



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 23 Feb	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> youtube.com/live/FIlfblv6hCq
	5.30pm 'Praise @ 5.30' <i>informal praise and worship</i>
Mon 24 Feb	9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom – details below
Tues 25 Feb	9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom – details below
	9-11.30am Toddlers
	12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits
Wed 26 Feb	9am Holy Communion
	12-2pm Welcome Space <i>tea, coffee, soup and chat! All welcome</i>
Thurs 27 Feb	2.30pm Girls Allowed
Fri 28 Feb	9.30-11.30am Mummy & Me
	6.30-8pm Youth Club
Sun 2 March	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>
	3pm Newcomers Tea

Collect Almighty God,
Give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Thanks go to:
Brian and Norma
😊

Please keep praying for a just peace in Ukraine as this week marks the 3rd Anniversary of the war.



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

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Readings

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25

The Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵ Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, ⁶ but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. ⁷ Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. ⁸ Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. ⁹ The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground – trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil...

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.'

¹⁸ The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'

¹⁹ Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³ The man said,

'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called "woman", for she was taken out of man.'

²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵ Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Luke 8:22-25

²² One day Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side of the lake.' So they got into a boat and set out. ²³ As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

²⁴ The disciples went and woke him, saying, 'Master, Master, we're going to drown!' He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. ²⁵ 'Where is your faith?' he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, 'Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.'

Dates for the diary

Girls Allowed Thursday 27 February in Church at 2.30 pm for an afternoon of table talk and light refreshments with the return of a mystery speaker! Everyone welcome. Please let Judi know if you are able to come: judithstannard@outlook.com or 01803 211947



2 March at 3pm Newcomers' Tea If you are new to our church family please join us for a warm welcome at our Newcomers' Tea! We'd love to meet and get to know you. Enjoy refreshments, fellowship, and learn more about St Matt's. Please let the office know you are coming.

World Day of Prayer Service 7 March at 10.30am at Central Church. See posters.

Sunday Lunch at the Babbacombe Inn 16 March at 1.30pm (not the Hotel) If you would like to go please book with Gill Buick on 07709 727714 by 13th March (latest).



Spring is coming! Why not explore life, faith and meaning?

We will be running an Alpha course this spring. It will start on Monday 24 March and will be on zoom 7.45pm – 9.15pm. Please contact the office if you would like to know more or for the zoom link.

News

Thank you, Brian and Norma! Brian & Norma Gerry have faithfully served the church as 'licensed' ministers together for many years, but have now decided to retire from those formal roles. They are still very much part of our church family 😊, it's just we will see them 'up front' less often. We pray for God's blessing on them in this new chapter.



LENT 2025 Lent Course "Streams of Living Water" by Richard Foster

Over six weeks we will explore six distinct spiritual traditions: Contemplative, Holiness, Charismatic, Social Justice, Evangelical, and Incarnational. We'll be learning how each tradition offers unique pathways to deepen one's relationship with God, fostering a holistic Christian spirituality for us as individuals and as church. Each week, we look at a different bible character, historical figure and practices within Christianity.

Tuesday evenings beginning 11 March in the Hall 7pm for 7.30pm

Repeated on **Wednesday mornings** in the Lounge at 10am from 12 March

Ash Wednesday 5 March

- Join Bishop James for prayer at St. Matthias 1.30pm – 2.30pm. See posters
- Service of Holy Communion at 7pm (no 9am on 5 March)

Electoral Roll Becoming a member of the Church Electoral Roll is a good way to show your commitment to the life and mission of our church. It allows you to take part in important decisions: vote in the annual church elections (coming up on May 18th), be eligible for joining the PCC (Parochial Church Council) to play a role in shaping our future together. If you consider St. Matthias to be your spiritual home, we warmly invite you to join the roll. (You may already be on the roll, but every 6 years, we have to prepare a brand new roll. Please look out for an email about this or pick up a form at the back of church or see Paulina (ER officer).) Thank you. *(And if you would like to receive the weekly notices by email please complete a data protection form – GDPR – also available at the back of church.)*

Prayers for this week **Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. Romans 13:1 NLT**

Mon We pray for many more leaders across the world to follow your ways. We ask for peace for those at war, integrity in politics, compassion for the poor, rest for the displaced and freedom for your church to preach the gospel.

Tues We pray for our Prime Minister, members of the cabinet, MPs, peers in Westminster and elected representatives in Belfast, Cardiff and Edinburgh. Lead them into truth and virtue as they make legislation and take decisions.

Wed We pray for local councillors, mayors and police and crime commissioners. Please inspire them to work together productively, promoting respect and unity as they serve the communities they represent.

Thurs We pray for Christian politicians. Inspire them to apply your Word to their decisions as they tackle issues of ethical and moral importance. Bless and strengthen them to help them to speak up and act with dignity.

Fri We thank you for those responsible for upholding high standards in public life and for checks that maintain transparency and accountability. We ask that any issues will be dealt with with justice and integrity.

Sat We pray for those who face the huge moral and practical implications of Artificial Intelligence advances that will affect every aspect of life. May they seek your wisdom about how to keep our world safe and guard against future threats.

Sun CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY SUNDAY. Thank you, Father, for all Christian organisations, churches and individuals helping the UK to be a place where all can live a full life, free from poverty and giving people dignity and hope.

Library Did you know we had a library in the church building? It has a large selection of books which you are very welcome to borrow including some for Lent reading. Why not have a browse after church on a Sunday? You can find it downstairs half way along the corridor on the right. Books are also available in church on the shelf near the kitchen.

