

Sunday 24 January 2021

in the Epiphany season

www.st-matthias-church.org

Welcome

In the face of increased risks associated with the new variant of covid-19, and rising numbers of local cases, the Church Council decided that we will close the church completely for a few weeks. Sadly, that includes closing even for 'private prayer'. However we have suggested some alternatives to help us pray – see below!

Services online

available on the church YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCopwyXTvmHCMOUSKeJf6YQ>

It may be simpler to find all the services by looking at the different **PLAYLISTS** on St Matthias YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCopwyXTvmHCMOUSKeJf6YQ/playlists>

or via the church website - follow links from 'online services and worship resources' on home page

Sun 24 Jan	9.30am Prayzone <i>online</i>
	10.30am Coffee <i>on zoom</i> https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78179904975?pwd=TGJzcDBpQU8rR2NEcnhsQmxlVzkyQT09 Meeting ID: 781 7990 4975 Passcode: Jo3v16
	11am Morning Worship <i>online</i> https://youtu.be/9lbls7F_ iy4
	7pm 'PRAY TORBAY' As part of the week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Churches Together) Prayer Meeting <i>on zoom</i> Join us on Zoom at Meeting ID: 989 5311 7515 / Passcode: 064483

Readings: Revelation 19: 6-10 & John 2: 1-11

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelations+19%3A++6-10+&version=NIVUK>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+2%3A+1-11&version=NIVUK>

Thanks go to:

Parents,
grandparents
and everyone
home schooling



Collect

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen.

Next Week

Sun 31 Jan

10am United Family Service *on zoom and livestreamed*
Do please join on zoom if you can – it's really good to be meeting together in this way. We hope to live stream too, or have it available by midday to watch – but please join in live at 10am if you can!

<https://tinyurl.com/yyyeav65>

Meeting ID: 915 8414 6538 Passcode: 410515

11am following on from service - Coffee *on zoom – same link as the 10am service above*

2 Feb

7pm Antenatal course begins today
See below



While we are not able to open the church building for private prayer, we have provided a 'Prayer Space in the North Porch and a simple 'labyrinth' type of prayer using the pattern on the piazza – there are leaflets in the West porch.

We would also be glad to pray with you over the phone. Please phone

our usual Office number 01803 214175. You are more likely to be able to speak to someone quickly Monday to Friday in office hours, but even at weekends, the messages are checked at least twice a day so someone will return your call.

Some local churches have decided to remain open for private prayer, and for Holy Communion. One near here is All Saints, Cary Ave, Babbacombe, Torquay, TQ1 3NY which is open as below:

- Open every day for private prayer between 9.30 am and mid-afternoon Monday to Saturday (from 11.45 on Sundays). The public Holy Communion services are Sunday at 9.30am and 10.30am.

Let's join in prayer in this "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity" 18-25th Jan



1. **Join in 'PRAY TORBAY' Sunday 24th Jan @ 7pm**
Churches Together in Torbay Prayer Meeting - see details on first page of these notices

2. **Use the reflection below** taken from the 'Churches together in Britain and Ireland' service sheet for this week – or you can download the whole service here <https://tinyurl.com/y29c7nsj>

3. Join in the **Early Morning Torbay prayer meeting on Feb 1st** at 0630 (until 0730) – a group from across the Bay from many different churches who meet each week to pray together. At present this is on Zoom: ID 822 8650 3207 Password: 032602

Brothers and sisters in Christ, this year the theme of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, chosen by the sisters of the Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland, is based upon Jesus' words: **"Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit"**.

It is the great desire of God, expressed by Jesus that we might come to him and abide in him. He waits for us tirelessly, hoping that, united to him in love, we will bear fruit that will bring life to all. Faced with our differences, we risk withdrawing into ourselves and seeing only that which separates us...

let us listen to how Christ calls us to abide in his love, and so bear much fruit...

...Spirituality and solidarity are inseparably linked. Prayer and action belong together. When we abide in Christ, we receive the Spirit of courage and wisdom to act against all injustice and oppression.

Pray and work that God may reign.

Throughout your day

let the Word of God breathe life into work and rest.

Maintain inner silence in all things

so as to dwell in Christ.

Be filled with the spirit of the Beatitudes:

joy, simplicity, mercy.*

**These words are recited daily by the Sisters of the Grandchamp Community.*

News

Dates for the diary:

17 Feb Ash Wednesday – Holy Communion service online from 930am which includes an introduction to the Lent Course on Nehemiah.



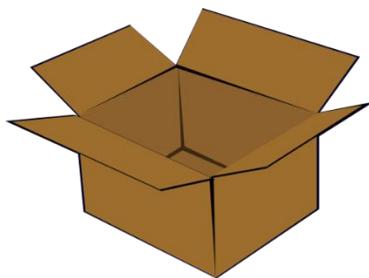
Help? If you need help with shopping or can help anyone else with their shopping, please contact Pere in the office (214175). Thank you.

Torquay Community Larder is still operating and in need of donations. Please contact Linda Townsend on 07790 640372 to make arrangements for collection. (Unfortunately donations cannot be left in church at the moment.)



Prayer meeting Sun 24 Jan 7-8.30pm Christians Together Prayer Event ... Living in Torbay we have many reasons to praise God. We're also aware of the many needs in our community and the importance of being united in our response to dealing with local issues. We are inviting key people who are involved on the frontlines of activity here to be our guests - Cllr Steve Darling, Torbay Council leader, Alison

Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, and church leaders from across Torbay. There will be opportunities to be led in prayer and to join in praying ourselves in Zoom break out rooms. Join Torbay's first big Bay-wide online prayer event. Zoom at Meeting ID: **989 5311 7515** / Passcode: **064483**



Fair Shares? As a Lent initiative we are hoping to be able to offer a 'Fair Share' box to be positioned outside the church, for members of our community to be able to bring and take useful items free of charge. We envisage it being used for articles such as seeds and bulbs, books and toys and other small household goods in good condition. But in order to get the

scheme off the ground we need 2 or 3 people to own it. Could anyone make a suitable wooden box (to be placed by the west door or in the north porch under the seats)? Would anyone be interested in regularly checking the box/ensuring items are in good condition/ having a watching brief over the project? Please let Pere know in the first instance if this is something you could be involved in. Thank you. To see an example of this see the website below:

<https://www.frometowncouncil.gov.uk/your-community/parks-and-open-spaces/wild-about-sharing/>

Suggestion for our Praise and Prayers this week

Sun "Pray Torbay" Christians Together Prayer Event. Pray many will join this prayer time with some of the town's key people to pray for the town's needs. Pray, too, that people will use the helpful material being left out in the church porches.

Mon Pray for the unity of God's Church, especially in this week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Pray that we may all be faithful in our praying for one another.

Tues Now there has been a transition of Government in the United States, pray for their leaders. Pray for trust, acceptance and integrity. Praise God for all involved in fighting the Covid 19 pandemic, especially the scientists producing the vaccines.

Wed Pray for Her Majesty the Queen, as Head of State and the Church, her Ministers of State, the leaders of the Church and all who influence others.

Thurs Remember our children – many of whom have had their schooling disrupted, exams cancelled and generally their futures put at stake.

Fri Pray for our doctors, nurses, carers and all who work to ease life. Remember, too, those who work in the public sector – the council operatives, the store keepers, those in the tourist business, and all who make life easier or more comfortable.

Sat Pray for all who find life difficult, complicated or sad. All who are ill or recently bereaved that they may experience the comfort of Jesus.

Sun Pray for the worship of our Church, both in the building and online, for those planning and executing the worship. May we worship in Spirit and in truth.

To contact the Church:

Although the building is closed you can still contact the church as follows:

Office: 01803 214175

admin@st-matthias-church.org

Rector: John Beckett

01803 293119

Asst Minister: Paul Barton

07807 636470



begin well

Starting Blocks For Family Life

NEW **FREE** ANTENATAL COURSE
IN TORQUAY

Starting 2nd February 2021

Dates: Tuesday 2nd, 9th, 23rd February,
2nd, 9th and 16th March 2021

Time: 7 - 8.30pm

Due to Covid this course will be delivered on zoom.

Book your free course NOW

Find us on face book: www.Beginwell.org.uk

Begin Well is a charity formed four year ago, which understands the importance of preparing families for the arrival of a new baby.

Run by : St Matthias Church, Babbacombe Road,
Wellswood, TQ1 1HW