

Give God your best
He gave you His...

Welcome!

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

Please do join us for refreshments at 10.30am today.

Today	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Breakfastzone
10.30am	<i>Coffee in the Hall</i>
11am	Holy Communion (CW)
5.30pm	Annual Meeting <i>with provision for children</i>
During the Week	
Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	12.30pm Matt's Knits <i>in the Lounge</i>
	7.30pm Lent Course <i>in the church</i>
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i>
	10.15am Lent Course <i>in the Lounge</i>
	12 noon Lent Lunch for Christian Aid <i>in the Hall</i>
	7.30pm St Matt's Cats
Sat	7pm Fish'n'chips'n'film Night at St Matthias
Palm Sunday 14 April	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<i>Coffee in the Hall</i>
11am	United Family Service
6.30pm	Churches Together service at Central Church – no evening service here

Collect

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder
the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Contacting the Church

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Readings

Isaiah 43: 16-21

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says—
 he who made a way through the sea,
 a path through the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who drew out the chariots and
 horses,
 the army and reinforcements
 together,
 and they lay there, never to rise again,
 extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:
¹⁸ “Forget the former things;
 do not dwell on the past.
¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not
 perceive it?
 I am making a way in the wilderness
 and streams in the wasteland.
²⁰ The wild animals honor me,
 the jackals and the owls,
 because I provide water in the
 wilderness
 and streams in the wasteland,
 to give drink to my people, my chosen,
²¹ the people I formed for myself
 that they may proclaim my praise.

John 12: 1-8

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

⁷ “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.”

For our prayers and praise this week

Sun	Please pray for today’s services and the leaders . Please pray for the Annual Parochial Church Meetings this afternoon. Pray that many will come and give thanks for the last year and hear what is going to happen in the future.
Mon	Our Parliament and members need much wisdom, clarity and understanding of the nations’ needs as they make some crucial decisions today and the rest of the week.
Tues	Pray for the Lent Courses that we might all be challenged in how to ‘Talk Jesus’ with our families, friends, neighbours and acquaintances .
Wed	Pray for all who are ill , in hospital or at home; all those awaiting operations

	or results of scans and other tests.
Thurs	Now that the Night Shelter Scheme has finished, pray for those sleeping rough and needing food that they may know where to find help and shelter. Pray that all refugees and asylum seekers may find their hearts desires.
Fri	Pray for one another with love, compassion and understanding and that we will be tolerant and careful how we speak.
Sat	As we prepare for Easter may we understand the wonder of Holy Week, Good Friday, and the joy of Easter, that Jesus was raised from the dead for us.
Sun	Let us remember before God all the different activities that take place in our Church buildings, especially those run by and for non church members. May they really feel God's presence in this place.

What's on and News

Sad news The funeral of Mike Luntz will take place at St Matthias on Tuesday 16 April at 12.30pm. We pray for Jill and for their family and friends at this time.

TODAY

Annual Church Meeting 7 April at 5.30pm in the Hall (tea from 5pm) - provision for children. The PCC currently has up to 6 vacancies. For more information see David Wilkinson, PCC secretary – nomination forms available at the back of church. **Annual Reports x 2** – please pick up your copy and bring to the meeting today.



Fish'n'chips'n'film Night at Church on Sat 13 April 7-10pm approx. £7.50 each. The meal is at 7pm so you could just join us for the takeaway! Soft drinks available or BYO. Tickets now available at a service near you... **Last chance to book and pay today!**

TODAY

Egg-citing news! The Easter Gift Shop is here today! 9.30-12.30pm in the Hall. A lovely opportunity to bless others with 'The Real' Easter Eggs, a beautiful selection of Easter cards, thought-provoking new books, Easter leaflets, DVDs, jewellery, home decorations and more..... Orders can be given to us on the day for collection before Easter if required. For any queries e-mail Dave on dgi17burch@yahoo.co.uk. We look forward to seeing you there! Val & Dave Burch (Profits to the Wellspring Project)



TODAY

Easter Craft Stall - Matts Knits are having a craft stall to raise funds for the Wellspring Project in the church at coffee time on 7 and 14 April.

TODAY

For sale at the Easter Gift Shop – latest book by Merylyn Williams (pen name Mel Menzies) 'Picked for a Purpose'. All proceeds to The Prince's Trust.

Thanks go to... the Social Core Team 😊

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday 14 April	See calendar on front page
Maundy Thursday 18 April	7pm Holy Communion
Good Friday 19 April	10.30am All Age Family Service followed by coffee and hot cross buns
Easter Sunday 21 April	9.30am Growzone
	11am Family Holy Communion
	5.30pm 'Praise Party' led by the young people – all welcome

'Ways to Serve' leaflets – thank you – we have had 65 completed forms and we aim to get in touch with those who have offered to serve over the coming months. If you have not completed a form and wish to, copies can be found at the back of church – please put them in the 'post box'.

Thank you...for everyone who came to the coffee morning/book sale last week. It raised £919 for the Street Pastors! David Scott

LENT Remember the Lent Course and Lent Lunches 😊

Lent Course 'Talking Jesus' continues on Tuesdays at 7.30pm and is repeated on Wed mornings at 10.15am.

The course is free (booklet £1). Coffee/tea available at the start.

Lent Lunches every Wed until Easter. 12-1.30pm in the Hall. Delicious bread and cheese with pickles, fruit and coffee or tea. All profits to Christian Aid so do come and support this worthwhile cause and why not bring a friend? There's also the Count Your Blessings booklet...and why not try borrowing a Lent book...



Giving to support the church: We encourage people to give via the 'Parish Giving Scheme' (PGS) from their bank accounts. That's why the collection plate often goes around empty! So, if you are new to St Matthias, please do not feel you need to put any cash into the collection plate but do ask one of the Welcomers for more information about the PGS. Thank you.

Wellspring Update

We have started showing building companies around the church as they prepare tenders for the Project. We are hoping to review these on 25 April. In the meantime please continue to top up your money boxes and Smarties tubes so that we can collect them all in on Easter Sunday.