



Welcome!

Either in church or online via our YouTube channel

<https://tinyurl.com/88s6x6fd>

or via the church website - follow links from 'online services and worship resources' on home page

Sun 23 January	8am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>) in church
	11am Morning Worship in church and livestreamed https://youtu.be/b5onwAPR_JM Christian Unity Activity Sheet
	5.30-6.30pm 'Encounter' a youth-led gathering for all in church

Our readings today are:

1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a

<https://tinyurl.com/2p98f9pc>

Luke 4: 14-21

<https://tinyurl.com/yc3xfhrz>

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 fears
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:



Those who
organise
'Churches
Together'
groups across
the Bay

Tues 25 Jan	9.00 -11.30am Toddlers in church
	12-1.30pm Matts Knits in the Hall
Wed 26 Jan	9am Holy Communion (<i>Common Worship</i>) in church
	10.30-11.30am Church open for private prayer
Thurs 27 Jan	10.30-11.30am Church open for private prayer
Fri 28 Jan	10-11.30am Mummy & Me in church
	6.30pm Youth Alpha – Why and How do I Pray in the Hall
Sun 30 Jan	8am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>) in church
	11am Family Holy Communion and Healing Service in church

Covid – any news?

As we go to press, we have no new official guidance about measures to protect everyone – so we assume nothing will change for this week. However, even were some of the measures to be officially lifted over the coming weeks, we still need to be aware that rates in Torbay are very high – and of the warnings from many people, like the director of the WHO, who remind us that Covid remains a potentially nasty disease, and it is likely that we will want to continue to be kind to one another and continue to be careful. So please continue to:

- use the hand sanitizing stations.
- wear a face covering, and we *request* that people do a "Lateral Flow Test" before coming to church if you can please.

Please don't come to church if you feel unwell with any flu or cold symptoms. Thank you.

Ways to serve in the church

Weekday Lunchtimes From mid February we are going to be opening up the church at lunchtimes to provide a quiet space for anyone wishing to pray, to light a candle or just to have some quiet time. Would anyone like to join a team of people happy to steward this from 12-2pm every weekday? You would be most welcome. Please speak to Pere in the office on 214175. (Please see the note below on safeguarding.)

Coffee makers We're sorry not to be able to provide coffee after the services at the moment but all being well, we hope to resume in mid February. In the light of this we are looking to expand the team of servers and if anyone would like to join please contact Pere in the office on 214175.

Platinum Jubilee weekend in June – please think and pray about how St Matthias can best serve the community for these celebrations – and in particular let us know if you would be able to be part of a planning group for this.



Minibus we are hoping to be able to start to offer lifts to church again when it is safe to do so...in order to do this we need to find a team of drivers. If you wish to find out more please contact Andrew Stilliard on 07729 362802. (Please see the note below on safeguarding.)

St Matthias is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. In order to keep everyone safe we have a 'safer recruitment' procedure that we ask all volunteers to follow and all appointments are subject to acceptable pre-appointment checks.

Events

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th- 25th January

To help us pray for the unity of the church, you may like to use some of the prayer guide material produced by Christians in the Middle East at home this week, which you can find here:

<https://ctbi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/WPCU-2022-English-A5-1.pdf.pagespeed.ce.c2Ohs37kOX.pdf>

Torquay Community Larder...thank you for your continued support of the Larder with your generous donations. They continue to welcome all tinned food, cereal, tea etc – they are overflowing with rice and pasta 😊

Begin Well ... our fourth Antenatal Course is starting on Thursday 3rd February at 7.30pm. We are hoping to be able to meet in Church but failing that, we will be on Zoom! Please contact Lena on 01803 295268 for further information or book via Begin Well Torquay Eventbrite.



Tickets are now available for the New Year Dinner on Tuesday 8th February at Amici Restaurant in Torwood Street. Please book early to avoid disappointment as places are limited. Get your menu order sheet from Christine Tibbetts or speak to her on 01803 291033 or 07789 692321.



LIVING
IN LOVE
& FAITH

Diaries out please! LENT begins soon!

- **Ash Wednesday 2nd March** – *with an early evening Communion time tbc*
- **The Lent Course this year is 'Living in Love and Faith'**

A 5 week course on Monday evenings from 7th March, repeated on Wednesday mornings from 9th March. It intends to provide a safe space to listen to one another and to God to explore human identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

These are really important subjects, but ones we find hard to talk about, so the national Church of England has produced this course to help us do that. The Staff Team here ran the course themselves in November and warmly commend it to everyone. You can watch a 2 minute intro video by copying this link into your browser <https://tinyurl.com/y2s66r8x>

We'll share more details over the coming weeks, but for now, please put the five Mondays or Wednesdays in your diaries!

Readings for Today

1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptised by one Spirit so as to form one body – whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ And so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I don’t need you!’ And the head cannot say to the feet, ‘I don’t need you!’ ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

Luke 4: 14-21

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners

and recovery of sight for the blind,

to set the oppressed free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'

Prayer

Suggestions for our Praise and Prayer

Sun. At the end of this week of Prayer for Christian Unity we pray that the Church of God, especially in Torbay, may learn more and more to be one in life and witness

Mon. Please continue to pray for the ongoing work of our government, nationally and internationally, when so much attention is focused on the party gate issues.

Tue. "Living in Love and Faith" This course is being planned as our Lent course. Pray that even now we will show respect, love and willingness for us all to learn together.

Wed. Please pray for the people of Tonga following the tsunami, for aid to reach, for recovery of infrastructure, for those who are grieving and mourning the loss of family & friends, for the government, for neighbouring countries giving assistance & for the other countries in Melanesia also affected.

Thur. We pray for the 4th. "Begin Well" Antenatal Course beginning on Feb. 3rd. Pray for the 'Mums to be' that they may see the love of Jesus in Lena and the other leaders.

Fri. We pray for the work of the Church Centre, for the group leaders and for all who attend the classes, lectures, events.

Sat. Pray for those who have just had operations or procedures, those waiting, those with other unpleasant situations and pressures in their lives.

Sun. Jesus commissioned us all to go into the world and make disciples. Pray that as a Church we may be obedient and be concerned for the spiritual life of our local society.

To contact the Church:

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