



### Welcome! Join us in church or online

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

The church is open for prayer and for visitors on Wednesdays from 12—2pm

	<b>Sun 12 Jan</b>	<b>8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</b>
		<b>9.30am Explore Together <i>with communion</i></b>
		<b>10.30am Gather to Pray</b>
		<b>11am Morning Worship <i>followed by tea/coffee</i></b> <a href="https://youtube.com/live/Ef6amB7YJus?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/Ef6amB7YJus?feature=share</a> <b>We will be welcoming visitors from the Purple Angel Dementia Campaign. Please see note overleaf.</b>
		<b>5.30pm Prayer Meeting – all welcome</b>
<b>Mon 13 Jan</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i></b>	
<b>Tues 14 Jan</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i></b>	
	<b>9-11.30am Toddlers</b>	
	<b>12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits</b>	
	<b>2pm Funeral of Geoff Payne</b> <a href="https://youtube.com/live/S6iBfCv4_xo?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/S6iBfCv4_xo?feature=share</a>	
<b>Wed 15 Jan</b>	<b>9am Holy Communion</b>	
	<b>12-2pm Welcome Space <i>tea, coffee, soup and chat! All welcome</i></b>	
<b>Fri 17 Jan</b>	<b>9.30-11.30am Mummy &amp; Me</b>	
	<b>6.30-8pm Youth Club followed by Youth Alpha</b>	
<b>Sat 18 Jan</b>	<b>9am Men's Breakfast <i>at The Grand Hotel</i></b> <a href="mailto:torbay.mens.breakfast@gmail.com">torbay.mens.breakfast@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Sun 19 Jan</b>	<b>8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</b>	
	<b>9.30am Explore Together</b>	
	<b>10.30am Gather to Pray</b>	
	<b>11am Holy Communion <i>followed by tea/coffee</i></b>	

**Collect** Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus  
as your Son:  
may we recognize him as our  
Lord  
and know ourselves to be your  
beloved children; through Jesus  
Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

**For Morning Prayer  
online,**  
we use the Church of  
England 'Daily Prayer' app  
and this zoom link  
<https://tinyurl.com/2t56wex5>

**Thanks go to:**  
All those who have  
recently helped to  
tidy the church  
and take down  
decorations 😊

# Readings

## Isaiah 43:1-7

But now, this is what the Lord says—  
he who created you, Jacob,  
he who formed you, Israel:  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name; you are  
mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
you will not be burned;  
the flames will not set you ablaze.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;  
I give Egypt for your ransom,  
Cush and Seba in your stead.

<sup>4</sup>Since you are precious and honored in  
my sight,  
and because I love you,  
I will give people in exchange for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid, for I am with you;  
I will bring your children from the east  
and gather you from the west.

<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’  
and to the south, ‘Do not hold them  
back.’

Bring my sons from afar  
and my daughters from the ends of the  
earth—

<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.

## Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

<sup>15</sup>The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, ‘I baptise you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.’

<sup>21</sup>When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: ‘You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.’

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**KITCHEN (in hall) OUT OF ACTION 6<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> JAN (new floor etc being fitted.)**

## Prayers for this week:

**Mon** Dear Lord, help us to see people as you see them.

**Tue** Dear God, help me to lead a life that is pleasing to you, to stay close to you each day and find time to spend alone with you.

**Wed** Lord, help me to act wisely and to speak words of wisdom that bring blessings to others.

**Thurs** Dear God, please come into the deepest part of my heart and remove anything that is not of You.

**Fri** Dear Lord, give me the patience as I wait for Your perfect timing and prepare for the plans You have for me.

**Sat** Father, help me to be merciful just as You are merciful to me.

**Sun** Lord, please guard my heart and guide my feet.

## Dates for the diary

**New Year lunch! 19 January at 1.30pm** at Babbacombe *Hotel* (not the Inn). £13.95 for a carvery with dessert (no other options). Please contact Gill B to book a place 07709727714.



**Church Indoor Picnic Sunday 26 January** at 12.30pm after the morning services. Come and eat lunch together and play some games. Bring your own picnic. Please sign up at the back of church if you think you will be coming - to help us to work out how many games to bring etc!

**Girls Allowed Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Jan**, meeting in Church at 2.30 pm for an afternoon of table top games with tea and biscuits. Everyone welcome. Please let Elaine know if you are able to come. Email [elainebiden@hotmail.com](mailto:elainebiden@hotmail.com) or text 07974001227

**The Friends of St Matthias New Year meal** will be held at Amici restaurant in Torwood Street at 7 for 7.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February. All are welcome. To book your place please speak to either Christine or Rob at the end of Sunday services.

## News

**The St Matthias Youth Club will be here on** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January in the Hall at 6.30-8pm. Anyone of secondary school age is welcome to join – please speak to Ali, Linda or Claire if you know someone who is looking for a youth club. **Youth Alpha** will start again on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January following on from the youth club session.

**Sad news** We are sad to report that two of our longstanding members of St Matthias have recently died – Geoff Payne and Anne Dunnage.

**Geoff's funeral** will be held at St Matthias on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm.

[https://youtube.com/live/S6iBfCv4\\_xo?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/S6iBfCv4_xo?feature=share)

**Anne's funeral** will be at St Matthias on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am. Anne's family extend a warm welcome to all the church family or anyone who knew Anne in whatever capacity. This will be a celebration of Anne's life. Bright colours and smiles will be very welcome! We pray for the families and friends of both Geoff and Anne at this sad time.



### **Emerging Generations Team Leader**

We are currently recruiting for this post.

If you know of anyone who may be interested please see our website for details, click here <https://tinyurl.com/vvpsnb8j> or scan the code.



### **New Year... why not explore life, faith and meaning?**

We will be running an Alpha course this spring. Date to be confirmed. Watch this space for more details or speak with one of the clergy. See note below about Youth Alpha.

**Nicci Maxwell's latest newsletter** – <https://tinyurl.com/3uxvx4te>

**Christmas Collection** – thank you for your generous giving for the Nazareth Appeal. You have raised £997!

**New kitchen – help required please!** The kitchen re-fit is under way and we expect it to be finished by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January. We'll need some helping hands to put everything back – crockery, cutlery, glasses etc – and a small amount of cleaning. We think it will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. If anyone can spare an hour please contact Pere in the office. Thank you.



**Purple Angel Dementia Campaign** will be visiting us today at the 11am service (12 January). "The aim of the Purple Angel Dementia Campaign is to raise awareness, give hope to and empower people with dementia by giving out information on how shops, businesses and other services can support people, young and old, who have these progressive diseases."

**Bishop Mike's New Year Prayer for 2025** Lord Jesus we ask in this New Year that; by your grace flowing into our hearts you enable us to be lights in the dark places of this world. By your love flowing into our hearts you enable us to pursue ever more energetically the flourishing, safety and security of all your children. By your joy flowing into our hearts you enable us to witness your truth and grow in your image and likeness. In Your name we pray, Amen.

**Archbishop of York's Epiphany Letter** The Most Rev'd Stephen Cottrell, has taken temporary leadership of the Church of England following the resignation of Archbishop Justin Welby. He has written an Epiphany Letter to churches [You can read it here.](#) In the letter he says: "Let us commit ourselves to becoming a Church that looks and sounds like Jesus: penitent, kind, and in tune with the will and purposes of God, the safer and more accountable Church I believe we are called to be."