




Welcome! Join us in church or online

www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams

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

Sun 15 Dec	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by tea/coffee</i> https://youtube.com/live/Gwrf6O00L8A?feature=share
	5.30pm 'Praise @ 5.30pm' <i>a service of worship and praise</i>
Mon 16 Dec	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i>
	4.30pm Warberry Academy Nativity
Tues 17 Dec	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i>
	12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits
	6pm Warberry Academy Carol Service
Wed 18 Dec	9am Holy Communion
	12-2pm Welcome Space <i>Tea, coffee, soup and chat!</i>
	6pm Ilsham Academy Christmas Service
	7.15-9pm St Matt's Gospel Singers
Thurs 19 Dec	1.30pm Warberry Academy Carol Service
	5.30pm Carols on the Piazza <i>followed by mulled wine and mince pies</i> 
Fri 20 Dec	9.30-11.30am Mummy & Me
	2pm Pre-School Christmas Service
	6.30-8pm Youth Club
Sat 21 Dec	10am – 1pm Big Church Clean! <i>All welcome</i>
Sun 22 Dec	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by tea/coffee</i>
	5.30pm Carol Service <i>followed by mulled wine and Christmas cake</i>



Readings

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?' ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.'

¹⁰ 'What should we do then?' the crowd asked.

¹¹ John answered, 'Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.'

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptised. 'Teacher,' they asked, 'what should we do?'

¹³ 'Don't collect any more than you are required to,' he told them.

¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, 'And what should we do?'

He replied, 'Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.'

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.' ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

Thanks go to:



Church cleaners

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

For Morning Prayer online, we use the Church of England 'Daily Prayer' app and this zoom link

<https://tinyurl.com/2t56wex5>

Dates for the diary

Saturday 21 December 10am – 1pm Church Clean

If you could help to make the church lovely and clean for Christmas, please come along. Your help will be much appreciated. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided! Contact Sheila Sherriff for more information 07732 734486.

News and Help



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.



If you know you will be attending the Christmas morning service and would be happy to be a **Welcomer** at the door, could you please let Sylvia know. Thank you.

Exeter Diocese and Cathedral Safeguarding 'Robust'

In the light of the distressing findings in the Makin report, it is encouraging to read the recent independent report of safeguarding in the Diocese. You can read the full report following links on this Diocesan page <https://tinyurl.com/4k5zk7bt> Of course this does not mean we are to be complacent at all – so please continue to make safeguarding our collective responsibility. Thank you. John

PCC Prayer Requests

- Pray for God's help and guidance as we prepare for Advent and Christmas. May God's Spirit touch the hearts and minds of the people of this parish.
- Pray that a suitable candidate will apply for the position of 'Emerging Generation Team Leader' which is now being advertised on websites, in magazines and on Premier Radio.
- Pray that there would be new helpers to join the Audio Visual team.
- Pray that planning permission for the Hall roof project would be approved swiftly by the Local Authority.

The minutes of the September PCC meeting are now available on request from the office.

Church Office: 01803 214175 admin@st-matthias-church.org

Rector: John Beckett 01803 914164 jandrbeckett@outlook.com

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

Curate: Claire Reynolds 07858 313677 claire.reynolds.bmc@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS....is coming!

And help with the preparation is needed!

Thank you to those who have already signed up

More people required please!



Please sign up if you would like to help with any of the following:



- Singing carols on the Piazza on 19 December at 5.30pm
- Moving chairs for services
- Stewarding/welcoming at our Christmas services
- Cleaning the church on 21 Dec at 10am
- Putting up the staging for services

(Sign up sheets are at the back of the church)

THANK YOU 😊

see the posters/flyers for service dates and times

Follow The Star

Christmas Services at St Matthias Church
Follow the star to Jesus

Tues	10 Dec	3.15pm	Messy Christmas
Wed	11 Dec	12pm	Ukrainian Carol Service
Thurs	19 Dec	5.30pm	Carols on the Piazza with mulled wine and mince pies
Sun	22 Dec	5.30pm	Carol Service
Christmas Eve		3pm	Crib Service especially for younger children
		5pm	Christingle Service especially for children & families
		11pm	Midnight Holy Communion
Christmas Day	10am		Family Christmas Communion

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Prayer for the coming week

Mon Lord, be with every child and young person struggling with their mental health, be their comfort and peace. Help us to find ways to reveal your peace into the lives of the people we meet every day.

Tues “The Lord is full of tenderness and mercy” Ps 34:18

Pray today for those who are struggling, physically, mentally or spiritually and reassure them and ourselves of this verse.

Wed Pray for all the millions in the world who are caught up in conflicts, thinking particularly of those who have lost their homes and many of their family members.

Thurs Pray for “Carols on the Piazza” this evening that many will come and hear your word through the singing of the carols.

Fri Pray for our ministers as they prepare for all the services coming up. Give them strength on the many demands on their time. Protect them from physical illness.

Sat Pray for the Carol Service tomorrow evening that many may come and be blessed.

Sun Pray today that we will, “enter His house with gladness in our hearts” and that our faith will be strengthened and we will show the love of Christ to all.