



Being Generous like Jesus

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	Morning Worship <i>in the church with speaker Claire Speake</i>
10.30am	Prayzone <i>in the Hall with speaker Claire Speake</i>
6pm	Winter Night Shelter

During the Week

Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9-11.30am Open House parents and toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
	7.30pm St Matts Cats
ASH WED	9am Morning Prayer <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i>
	12 noon-1.30pm Lent Lunch <i>in the Hall</i>
	7pm Holy Communion
Thurs	10.30-11.30am Prayer Meeting <i>in the Ark</i>
	2.30pm Chat @ St Matts <i>in the Hall</i>
Fri	7pm Youth Club <i>at St Mary Mags</i>

Sunday 5 March

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Breakfastzone <i>in the Hall with breakfast at 9.15am</i>
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
6pm	Winter Night Shelter

Collect

Holy God,
 you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
 set straight our crooked hearts,
 and bend our wills to love your goodness
 and your glory
 in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings

John 6: 1-15

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing those who were ill. ³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming towards him, he said to Philip, 'Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?' ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, 'It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!'

⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹ 'Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?'

¹⁰ Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, 'Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.' ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴ After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, 'Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.' ¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

John 19: 38-42

³⁸ Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. ³⁹ He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about thirty-five kilograms. ⁴⁰ Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. ⁴¹ At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴² Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was near by, they laid Jesus there.

For your prayers and praise this week

Sun	Pray for today's services and those who lead them. Pray for the night shelter folk, that they may know Christ's welcome and presence. Thank God for those who undertake to help them.
Mon	Pray for Amy and David Roche, our CMS Partners in Beirut, their family, for their safety and encouragement as they seek to make Jesus known.
Tues	Pray for all the courses being planned - Alpha, Lent and Confirmation.
Wed	The Bible tells us to pray for those set over us. So... we pray for Her Majesty the Queen and all the Royal family, our Prime Minister and all members of the Government, especially Kevin Foster our M.P.
Thurs	Pray for all the Home Groups meeting around the Parish and elsewhere, that God will meet them at their point of need.
Fri	Remember before God all who need our prayers and a touch from the Lord - the sick, the worried, the bereaved, the house bound and those in difficult relationships.
Sat	Praise God for our Rector John and Ruth and their family. Pray for John as he leads us forward as a Church.
Sun	Pray for ourselves and our families some separated from us or in other countries.

What's on and notices

Tearfund is one of the main charities we support at St Matthias, and today we welcome Claire Speake to tell us more about Tearfund's work.

Claire, a professional solicitor, has been a Tearfund Speaker since 2012. She is very involved with the ministry of global mission and has visited our work in Cambodia. She is passionate about speaking for us because she believes "Tearfund's greatest desire is to obey Jesus and glorify God in all it does and to work through God's people all over the world to reach out to those in poverty." She wants people to catch the vision that "we in the UK can actually be part of that wonderful work, even though we are physically nowhere near those who suffer." ***Find Claire over coffee in the hall after the service and pick up a leaflet if you are prompted to become a Tear Fund supporter yourself.***

Do you receive bread and wine at our communion services? If not have you thought about confirmation which is the usual 'gateway' to doing this. Bishop Nick is coming to take a confirmation service here on **18 June**. To find out more please speak to one of the clergy.

Open Church...volunteers are required to join the team welcoming visitors to the church each weekday morning - either to join as a reserve for occasional help or to help once a week. For more details please see Pere in the office.

Night Shelter ...continued thanks for all your support. Last week we welcomed 12 guests and are looking forward to opening our doors again tonight.

Ladies' Pudding Evening - enjoy puddings, a glass of wine and coffee; a chance to chat and share some food for thought with speaker, Suzanne Dugmore. Friday 24th March at 7.30pm in the Hall. Tickets £5 from Ruth and other Social Core members or the Church Office.

Enquiries: jrmp@btinternet.com or 01803 293119

LiNX Elevate activities week at Upton Vale 31 July – 4 August – more info from Ruth Jones.

Coffee makers Please collect your new rota from the pigeon holes in church. Thank you.

Events elsewhere...

Professor John Bryant **“Science and Faith in conversation”** stimulating talks on 9, 16, 23, 30 March at Exeter Cathedral and University. No cost but tickets required. For more info see <http://oncommonground.net>. Ian Lane has kindly offered to give a lift to these events – please contact him on 607345.

Ladies Day at Brunel Manor Sat 8 April ‘Calling and Purpose’ with speaker Louise Sibley. For more information please see www.brunelmanor.com.

LENT

- **Ash Wednesday 1 March**

9am Morning Prayer & 7pm Holy Communion

- **Lent Course with David Harley: “Jesus and his friends: His farewell message and prayer” (John chapters 14-17)**

- Tuesdays at 7.30pm: 7, 14, 21, 28 March in the Hall

see posters for more info

- **Lent Books** are now available from the book stall at the back of church. Also see forthcoming magazine for a review of the Archbishop of Canterbury’s 2017 Lent Book ‘Dethroning Mammon’.

- **Lent Lunches** begin this Wednesday 1 March and continue every Wednesday during Lent 12 noon – 1.30pm. All proceeds to Christian Aid. Please do come and support this worthy cause.