

Sunday 5 March 2023

www.st-matthias-church.org



Welcome!

Join us either in church or online via our YouTube channel

<https://tinyurl.com/88s6x6fd> or via the church website www.st-matthias-church.org

- follow links from 'online services and worship resources' home page

Sun 5 March	8am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>)
	9.30am Explore Together with breakfast!
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee</i> https://www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams

Thanks go to:
Stand-in Verger



Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Church usually open for visitors/prayer Monday – Friday 12-2pm

Mon 6 Mar	7.30pm Lent Course (week 2) <i>in church (with coffee from 7pm)</i>
Tues 7 Mar	9-11.30am Toddlers <i>in church</i>
	12-1.30pm Matt's Knits <i>knit and natter in the Hall – all welcome</i>
	2.30pm Girls Allowed <i>lace making – in the Hall</i>
Wed 8 Mar	9am Holy Communion
	9.40am Ukrainian support group/coffee morning
	10am Lent Course (week 2) <i>in the lounge</i>
	12-5pm Warm Space <i>in the church</i>
	7pm CAP course <i>in the Lounge</i>
	7.15-9pm St Matts Gospel Singers <i>practice in Pine Room</i>
Fri 10 Mar	10am Mummy & Me <i>in the church</i>
	6.30-8pm Youth Group <i>scavenger hunt</i>
Sun 12 Mar	8am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>)
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am United Family Service <i>followed by coffee</i>

Readings for today

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? ² If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about – but not before God. ³ What does Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.’ ⁴ Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. ⁵ However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

¹³ It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴ For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵ because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶ Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷ As it is written: ‘I have made you a father of many nations.’ He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed – the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

John 3: 1-17

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.’ ³ Jesus replied, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.’ ⁴ ‘How can someone be born when they are old?’ Nicodemus asked. ‘Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!’ ⁵ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, “You must be born again.” ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.’ ⁹ ‘How can this be?’ Nicodemus asked. ¹⁰ ‘You are Israel’s teacher,’ said Jesus, ‘and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven – the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.’

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

News & Events

Nicci Maxwell – important news about Nikki and her future – please click here for more information [Nicci Maxwell - February Newsletter](#)

Fair Trade Fortnight – 27th Feb to 12th Mar Please could you consider buying a food item with the Fair Trade logo eg tea, coffee, bananas, during this time – and maybe afterwards? This will ensure that the growers have a living wage, decent housing and can afford education for their children and that children are not made to work on the estates. This is one of our Lent challenges! (The Co-op stocks a reasonable choice).

Girls Allowed - date for your diary – Thursday 20th April @ 7pm – Table Talk and a mystery speaker! Elaine, Andrea, Susie, Sue and Judi.

Warm space – is open every Wednesday from 12-5pm - everyone welcome! Come and have some lovely soup, hot drinks, chat...



WORKING PARTY

SATURDAY 1 APRIL (morning)

Calling all cleaners, gardeners, and anyone who just fancies

helping to give the church and the grounds a spring clean and a tidy. There'll be cake, coffee and good fun to be had while doing a brilliant job on our lovely church. More info to follow.

EVENTS ELSEWHERE

6-10 March Keswick in Devon

Five days of bible teaching, fellowship, worship in Sidmouth
www.keswickindevon.org.uk

CREATION FEST – Christian summer conference 3-6th

August, Wadebridge in Cornwall. 'Celebrating the good news of a God who loves us' creationfest.org.uk John and Ruth are going – ask for more information or see website. 'Early bird' bookings are open.

THE LENT CHALLENGE *from our Eco Group*

- ✓ Calculate your personal carbon footprint – <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk> – and try to find ways of decreasing it.
- ✓ Try to car share whenever possible.
- ✓ Replace one item in your regular shop with something that is either Fair Trade or organic.
- ✓ Find out more about COP 28 and pray for meaningful outcomes.

LENT COURSE



Where: In church

When: Monday evenings @ 7.30pm and coffee @ 7pm
Also 10am Wednesdays (*Lounge*)

Date: Beginning on 27 Feb/1 Mar

What: The course is called 'Growing Good'.

See video clip for more information

https://youtu.be/Xcw_6CXo8ZY

Prayers

Suggestions for our Praise and Prayers this week

Sun Remember our Church leaders, especially John Beckett, Paul Barton, Norma Gerry, Sharon Hiley and others who help the team.

Mon Pray for all the countries where there is devastation through war, earthquakes, floods or drought. Pray for peace and hope.

Tue Nicci Maxwell our CMS Mission Partner needs our prayers as she works at Kisoro, Uganda, bringing hope and healing to very young babies and their mothers.

Wed Pray for our King and Royal Family, our Prime Minister and Government, our local leaders.

Thu In the Lent course may we learn to be more aware of neighbours and be there for them showing them Jesus.

Fri Remember all those in the armed forces who are often in grave danger and away from home for long periods. Pray for their families left at home.

Sat Pray for all in the parish who are ill or in pain. Pray too for all in the NHS, carers, volunteers and those who help others.

Sun Pray for our Archbishops, Bishops, Archdeacons, Area Deans and Parish Clergy, pray too for Parishes thinking of leaving their episcopal cover due to Synod's decision on marriage.

To contact the church: Office 01803 214175; admin@st-matthias-church.org

Rector: John Beckett 01803 293119 jandrbeckett@outlook.com;

Associate Minister: Paul Barton 07807 636470 revpaulbarton@gmail.com;

Please note that our services are often live-streamed