



WELCOME!



Sunday 5 February 2023

www.st-matthias-church.org

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 5 Feb	8am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>)
	9.30am Explore Together with breakfast!
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee</i> https://youtube.com/live/sMnf8kgfBZE?feature=share

Thanks go to:



Singers and
musicians

Collect

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together,
and by our lives as they are transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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

Mon 6 Feb	7pm Girls Allowed Film Night <i>in the church</i>
Tues 7 Feb	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>
	7pm – New Year Meal at Amici
Wed 8 Feb	9am Holy Communion <i>Do join us and have a coffee afterwards</i>
	9.40am Ukrainian support group/coffee morning
	12-5pm Warm Space <i>in the church</i>
	7.15-9pm St Matts Gospel Singers <i>practice in church</i>
Thurs 9 Feb	1pm Funeral of Alistair Vickers
	7.30pm Begin Well – <i>ante natal course in church</i>
Fri 10 Feb	10-11.30am Mummy & Me <i>in church</i>
	2pm Thanksgiving Service for John Hart https://tinyurl.com/4n989zfm
	6.30-8pm Youth Club – <i>in the Hall</i>
Sun 12 Feb	8am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>)
	10.30 Gather to Pray
	11am United Family Service <i>followed by coffee</i>

Readings for today

Isaiah 58: 1-12

‘Shout it aloud, do not hold back.

Raise your voice like a trumpet.

Declare to my people their rebellion
and to the descendants of Jacob their
sins.

² For day after day they seek me out;
they seem eager to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that does what is
right

and has not forsaken the commands of
its God.

They ask me for just decisions
and seem eager for God to come near
them.

³ “Why have we fasted,” they say,
“and you have not seen it?”

Why have we humbled ourselves,
and you have not noticed?”

‘Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as
you please
and exploit all your workers.

⁴ Your fasting ends in quarrelling and
strife,
and in striking each other with wicked
fists.

You cannot fast as you do today
and expect your voice to be heard on
high.

⁵ Is this the kind of fast I have chosen,
only a day for people to humble
themselves?

Is it only for bowing one’s head like a
reed
and for lying in sackcloth and ashes?

Is that what you call a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ ‘Is not this the kind of fasting I have
chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice
and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free
and break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your food with the
hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with
shelter –
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
and not to turn away from your own
flesh and blood?

⁸ Then your light will break forth like the
dawn,
and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness^[a] will go before
you,
and the glory of the LORD will be your
rear guard.

⁹ Then you will call, and the LORD will
answer;
you will cry for help, and he will say:
here am I.

‘If you do away with the yoke of
oppression,
with the pointing finger and malicious
talk,
¹⁰ and if you spend yourselves on behalf
of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the
oppressed,
then your light will rise in the darkness,
and your night will become like the
noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you always;
he will satisfy your needs in a sun-
scorched land
and will strengthen your frame.
You will be like a well-watered garden,
like a spring whose waters never fail.

¹² Your people will rebuild the ancient
ruins
and will raise up the age-old
foundations;
you will be called Repairer of Broken
Walls,
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

Matthew 5: 13-20

¹³ 'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴ 'You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practises and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

News & Events



Girls Allowed Film Night

Mon 6 Feb at 7pm in the church - we will be watching 'Quartet' and there will be light refreshments.

For more information please phone Judi on 01803 211947.

Amici Restaurant 7 February 2023 Do join us if you can. See Christine after the service on Sunday morning or call Rob on 07305 681522.

The Thanksgiving Service for John Hart will be on Friday 10 February at 2pm – all welcome.

After the service you are warmly invited to join the family in the restaurant at Kents Cavern for refreshments. <https://tinyurl.com/4n989zfm>

The Winter Night Shelter has now been running for 2 weeks at the ROC Centre in Old Mill Road, 7 nights a week, and due to continue for another 4 weeks, with up to 12 guests who are very pleased with the welcome, the meals and the night's sleep in the warm and dry. Two requests: Pray for the guests that they may have a restful time. Volunteers: we have enough, just, but a few more would ease the burden and fill in gaps for an evening or particularly an overnight shift.

Contact Mark Gridley at newfootingsministries@gmail.com or phone 07712 892735 if you can help or speak to Norman Doidge after the service.

LENT COURSE



Where: In church

When: Monday evenings @ 7pm (coffee) for a 7.30pm start

Date: Beginning on 27 Feb

What: The course is called 'Growing Good'.

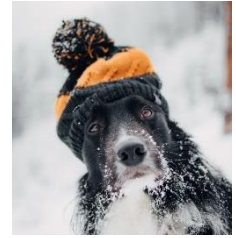
See video clip for more information

https://youtu.be/Xcw_6CXo8ZY

From the St Matthias Communications Group: we are trying to improve our social media, website and publicity! If you would like to be involved in anything involving 'comms' please let Pere know or email Suzy sjwright1717@gmail.com.



Warm space – is open every Wednesday from 12-5pm - everyone welcome! Come and have some lovely soup, hot drinks, chat...



Contact Lists The new and updated Church Family Contact List is available at the back of church today. A donation of £1 towards printing would be appreciated.

Easter Eggs! We would like to give our Pre-School children and children of families using the Food Larder, a Meaningful Chocolate Company Fair Trade milk chocolate Easter egg - that's about 64 eggs! Each egg comes with an Easter Story booklet. If you would like to give £4.50 to cover the cost of an egg, please see Linda Townsend between 10.30 & 11 on Sunday morning. You can also add your own order for family and friends! Click here for more information <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk>

Prayers

Suggestions for our Praise and Prayers this week

Sun Praise God for our leadership under John Beckett's direction. Please pray for all who lead any organisation or activity that they may have strength and wisdom.

Mon Pray for the arrangements for events at the church to celebrate the Coronation, for a real community gathering. Please pray for the King and the Royal Family in their own plans.

Tue Continue to pray for Nicci Maxwell, CMS Mission Partner, that she may regain full health and have wisdom for her work.

Wed We desperately need peace and harmony in our world and country. Pray that God will touch the hearts of leaders.

Thu Pray for General Synod reviewing permission for same-sex weddings in Church; pray that they will show care, love and respect and discern the right way forward; for unity after whatever decision is taken.

Fri Pray for the recently bereaved, the sick and those waiting a long time for procedures, and those affected by financial constraints.

Sat Pray especially for our Church Wardens Cheryl Bevan and Paul Stannard, and for Pere Snow our Church Administrator.

Sun Jesus said "love one another", so let us be more aware of those around us with special needs, especially the elderly.

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