard to returning to church for services.
<b>Tues</b>	Praise God for those producing these services electronically to such a high standard.
<b>Wed</b>	We pray for all who are unwell, waiting for procedures or operations, all in pain and those who have recently been bereaved. May the Lord meet them all at their various points of need.
<b>Thurs</b>	Pray about the pandemic searing our world and pray for a solution to kill it.
<b>Fri</b>	Pray for all who are suffering mentally, materially or socially as a result of the lockdown.
<b>Sat</b>	Pray for our staff team and all with any responsibility in our church. Pray that we may all be more aware of the financial needs of the church and see if we can give more.
<b>Sun</b>	Pray for those who are being taught how to lead “Godly Play” so that they can lead people to Jesus.

### *Learning from Philippians this week:*

### **Marks of the community – part 2 – no grumbling!**

Last week, we began our look at chapter 2, and Andrew Green enabled us to learn about harmony, and humility as we are urged to follow the example of Jesus – *if you didn't catch that sermon, why not find it in last week's YouTube 11am service? (it's about 9 minutes in!).* Today, we continue that lesson, understanding why Paul's instruction about 'no grumbling' is so important to us as a church family.

## Church Opening and Online Worship Update



As you may know, we've begun to open the doors of the church again 😊 So far, this is just on Wednesday mornings, 10am – 1230pm, and also Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July. As with all of the Covid guidelines, this is likely to change – even this week! The Government guidelines for places of worship were only released on 29<sup>th</sup> June, and the clergy of the Diocese have just had an online briefing on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – with a second set of guidance notes since Tuesday to review how the 'private prayer' opening has



worked out, and to digest the latest guidelines, with a view to deciding what sort of church services we can hold. It is fair to say that the requirements for social distancing and sanitising and the restrictions on numbers of people who can come, means that any worship service will be so different that it is hard to assess what sort of worship we can offer together safely – especially when it comes to sharing Holy Communion.

Until then, do join in the online worship – and do keep checking the church website and notices carefully for updates. Don't be surprised if you are still feeling very disorientated about life, frustrated about not being able to get to church, or finding prayer difficult. It is bound to be different and wearying without the usual routines that help us stay in touch with God and without the support of one another face to face. But if you haven't found new ways that help you pray, then do take a look at the Prayer Guide we published at the start of lockdown – <https://www.st-matthias-church.org/content/pages/documents/1585339152.pdf> or contact one of the Clergy or Readers for a chat on the phone.

God still has work for us to do with him, whether at home or not...so be encouraged by a verse from today's reading: *For God is at work within you, helping you want to obey him, and then helping you do what he wants. (Philippians 2:13 The Living Bible)*

God bless, John B

## News

5th July is also the anniversary of the founding of the NHS – founded in 1948. Spend a moment thanking God for this amazing service and healing work that is done. You may find this prayer helpful to use:

God of healing and compassion,  
we thank you for the establishment of the National Health Service,  
and for the dedication of all who work in it:  
give skill, sympathy and resilience  
to all who care for the sick,  
and your wisdom to those engaged in medical research.  
Strengthen all in their vocation through your Spirit,  
that through their work many will be restored to health and strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## And another survey!

Can you help the Diocesan Communications Team please, by completing this survey?

They write: "Over the last four months, our resilience has been tested in all sorts of ways. The crisis has shown how important good and accurate communication is".

The survey is open until 19th July and, as a thank you, all completed responses will be entered into a draw to win a voucher! Please fill in the survey by clicking on this link:

<https://www.research.net/r/DOEBuildingstrongconnections>



# Other News

**Taking Part?** It's been a real joy to see people of all ages contributing to the online services. Some of you might be longing to take part, but haven't yet been asked. PLEASE do let us know - we'd love to encourage you to serve the church by using your gifts. Either phone the church office 214175 or email us [admin@st-matthias-church.org](mailto:admin@st-matthias-church.org) and we'll be in touch. Thank you.



## Book Recommendation

### The Circle of Love

#### Praying with Rublev's icon of the Trinity - Ann Persson

*Whatever we gaze at for a long time, we remember.*

Ann had eye surgery and recovery meant that she had to lay on her front for two weeks. Rather than looking at the carpet she asked that her favourite icon be placed where she could see it. Rublev's icon of the Trinity became the start of a journey into the deeper meaning of iconography. The Circle of Love is a devotional book and a bible study. At this time of uncertainty in our lives I would recommend this book, it centres me in the everlasting love of God. I hope it does for you too. *Gillian Rose* (Published by BRF, also available from Amazon.) Picture: wiki commons

## Good News ☺

Well done to Ruth B who has just been accepted for Ordination training! As you may know, the discernment process the Church follows takes a couple of years, though Ruth has sensed God's call on her life for this role for some time now.



While Ruth expects to train full time at St. Mellitus College in Plymouth – she is hoping that St Matthias will be her placement church, and so we are not anticipating any significant changes for the way that John and Ruth minister with us here. They want to say 'Thank you for all the encouragement that St Matthias has blessed us with on the journey so far.'

## New

PARENTS.....The First NEW Godly Play Lesson 'Creation' is now available at: [www.thegodlyplayroom.co.uk](http://www.thegodlyplayroom.co.uk) or [www.st-matthias-church.org](http://www.st-matthias-church.org)

Lessons last 20 minutes, and also Lena has put together activity packs which support children to explore the story further. Just email lenafearnley@googlemail.com and you will receive one!

