



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

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| 8am | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| 10.30am | Morning Worship |
| 10.30am | Prayzone |

During the Week

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| Tues | 9am Morning Prayer |
| | 9am Open House parent and toddler group <i>in the Lounge</i> |
| | 7.30pm St Matt's Cats |
| Wed | 9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i> |

Sunday 30 April

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| 8am | Holy Communion (BCP) |
| 10.30am | Church Family Worship and Annual Meeting |
| 11.45-1pm | Formal part of Church Annual Meeting |

Collect

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. Amen

Contacting the Church www.st-matthias-church.org

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Readings

Acts 2: 14a & 22-32

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

²² 'Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
you will not let your holy one see decay.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence."

²⁹ 'Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

John 20: 19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!'

But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.' ²⁸Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!'

²⁹Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' ³⁰Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



'Grounded in Faith...Growing to Serve'

Amazing news! Thank you! We have been pledged or given about £190,000. Because there may have been some people who were away at Easter the barrel will remain 'open' until Sunday 30 April after which there will be another update on the latest amount. Please continue to pray for the re-ordering scheme as we hope to submit the 'Faculty' (= planning permission application) in 3 weeks' time.

Special appeal pens available at the back of church £1 each.

East Africa Crisis Appeal Cake Sale Game Changers will be holding a cake sale after the main morning services **today** in aid of the East Africa Crisis Appeal. Please enjoy our cakes and give generously.

What's on and notices

Annual Church Reports available today. Take home a copy (one per household please) to read through before the annual meeting on 30 April.

Annual Church Meeting 30 April Please come to a special morning church service at 10.30am where we will be encouraged to hear about some things which God has been doing among us this year in different groups and activities. At 11.30am there will be a short break for coffee and then the formal meeting begins at 11.45–1pm.

Pigeon Holes please pick up your *Daily Readings* and a letter about *Sticky Faith*.

Sticky Faith 10 May @ 7.30pm A free seminar at St Matts about how to help children hold on to their faith as they grow up.

Bernard and Rosie wish to thank the church family for all their good wishes for their diamond wedding anniversary.

'Just one' A new fellowship and bible study group for solos starting on Mon 24 April 10.30am-12noon in the Ark. Please see Gillian Rose or Paul Barton.

Friends News This year the Friends of St Matthias are celebrating 20 years of working with the PCC to maintain and enhance the fabric of our church buildings. We are now approaching a major new phase in the life and growth of St Matthias and as part of that can I ask you to consider three points?

1. On the evening of 18th May we are planning a celebration here. We hope you can come. You will receive an invitation but please put the date in your diary now.
2. We are seeking two new Trustees to help us in our work. Would you like to know more? Please speak to me.
3. We are getting nearer our objective of signing up all church members as members of the Friends, though we still have a little way to go. If you have not yet joined please reflect ... and act. It's just £10 a year. *Rob Newman*

| For our prayers and praise this week | |
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| Sun | Praise God for our "Game Changers" who have made cakes to sell in aid of the East Africa Crisis Appeal. Pray for all the Aid Agencies seeking to bring relief to so many in deep trouble. |
| Mon | Pray for our Prime Minister, Ministers of State and especially Kevin our local MP, that they may be wise and faithful in all their decisions as they start their election campaigning. |
| Tues | Praise God for the amount pledged for the Re-ordering and pray for John and the PCC as they plan for the future. Pray for all the congregation that they will really ask God if they should be giving more! |
| Wed | Praise God for all on the staff team, especially John our Rector, Paul and Stephen our Curates, that they may have God's infilling day by day. |
| Thurs | Remember all in places of hardship, suffering and violence and all leaders who are working for peace and unity in our world. |
| Fri | Please pray for all we know who are sick, housebound, bereaved or finding life 'just difficult' - may they know our Lord's touch on them. |
| Sat | Praise God for all the churches in the Bay, and pray there may be greater support of one another. |
| Sun | Pray for the Annual Parochial Church Meetings taking place today. Praise God for all that has been happening in our Church to extend the Kingdom of God. Pray for the election of a new churchwarden to replace Sylvia and praise God for her faithful work, much of it unseen and unknown. |

