



www.st-matthias-church.org

01803 214175

Sunday 31 January 2016

'Candlemas'

Welcome!

We are delighted to see you, especially if this is your first visit.

Please do join us for refreshments in the hall after the 10.30am service.

Today

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Holy Communion with prayers for healing
12.15pm	Church Family Lunch <i>in the hall</i>

During the Week

Mon	6.15am Early morning prayer meeting with breakfast <i>in the Hall</i>
Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9.30-11.30am Open House parents and toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
Wed	9am Holy Communion followed by coffee <i>in the Lounge</i>
	12pm Josiah Lunch <i>in the Hall</i>
	6-7pm Prayer Meeting <i>in the church/Ark</i>
	7.45pm Alpha course <i>in the church</i>
Thurs	10.30-11.30am Prayer Meeting <i>in the Ark</i>
	2.30-4.30pm Chat@StMatts <i>in the Hall</i>

Sunday 7 February

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW) with guest preacher Katherine Lyddon
6pm	Winter Night Shelter project begins

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,
 light of the nations and glory of Israel:
 make your home among us, and present
 us pure and holy to your heavenly Father,
 your God, and our God. Amen

Readings

Hebrews 2: 14-18

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Luke 2: 22-40

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord’), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: ‘a pair of doves or two young pigeons’.

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ ‘Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.’ ³³ The child’s father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: ‘This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.’ ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had

done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

LENT

- Lent begins on Ash Wednesday on 10 February with Holy Communion at 9am and 6.30pm.
- The Lent Course on prayer begins on 18 February. Please see separate purple leaflet for details.
- Lent book 2016 – the recommended book this year is 'Dust and Glory' by David Runcorn containing daily bible readings and reflections. Available to buy in church from today £8. Please put money in a blue envelope marked 'lent book' and put in box on wall or in the collection. Other Lent books are also available and can be borrowed from the Library.

Suggestions for your own prayers this week

Pray for those seeking healing today

For all preparing for the Lent course

For the Winter Night Shelter project and those who are homeless

For the Alpha course – for leaders and members

For John as he leads the church and the other members of the clergy

What's On & News

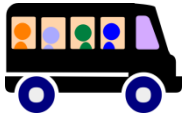
We are sorry to report that Dorothy Blandford has recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family. Her funeral will be held at St Matthias at 12pm on Tuesday 16 February.

Church cleaning We are looking for 3 people to join the cleaning team on a rota basis once every 6 weeks. Please speak to Jean Fricker or the office. Thank you.

Men's Breakfast The next breakfast will be on Saturday 13 February at the Kents Cavern Café. Contact Charlie to book c.allansen@btinternet.com. The speaker will be Jeff Hill.

1 February @ 6.15am Early morning prayer meeting in the Hall preceded by tea/coffee and croissant. You are warmly invited to come along to join others from St Matthias and other churches around the Bay.

Holidays Do you know of a family under stress who would benefit from a holiday but can't afford it? The Mothers' Union are able to offer holidays in the form of a 3 day break at Sandy Bay, Exmouth. If you or someone you know would like more information about this, please see Pere in the office by 22 February.



St Matthias now has its own minibus and we are trying to establish how many people would appreciate being picked up on a Sunday to attend the 10.30 service. We would also like to know of any people who would like to go on a rota of drivers (to do this you need to be between 30 and 70 years old and have a minibus entitlement (D1) on your driving licence). Please indicate on the list at the back of church if you are a potential user or driver or know of any other church members who would appreciate a lift or let Pere know in the office. For further information please contact Tony Barratt.



Soup and Pud The Friends of Rowcroft will be hosting another popular fund-raising event on Saturday 20 February 12 noon to 2pm. Delicious homemade soup and puddings plus bric-a-brac stalls and raffle. Only £5. Do come, bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

Piano cover The blue piano (clavinova) cover has disappeared. If anyone has spotted it anywhere, please could they let Tony Barratt or the office know.

Winter Night Shelter begins on Sunday 1 February. If anyone has any warm (clean) clothing – gloves, jumpers, coats, scarves etc – which could be given out to those seeking shelter during the project, they would be greatly appreciated.

PCC If you would like to know more about the PCC, what it does and the areas of business which it considers, or if you are considering standing for the PCC at the annual meeting in April, copies of the latest minutes are now available to view in the black folder by the door of the Hall.

Contacting the Church

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