



Welcome on Advent Sunday

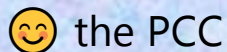
Join us either in church or online via our YouTube channel

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

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

Sun 27 Nov Advent Sunday	8am Holy Communion <i>(from the Book of Common Prayer)</i>
	9.30am Explore Together
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Morning Worship <i>followed by coffee</i> https://youtu.be/ChRv-zuiMD8

Thanks go to:



Collect Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Have you done the SURVEY?

last chance this SUNDAY!

Help us discern God's way for the church

Church usually open for visitors/prayer Monday – Friday 12-2pm

Tues 29 Nov	9-11.30am Toddlers <i>in the church</i>
	12-1.30pm Matt's Knits <i>knit and natter in the Hall – all welcome</i>
Wed 30 Nov	9am Holy Communion <i>Do join us and have a coffee afterwards</i>
	10am Ukrainian support group/coffee morning
	12-5pm Warm Space in the church – <i>hot soup, hot drinks & chat</i>
	7.15-9pm St Matts Gospel Singers <i>practice in church</i>
Fri 2 Dec	10-11.30am Mummy & Me <i>in the church</i>
	6.30-8pm Youth Club
Sat 3 Dec	9am Men's Breakfast at Grand Hotel – <i>Brian and Norma to speak</i>
	7.30pm Concert – <i>Torbay Singers – Bach's Magnificat & more</i>
Sun 4 Dec	8am Holy Communion <i>(from the Book of Common Prayer)</i>
	9.30am Explore Together
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee</i>

To contact the church: Office 01803 214175;

Rector: John Beckett 01803 293119 jandrbeckett@outlook.com;

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

Please note that our services are often live-steamed

Readings for Today

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not covet,' and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law. ¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Matthew 24: 36-44

³⁶ 'But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

⁴² 'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Dates for your diary!

Concerts 26 November and 3 December in the Church – South Devon Choir and Torbay Singers – see posters for more details

Friends of St Matthias Christmas lunch – Headland Hotel 4th December This Sunday 27th Nov is the final date for booking your lunch and making your menu choices. Come and see us at the Friends' table in church this Sunday. We look forward to seeing you there. For more info contact Rob Newman on 07305 681522.

Girls Allowed Monday Dec 5th @ 7pm Back by popular request – our Christmas recipe sharing evening in the church. Please bring a few copies of your favourite recipe and, if possible, a sample that people can taste. There will be mulled wine and

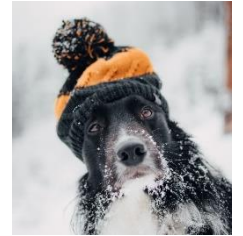
mince pies. A donation of £3 would be welcome. If you would like to come please phone Judi on 01803 211947. Marjorie, Elaine, Susie, Andrea and Judi.

Warm space - continues this week!

St Matthias opened their doors for a weekly **Warm Space** last Wednesday from 12noon to 5pm. Several attended so do drop in for hot soup, a roll and hot drink, a chat and to keep warm. Everyone welcome! Special time to socialise, make new friends, join in an activity or enjoy a book and save on heating! See the board at the back of church for details.



Winter Fuel Allowance Would anyone like to donate some or all of their fuel allowance to help those who are in need this winter? If you are in the PGS scheme, you can call them to change it for one payment by phoning: 03330 021260, or, if paying by BACS, the Church's account details are: Sort Code: 40-52-40, Account No. 00017933 Please mark your payment 'Winter Fuel'. Thank you.



Other News

Survey help please

Please help us discern the next steps God wants for us as a church community by completing a specially designed online survey. It's anonymous and only takes about 10-15 minutes! Just click on the link here <https://form.typeform.com/to/rAn5RyYS> (you'll need to know that we're in the Totnes Archdeaconry and our Mission Community is St Matthias Torquay.) If you have time, please also complete this second, shorter survey too – even though it looks as though this is not meant for church family to complete! <https://hop8a5h9biq.typeform.com/to/lw54PtGg> Thank you very much.



NEXT STEPS

WOW - 168 Christmas Shoeboxes! Huge thanks to everyone who has contributed to this fantastic number - 53 more than last year! In reaching this we have been supported by the Lions, Ilsham and Abbey Schools and St Andrews Methodist Church Shiphay. We will be delivering them this Saturday to the truck for their journey to Moldova. The link below will take you to the amazing work of the CR2EE charity... <https://tinyurl.com/2mca7tbe>

Christmas Wreaths – profits to the Church Missionary Society (Nicci Maxwell Uganda) We will be making and selling beautiful 12 inch fresh Christmas wreaths and selling outside the church on Sunday 18th December at the 11am service. To order contact Lena on 01803 295268.

Prayers

Suggestions for our Praise and Prayers this week

Sun Pray for Pete and Rachel Norris as they start their new ministry at Bay Church.
Mon Please pray for members of our fellowship who have been recently bereaved, are sick, awaiting a procedure, or just feeling unwell, that the Lord will touch them.

Tue There was some disappointment at the formal declarations at the end of COP27. Please continue praying for vitally urgent action to save the planet.

Wed Ukrainian support group today. Please pray for all who attend. Pray too for their country, still at war, and needing help from the West.

Thu Please pray for the Christians in Qatar, some of whom are in prison for their faith. Please pray for the media during the World Cup that they may focus on Christians as well as other minorities in Qatar and similar countries.

Fri As the Bible tells us to do, we pray for our King, Royal family, Prime Minister and Government and all who lead nationally and locally, especially Kevin Foster MP.

Sat Please pray for the away day of the PCC on Saturday 3rd December, that the Lord may give them wisdom and guidance on the way ahead for our church.

Sun As we begin the preparations for Christmas (Advent) may we make sure that we keep Jesus at the centre of our actions and not get caught up in materialism.

Christmas Services



The poster features a dark blue background with white stars and a central yellow box containing service details. At the top left is the 'Follow The Star THE GREAT INVITATION' logo, and at the top right is the 'st matthias' logo. The main title 'Christmas Services' is in white, with 'St Matthias Church' in yellow below it. The service schedule is listed in white text on the yellow background, including dates, times, and descriptions. At the bottom, contact information is provided in white text.

**Follow The Star
THE GREAT
INVITATION**

**st
matthias**

Christmas Services.

St Matthias Church

Sunday 18 December
5.30pm Carol Service

Tuesday 20 December
3.15pm Messy Church
To book: stmattscw@st-matthias-church.org

Thursday 22 December
4.30pm & 6pm Carols on the Piazza
with mulled wine

Christmas Eve

3pm Crib Service **5pm Christingle Service**
especially for younger children especially for children & families

11pm Midnight Holy Communion
also livestreamed

Christmas Day

8am 'Prayer Book' Holy Communion
10am Family Christmas Communion
also livestreamed

www.st-matthias-church.org admin@st-matthias-church.org
01803 214175 www.facebook.com/stmatthiaslorquay

CHRISTMAS!

Welcomers and Stewards Would you like to welcome the congregation and visitors to our church over Christmas? We are looking for people to help at our services on Christmas Eve. Please see the sign-up sheets at the back of church.