

Advent Sunday
28th November 2021
www.st-matthias-church.org

Welcome to our Services

in church and online via our YouTube channel

<https://tinyurl.com/88s6x6fd>

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

Sun 28 Nov	8am Prayer Book Communion <i>in church</i>
Advent Sunday	9.30am Prayzone with Compassion <i>in church and livestreamed</i> https://youtu.be/bgch-ew9zRE Activity Sheet: https://tinyurl.com/5xvsdmy5
	11am Morning Worship with Compassion <i>in church and livestreamed</i> <i>Followed by coffee in the Hall</i> https://youtu.be/aRehA_Bfr8
	5.30pm Prayer Meeting <i>in church</i>

Our readings today are:

Philippians 2:1-4 <https://tinyurl.com/3yrxf8sd>

Luke 21: 25-36 <https://tinyurl.com/e3j9c68>

Thank You

**St Matthias Church,
 Torquay**

You are making an
incredible difference
 to children living in
 extreme poverty.



Collect

Almighty God,
 as your kingdom dawns,
 turn us from the darkness of sin to the
 light of holiness,
 that we may be ready to meet you
 in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

Today! We are delighted to have Mike Robins from Compassion UK with us at both the 9:30 and the 11am services. He will be speaking about those children who are sponsored by members of the St Matthias family as well as informing us about their current work and concerns and allowing us the opportunity to sponsor a child in need in Rwanda.

Respond

Change a life

Three easy ways to sponsor a child for £28 per month today.

1

Text
SPONSOR
STMATTS to
88802

2

Scan with your phone



3

Visit
compassionuk.or
g/hope/STMATT
S

Texts cost your standard network text charge - alternatively text SPONSOR STMATTS to 88802 if your mobile doesn't allow shortcodes. We'll send you a confirmation by text with a link to complete your sponsorship. For more information about how we process your personal information, visit compassionuk.org/privacy.

Thanks go to:



Cliff

our 'verger'

Next Week at St Matts

Mon 29 Nov	9.00am Morning Prayer on ZOOM – all welcome to join us – Meeting ID: 792 8948 0664 – Passcode: Pray
Tues 30 Nov	9.00am Morning Prayer on ZOOM – as above
	9.00 - 11.30am Toddlers in the church
	12.00 – 1.30pm Matt's Knits in the Hall
Wed 1 Dec	9.00am Holy Communion (Common Worship) in church
	10.30 – 11.30am Church open (for private prayer)
	 2.00 - 3.30pm Alpha Course in church
	7:15-9:00pm St Matts Gospel Singers practice in Pine Room
Thurs 2 Dec	10.30 – 11.30am Church open (for private prayer)
Fri 3 Dec	10-11.30am "Mummy & Me" in the church
	6.30pm Youth Group in the Hall
Sun 5 Dec	8am Prayer Book Communion in church
	9.30am Breakfastzone in church and livestreamed
	11am Holy Communion in church and livestreamed Followed by coffee in the Hall
Sun 12 th Dec	NB United Service at 10am (+ 8am BCP Communion)

Latest News

Mulled wine! We would like to serve mulled wine at the end of the carol services on the piazza on Wed 22nd & Thurs 23rd Dec (4pm start). If anyone would like to help please could they contact the office. Thank you.

Cleaner needed this Thursday! Could anyone help to clean some rooms in the centre this Thursday (2nd Dec)? Please contact Pere if you can help. Thank you.

Masks work well – that’s the conclusion of researchers reporting in the British Medical Journal: *“Mask-wearing is the single most effective public health measure at tackling Covid, reducing incidence by 53%, the first global study of its kind shows...mask-wearing, social distancing and handwashing are all effective at curbing cases, with mask-wearing the most effective”*. So, thanks for continuing to wear a mask when you come to church. We know it is difficult, but given Torbay’s case rates are currently 40% higher than the national average, please be kind and think of how you might protect someone else. And also please may we kindly ask you to stay away if you have cold symptoms as that is how Covid usually presents now. Thank you so much.

Christmas!

‘At the Heart of Christmas’

Please pick up a leaflet today with details of our Christmas services beginning on 19 December with a carol service at 5.30pm.

Sadly, because of the rising COVID-19 cases in the UK and the rises in Europe, we are limiting the number of available tickets to the more popular Christmas events and services for the time being. We really want to stress that this is not our preferred way of doing things and we know that this will be a cause of frustration to some. However, we remain committed to making sure that everyone who attends is as safe as possible - especially those who are particularly vulnerable.



Where do I go to book tickets to Christmas events?

If you'd like to book in to some of our events, please visit stmatthiaschurch.eventbrite.co.uk

Please note that the Christmas Eve crib service is especially for families with children under 5 whilst the Christingle service is better suited for families with older children. Also, remember that the Carol, Christingle and Christmas Day services will all be live-streamed if you are not able to get tickets. We will publish YouTube links on our website and our Facebook page nearer the time.

What happens if an event I want to attend is fully booked?

If an event that you would like to come to is fully booked, you can join a waiting list at stmatthiaschurch.eventbrite.co.uk. If we are able to release more tickets between now and the event, we will do so. If this happens, you will get an email from Eventbrite inviting you to confirm your booking within 2 days of the ticket(s) being released. If you don't confirm your booking within two days, the ticket(s) will be released to the next person on the waitlist. We will release tickets in the order that people have registered on the waitlist.

Drop us an email at bookings@st-matthias-church.org and we'll do our best to help.

Other news and events

Sad news David Dyson has recently died. Our thoughts and prayers are for his wife Margaret and their family and friends. The funeral will take place at St Matthias on Tuesday 7th December at 11am.

Torbay Men's Breakfast Get together on the first Saturday of each month for fellowship, a full English Breakfast and to listen to a variety of speakers.
8:30 for 9:00 at the Livermead House Hotel, Torbay Road, Torquay TQ2 6QJ
Please email if you would like to attend: torbay.mens.breakfast@gmail.com

Winter Fuel Allowance Each Christmas we try to give some food gift vouchers to people who we know would be grateful for a helping hand. In the past we have been able to do this as a few people have given the church their Winter Fuel Allowance. If you feel you can help in this way it would be much appreciated. Thank you.

Christmas Books Val Burch has a few nativity books left over from The Friends' Christmas Market. Please see Val at church or phone her on 01803 916338 to make your purchase.



The Friends' Christmas lunch at the Osborne Hotel is on 5 Dec. Places are going fast. Advance booking is essential, so please come and see us after the service with your menu choices (Christine Tibbetts on 01803 291033)



Christmas Concerts in the church:

4 December @ 7.30pm Torbay Singers (Mozart Requiem + others)
www.torbaysingers.org

11 December @ 7pm South Devon Choir (Handel's Messiah)
www.southdevonchoir.org

Readings for today

Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Luke 21: 25-36

²⁵ 'There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power

and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

²⁹ He told them this parable: 'Look at the fig-tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³² 'Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³⁴ 'Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.'

Notes:

Prayer

Suggestions for our Praise and Prayers

Sun Pray for the work of "**Compassion**" and the many children supported by members of the congregation with **Mark Robins** speaking. Pray for **Rwanda** where these children come from. At the same time pray for places where it is dangerous to be known as a Christian.

Mon Please continue to pray for the release of **Nazanin Zaghani-Radcliffe** held since 2016 in prison in Iran along with all **other Westerners** unfairly held in prison in that country.

Tue On a Tuesday **Dr Nicci Maxwell our CMS Link**, usually goes to the local Government Hospital to teach and train the students. Pray for her important work with seriously ill mothers and babies at **Potters Village**. Pray also for her work with the **Batwa (pygmy) tribe** who are marginalised and do not mix easily.

Wed Please pray for all **activities** taking place in our church, especially those involving children and parents. Remember the ones involving non-church members. Pray too for all who from our Church are **sick, or suffering** in any way, that God will meet their needs.

Thu Please pray for all **National, Diocesan and Parochial Church leaders** as many struggle to know what to suggest for the church to become a safe and welcoming environment.

Fri Please pray for the asylum system in our country, for the huge administrative backlog of cases and tribunals, for meaningful action for those refused asylum and yet still here, for the genuine asylum cases, and for fair laws and procedures to distinguish. Pray also for the many migrants arriving across the channel and for the local and national administrations struggling to deal with this issue.

Sat The Torbay Men's Breakfast meets this morning. Thank God for how this work is expanding numerically and across church and denominational boundaries!

Sun Thank God for all the funds raised by "The Friends" and pray they will have good fellowship at their Christmas lunch today.

To contact the Church:

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