


Sunday 25 January 2026

Welcome!



Join us in church or online

www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams

Sun 25 Jan 	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together
	11am Morning Worship <i>followed by tea/coffee</i> https://tinyurl.com/e896tdsn
	5.30pm 'Praise @ 5.30'
Mon 26 Jan	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i>
Tues 27 Jan	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i>
	9-11.30am Toddlers
	12-1.30pm St Matts Knits
Wed 28 Jan	9am Holy Communion
	12-2pm Welcome Space – <i>coffee, soup and chat! All welcome</i>
Fri 30 Jan	9-11.30am Mummy & Me
	1pm Funeral of Anthony Hindley
	6.30-8pm Youth Club 'Taste of Italy'
Sun 1 Feb <i>With Archdeacon Douglas Dettmer</i>	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together <i>with breakfast from 9.15am</i>
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by tea/coffee</i>

Collect

God of all mercy, your Son
proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives, and freedom to the
oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free to praise you in
Christ our Lord. **Amen**


Thanks go to:

Our Youth Group leaders

For Morning Prayer online, we use the Church of England
'Daily Prayer' app and meet on ZOOM using this link:

tinyurl.com/2t56wex5

You are welcome to join us!

The words we use can be found here,

with an audio version: tinyurl.com/2djd3t7f



Readings

Acts 9:1-22

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' ⁵ 'Who are you, Lord?' Saul asked.

'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' he replied. ⁶ 'Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.'

⁷ The men travelling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything. ¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, 'Ananias!' 'Yes, Lord,' he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, 'Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.'

¹³ 'Lord,' Ananias answered, 'I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.'

¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, 'Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.' ¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord – Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here – has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptised, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰ At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. ²¹ All those who heard him were astonished and asked, 'Isn't he the man who caused havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?' ²² Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

Galatians 1:11-17. ¹¹ I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. ¹² I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. ¹³ For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. ¹⁴ I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. ¹⁵ But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being. ¹⁷ I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus.

News

JOB ADVERT Post of Church Administrator & Centre Manager

St. Matthias is looking for a dynamic Church Administrator and Centre Manager to help to ensure the smooth operation of the church and busy church centre. For further information and a job description please see the Church website under Vacancy: <https://tinyurl.com/4jj6k5ht> or contact Sylvia on 07812 941029.



School News: Open the Book: This week Helen will be visiting Warberry and Ilsham Academies on Wednesday and Thursday looking at Jesus Light of the World.



Alpha is a space to unpack the basics of the Christian faith together.

You can find out more here <https://alpha.org.uk/>

We plan to run an 8 week course after Easter – please have a word with one of the clergy to find out more.



Torquay Community Larder is very grateful for all the donations made over the past years. Demand for our service has increased recently and stocks are running low. Any tinned or packet items are appreciated - even pasta and beans! Thank you once again for your support. (Please leave donations in the box in the Linkway.)

Charlie Allansen has let us know that since his computer crashed he lost most of his email addresses. If you would like to continue getting his emails about Men's Breakfast, please let him know on charlieallansen@gmail.com



Dates for your diary

Anthony Hindley's funeral will be held here, on **Friday 30th January at 1pm.** Our thoughts and prayers are with Sally and her family.



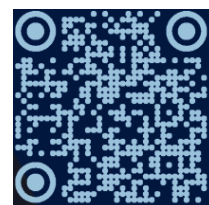
Thursday 5th February The Friends of St Matthias' New Year meal will be held at **Amici restaurant** in Torwood Street at 7 for 7.30pm Open to all - members and non - members. You can book now - we're looking forward to seeing you there for an evening of good food and great fellowship! Nick Hewlitt, Chairman 07749 595599

Missions Action and Girls Allowed will be co-hosting an evening for everyone on Thursday 26th Feb (not 22nd!), starting at 6.30pm for coffee and dessert, followed by a talk by Linda Townsend. Please book with Judi at judithstannard@outlook.com Suggested cash donation of £3 on the night.

Saturday 28th Feb @ 7.30pm

Jonathan Veira **'Not Dead Yet'** and only £10 per ticket!

An uplifting musical celebration full of life, love and laughter. You'll laugh and cry... and go home with a song in your heart! QR code for more information. Hope Church, Dawlish 01626 923365



PCC POINTS OF PRAYER

The PCC held a meeting on Monday, 12 January and prayer is requested for:

1. **Pray** that God will guide those involved with the process of appointing our new Rector, giving them both wisdom and discernment.
2. **Pray** for the many opportunities we have to share the love of Jesus with our community; for the amazing volunteers who sacrifice their time to put on the different events.
3. **Pray** for the financial situation of the church – that people will feel led by God to give generously, to enable us to continue to use the building for worship and to serve our community.

The minutes of our previous PCC meeting dated 10 November 2025 can be found on the notice board in the Hall.

Nicci Maxwell's latest newsletter is here: <https://tinyurl.com/yk9vhnk4>

Daily Reflections from the Bible Society *for those who want to read the whole Bible in one year* - Have a look here <https://tinyurl.com/2z88t2as>



Ecochurch - Many of you will be aware that a couple of years ago St Matthias achieved a Bronze Ecochurch award, which reflects our commitment to live out the biblical teaching on Creation Care, and is encouraged by the diocese. In the past we have had Lent Challenges to help us think about practical things that each of us can do but this year there will be a monthly 'Ecoaction idea' for everyone to consider. Watch this space!

Prayers for the week

Mon Dear God, please help me to make a difference in my community.

Tues Lord, please give me your strength to live boldly as a believer in your son.

Weds Thank you that the good news of Jesus is for everyone.

Thurs Faithful God, thank you for being my enduring resting place.

Fri Thank you for giving us your Holy Spirit and for the future hope we have in you.

Sat Dear Lord, please help me as I embrace the task you've called me to do.

Sun Lord, help me to draw near to you instead of pulling away. Please give me your daily guidance to keep me on the right path.

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