



### Join us in church or online

[www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams)

<b>Sun 1 Mar</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent with Maren Hedermann from LiNX Trust</i>	<b>8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</b>	
	<b>9.30am Explore Together with breakfast from 9.15am</b>	
	<b>11am Holy Communion followed by tea/coffee</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/5n6k73ze">tinyurl.com/5n6k73ze</a>	
<b>Mon 2 Mar</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom – details below</b>	
<b>Tues 3 Mar</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom – details below</b>	
	<b>9-11.30am Toddlers</b>	
	<b>12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits – knit and natter!</b>	
	<b>7 for 7.30pm Lent Course – week two – in the Hall</b>	
<b>Wed 4 Mar</b>	<b>9am Holy Communion</b>	
	<b>10am Lent Course – week two repeated</b>	
	<b>12-2pm Welcome Space – coffee, soup and chat! All welcome</b>	
	<b>7.15-9pm St Matts Gospel Singers</b>	
<b>Fri 6 Mar</b>	<b>9-11.30am Mummy &amp; Me</b>	
	<b>6.30-8pm Youth Club 'Junk Fashion'</b>	
<b>Sat 7 Mar</b>	<b>10am-1pm Spring Clean in the church – do come along!</b>	
<b>Sun 8 Mar</b>	<b>8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</b>	
	<b>9.30am Explore Together with Communion</b>	
	<b>11am Morning Worship followed by tea/coffee</b>	
	<b>5.30pm Praying for the church and wider world</b>	

 **Thanks go to:**  
All those who help with DIY around the building

**For Morning Prayer online**, we use the Church of England 'Daily Prayer' app and meet on ZOOM using this link: [tinyurl.com/2t56wex5](https://tinyurl.com/2t56wex5)  
You are welcome to join us!  
The words we use can be found here, with an audio version: [tinyurl.com/2djd3t7f](https://tinyurl.com/2djd3t7f)



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# Readings

## John 3:1-17

**3** 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.<sup>6</sup> Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.<sup>7</sup> You should not be surprised at my saying, "You must be born again."<sup>8</sup> 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.

**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**



A local youth & schools work charity, established in 1997, with a mission to help Torbay young people reach their full potential, working with thousands of young people each year across eight secondary schools plus other alternative school provisions in Torbay.



**Alpha is a space to unpack the basics of the Christian faith together.**

You can find out more here <https://alpha.org.uk/>

We plan to run an 8 week course after Easter – please have a word with one of the clergy to find out more.



## News

**Giving and Gifts.** Following recent teaching on giving and gifts you may want to pick up a gift aid form, Parish Giving Scheme form or handouts on identifying your Spiritual gifts and opportunities to serve, all available at the back of the Church.

**Pastoral Team** One area where we urgently need more help is the pastoral team, which helps us to offer care to the church community in time of need. If you are interested in finding out more there will be a meeting in church at 10.30am on Sunday 8th March.

**Eco Action for March!** After focusing on **Fair Trade** in February, this month's challenge is related to our individual carbon footprints. You may like to calculate the carbon footprint of your household, using the World Wildlife calculator - <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk> - or try to reduce your footprint (and bills!) by turning down the central heating thermostat by 1°C.

## Dates for your diary



**Church Cleaning Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March** (10am – 1pm)

Please come along to give the church a 'spring clean'. There will be tea, coffee and biscuits. Come for as little or as long as you can. Sign up

today! For more information please speak to Sheila Sherriff. Thank you.

**THIS WEEK! Lent Course: "How to be an overcomer"** Tuesday evenings (7 for 7.30pm until 9pm beginning with refreshments) and Wednesday mornings (10.00 – 11.30). Looking at the early life of King David led by Revd Andrew Green, Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>

**Dine-out Sundays.** Our next lunch is on **22nd March at 1pm**. Again, by popular request it is at The Central Conservative Club, Torquay. Please note the change of time, and the lunches will be on the 4th Sunday of the month from now on. We will change the venue in the warmer months to have the opportunity to choose lighter lunches than the roast lunch only, that is offered by the Conservative Club (as delicious as they are!) Please contact Gill for info or to book 07709 727714.

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March @ 7pm at Upton Vale Church** – with special guest **Graham Kendrick** - an uplifting evening of worship and prayer for our nation. 7-9.30pm  
To book: visit Eventbrite (tickets are free): <https://tinyurl.com/4drfwhh8>



**Quiz** Calling all Quizzers! The Friend's next event is a Quiz evening to be held on **Saturday 11th April** from 7pm to 10pm - it'll be a general knowledge evening of fun, fellowship and have all the ingredients of " House of Games", "The1%Club", "The Wheel" and more. Teams of 4 will pit their skills against each other for an actual trophy to be presented to the winning team. There will be a licensed bar and the cost per team will be £10. See you there! Nick Hewlitt (Chair).

**Rising Lights** Gathering for five days in Torquay to hear God's word, to praise our risen Saviour, and to rest. With plenty for adults, teens, and kids. A major Christian conference is taking place in Torquay, **6-10 April**, and everyone is welcome. With leading speakers there will be Bible study, talks, activities for all ages and separate provision for different age groups of children and young people. Organised by FIEC but for



everyone, *Rising Lights* is a chance for us to gather as believers, to be refreshed, and to grow in our faith. There's too much for us to put here, but check out [the website](#) and this [video on YouTube](#) [tinyurl.com/4zzvtwmc](https://tinyurl.com/4zzvtwmc)



**School news:** Sue Davies will be in Warberry and Ilsham Academies this week, telling the children the story of four friends who brought their friend to meet Jesus in an unexpected way.

**Easter Experience:** This year we will be offering the opportunity for children from our local schools to visit the church for an interactive journey through the Easter Story. This will be on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March**. If you would be available to help with setting up, helping with the craft or refreshments then please sign up at the back of church.

### *Prayers for the week*

**Mon** "You will keep him in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you" Isaiah 26 v3 What a lovely thought for a Monday morning let's pray that we can keep that verse in our minds as we go through the day.

**Tues** Pray for our church leaders that you may bless them and give them your strength for their ministry.

**Wed** Pray for Ukraine and all the hardships they are enduring. Pray for the Ukrainians that we are ministering to here in Torquay let us be a strength to them.

**Thurs** Pray for the bereaved among us. Help us to comfort and support them in their everyday lives as they learn to adjust to their new circumstances. Let's remember bereavement is a long term thing!

**Fri** Matthew 25 v 40 "...truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me" Let's think about the word "least" let them be our priority today.

**Sat** Pray for all we know who are sick, help them to get the care they need and make us all aware of their suffering and be ready to help in any way we can.

**Sun** Pray that we will come to worship today with a clear mind and learn something new of you. Be with all those ministering to us.