



Week of Prayer  
for Christian Unity  
18-25<sup>th</sup> Jan



**st matthias** **Welcome!**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

[www.st-matthias-church.org](http://www.st-matthias-church.org)

**Welcome! Join us in church or online**

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

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

Sun 19 Jan	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> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/live/7mmEQewytc8">youtube.com/live/7mmEQewytc8</a>
	<i>1.30pm Lunch at the Babbacombe Hotel</i>
	<i>6pm Torquay Unity Service at Central Church with Nathan Kiyaga</i>
Mon 20 Jan	9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom – details below
Tues 21 Jan	9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom – details below
	9-11.30am Toddlers
	12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits
Wed 22 Jan	9am Holy Communion
	12-2pm Welcome Space <i>tea, coffee, soup and chat! All welcome</i>
	7.15-9pm St Matt's Gospel Singers
Fri 24 Jan	9.30-11.30am Mummy & Me
	6.30-8pm Youth Club
Sun 26 Jan	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Morning Worship <i>followed by tea/coffee</i>
	12.30pm Church Family Indoor Picnic with games! <b>All welcome</b>
	5.30pm 'Praise @ 5.30' <i>time of worship led by our young people</i>



**Collect** Heavenly Father, you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ to continue His work of reconciliation and reveal you to the world. Forgive us the sins which tear us apart; give us the courage to overcome our fear and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Thanks go to:**

Everyone involved in the work in the Hall kitchen



**For Morning Prayer online,**

we use the Church of England 'Daily Prayer' app and this zoom link

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

# Readings

## John 1:29-42

<sup>29</sup> The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, 'Look, the **Lamb of God**, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> This is the one I meant when I said, "A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me." <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptising with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.'

<sup>32</sup> Then John gave this testimony: 'I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. <sup>33</sup> And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will **baptise with the Holy Spirit**." <sup>34</sup> I have seen and I testify that this is the **Son of God**.'

<sup>35</sup> The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. <sup>36</sup> When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, 'Look, the Lamb of God!'

<sup>37</sup> When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Turning round, Jesus saw them following and asked, 'What do you want?'

They said, '**Rabbi**' (which means 'Teacher'), 'where are you staying?'

<sup>39</sup> 'Come,' he replied, 'and you will see.'

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

<sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. <sup>41</sup> The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, 'We have found the **Messiah**' (that is, the Christ). <sup>42</sup> And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas' (which, when translated, is Peter).

## Psalm 36:5-10

<sup>5</sup> Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the skies.

<sup>6</sup> Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,  
your justice like the great deep.

You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.

<sup>7</sup> How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!  
People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

<sup>8</sup> They feast in the abundance of your house;  
you give them drink from your river of delights.

<sup>9</sup> For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.

<sup>10</sup> Continue your love to those who know you,  
your righteousness to the upright in heart.

## 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 12,27

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do. The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others...The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does. ..Together you are the body of Christ. Each one of you is part of his body.

## Dates for the diary

**TODAY! 19<sup>TH</sup> January** TORQUAY UNITY SERVICE at Central Church "Do You Believe This?" Guest preacher - Revd Nathan Kiyaga. Everyone is welcome.



**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

**Sad news** We are sad to report that Anne Dunnage has recently died. 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 Anne's family and friends.



### 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.



**Church Cleaners needed!** Would you like to join the team to help to keep the church clean? Dusting, vacuuming and some tidying involved each team doing just a couple of hours each month. Please contact Sheila Sherriff who will be very pleased to hear from you 😊 07732 734486



## 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.

**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."

### *Prayers for this week:*

**Mon** Lord, we pray today for peace in our world. May all those in power exercise their authority with integrity and goodwill.

**Tue** Dear God, please pour out your spirit of love, unity and loyalty on the church. Help us to work together in partnership with one another.

**Weds** Father, thank you for this day. We ask that You guide our path today and, more specifically, our thoughts, words and actions.

**Thurs** Lord, thank you for your goodness, mercy and grace. Help us to keep trusting you and not to be afraid.

**Fri** Heavenly Father, help us to keep you as our number one priority in our lives.

**Sat** Lord, we pray for a heart that seeks you and your word daily.

**Sun** Dear Father, bless us so that we may find joy in serving others, knowing that in doing so, we serve you.

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