



www.st-matthias-church.org

01803 214175

Sunday 11 December 2016


Welcome!

We are delighted to see you, especially if this is your first visit. Please do join us for refreshments in the hall after the 10.30am service.

Today

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	All Age Worship with baptism of Benjamin and Constance Maddock
Lunchtime	Friends lunch at the Headland Hotel
5.30pm	Prayer Meeting in the Hall with tea at 5pm

During the Week

Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9.30-11.30am 'Open House' parents and toddlers in the Lounge
	1.30pm Warberry Academy Lessons and Carols
	6pm Ilsham Academy Nativity
Wed	9am Holy Communion followed by coffee in the Lounge
	11am Funeral of Leslie Beasley
	6pm Warberry Academy Lessons and Carols
Thurs	10am Pre-School Nativity
	10.30-11.30am Prayer Meeting in the Ark
	2pm Ilsham Academy Christingle
	5.30-7pm Choir rehearsal for Christmas in the church
	 Wellswood Street Party in the evening
Fri	6.30pm Youth Club party in the Hall

Sunday 18 December

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
6pm	Carols by Candlelight



Christmas



- **Christingle Workshop.....**

Come and join us on Friday 23 December in St Matthias Hall, from 2.30pm to create some Christingles. All parts of the Christingle will be supplied, all we need are some workers to put them together.

Refreshments will be served and music to sing along to. So bring your parents, grandparents, friends and relatives. Ring me on this number to book your place at the workshop: 01803 296204 or sign the sheet at the back of the church. *Monica Rook*

- **Christmas Services** Dates and times of our Christmas services are on the website and on posters around the building.
- **Carol singing** in the residential homes on Mon 19 and/or Wed 21 Dec. See the posters for details and please sign up at the back of church.
- **Anode** Deadline for donations for hampers is today please.
- **Give a painting this Christmas to raise funds for the St Matthias Christmas collection.** Mike Burt has a number of his watercolours for sale. Phone 01803 328229 to arrange for an open house viewing and a cup of coffee. No obligation to buy....just browse and enjoy the coffee!

Magazine new Christmas edition now available – pick up a copy today.

New sound system is now up and running and the existing team are looking for budding sound operators to join them. If you think this could be you, please see John Gingell or the clergy.

Are you a volunteer at the church? Then please do come to a ‘thank you’ get together in the Lounge on Friday 6 January at lunchtime, 12noon – 2pm. Hope you can make it. Pere

Christ Church, Ellacombe The Bishop of Exeter has approved proposals for the closure of the parish church of Christ Church, Ellacombe as a place of regular public worship, and further proposes that the parish is divided between St Matthias, St Mary Magdalene Upton and All Saints Babbacombe. Details of the proposals can be found in the entrance porch, the linkway and on the Church of England website.

Bible Notes Suzy Young is now taking orders for your bible notes for next year.

Messy Church Join in the fun on Tues 20 December at 3.15pm.

'A Miracle in a Bowl' Christmas Collection We are continuing our usual custom of giving away the cash collection at our Christmas eve and Christmas morning services this year. The charity we are supporting is Tearfund's child feeding programme in Burundi. How many children could we feed?

Church Army Boxes Please return them to Anne Dunnage for opening as soon as possible. Thank you.

Some topics for our prayers this week	
Sun	"Come Lord Jesus" Pray for "All Age Worship" and for the Maddock family as Benjamin and Constance are baptized and formally welcomed into the Church family.
Mon	Pray for Anode's work in Torbay and for all the local homeless folk.
Tues	For all children in our Parish that they may understand the real meaning of Christmas and not just the material and social things.
Wed	Pray for all we know, especially in the Parish, who are sick, suffering in any way and all who are bereaved, that they may know the comfort Jesus brings.
Thurs	For peace in our world, especially in the Middle East. For Amy and David Roche our CMS Link partners.
Fri	For all the Church Staff as they prepare themselves for Christmas and prepare to make Jesus known in the services and other activities.
Sat	Pray that "we" may prepare ourselves for Christmas and pray for those who find it a sad and lonely time.
Sun	For the services today that we may all be willing to look back with thanksgiving to God for what He has done, and forward with excitement for His coming again.

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings

James 5: 7-10

⁷ Brothers and sisters, be patient until the Lord comes again. See how farmers wait for their precious crops to grow. They wait patiently for autumn and spring rains. ⁸ You, too, must be patient. Don't give up hope. The Lord will soon be here. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, stop complaining about each other, or you will be condemned. Realise that the judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ Brothers and sisters, follow the example of the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. They were patient when they suffered unjustly.

Matthew 11: 2-11

² When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?' ⁴ Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.'

⁷ As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Contacting the Church

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