



**Welcome!**

*We are delighted to see you, especially if this is your first visit.*

*Please do join us for refreshments after the 10.30am service.*

**Today**

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Breakfastzone <i>with breakfast at 9.15am</i>
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW) <i>(Welcomers' meeting at 12pm)</i>
Lunchtime	<i>Friends lunch at Livermead Cliff Hotel</i>

**During the Week**

Tues	9am Morning Prayer <i>in the church</i>
	9-11.30am Open House parents and toddlers group <i>in the Lounge</i>
	7.45pm Alpha <i>in the Lounge</i>
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in Lounge</i>
	5.30pm Christmas Choir rehearsal <i>in the church</i>
	7.30pm St Matt's Cats rehearsal <i>in the church</i>
Thurs	10.30-11.30am Prayer Meeting <i>in the Ark</i>
	2.30pm Chat @ St Matts – Christmas Tea <i>in the Hall</i>
Fri	6.30-8pm Youth Club <i>in the Hall</i>
Sat	9am Breakfast for Ladies and Men <i>at the English Riviera Centre</i>

**Sunday 10 December**

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	All Age Worship <i>(Night Shelter meeting for volunteers at 12pm)</i>
5.30pm	Youth Led Service

**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

**Contacting the Church**

[www.st-matthias-church.org](http://www.st-matthias-church.org)

01803 214175

**Rector:** John Beckett 01803 293119

**Curates:** Stephen Yates  
 01803 391435

Paul Barton: 07807 636470

## Readings

### Isaiah 64: 1-9

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
that the mountains would tremble before you!

<sup>2</sup>As when fire sets twigs ablaze  
and causes water to boil,

come down to make your name known to your enemies  
and cause the nations to quake before you!

<sup>3</sup>For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,  
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

<sup>4</sup>Since ancient times no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

<sup>5</sup>You come to the help of those who gladly do right,  
who remember your ways.

But when we continued to sin against them,  
you were angry. How then can we be saved?

<sup>6</sup>All of us have become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf,  
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

<sup>7</sup>No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us  
and have given us over to our sins.

<sup>8</sup>Yet you, LORD, are our Father.

We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD;  
do not remember our sins for ever.

Oh, look upon us we pray, for we are all your people.

### Mark 13: 24-end

<sup>24</sup> 'But in those days, following that distress,

“the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light;

<sup>25</sup> the stars will fall from the sky,  
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

<sup>26</sup> 'At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great  
power and glory. <sup>27</sup> And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the  
four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

<sup>28</sup> 'Now learn this lesson from the fig-tree: as soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. <sup>30</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>31</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

<sup>32</sup> 'But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup> Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. <sup>34</sup> It's like a man going away: he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

<sup>35</sup> 'Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back – whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or at dawn. <sup>36</sup> If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup> What I say to you, I say to everyone: "Watch!"'

## Act of Praise

Jesus, you came to live among us,  
born of the Virgin Mary.

We give you thanks:  
**and praise your holy name.**

Jesus, you come to us  
as we read your story in the Bible.

We give you thanks:  
**and praise your holy name.**

Jesus, you come to us as we take in faith  
the bread and wine.

We give you thanks:  
**and praise your holy name.**

Jesus, you will come to reign in glory.

We give you thanks:  
**and praise your holy name.**  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**



## Christmas

**Pens £1** a great stocking filler and helps to raise money towards the re-ordering of the church. Available from the back of church.

**Christmas Choir** rehearsals this week on Wednesday at 5.30pm and St Matt's Cats at 7.30pm.

**Carol Singing around the care homes** Wed 13<sup>th</sup> and Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. Please sign up at back of church.

**For a full list** of services around Christmas time, please pick up a single sided leaflet today. (Folded flyers only have main Christmas services listed.)

**For our prayers and praise this week**

Sun	<b>ADVENT SUNDAY</b> - pray that we all prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of Jesus and welcome Him into our hearts and lives. Pray for the services today, especially Breakfastzone. Praise God for all welcomers and may visitors feel welcomed and wanted.
Mon	Pray for peace and unity around the world. Pray for all who suffer as a result of man's war and from natural disasters.
Tues	Pray for <b>Tessa and Paul Barton</b> out in Nazareth at the moment, and thank God that He really is using them especially with spiritual warfare.
Wed	Pray for the <b>two choirs</b> preparing for Christmas and for those going to Care Homes. Pray for a greater outreach and witness to community around us.
Thurs	Pray for <b>Her Majesty the Queen and all the Royal Family</b> . Praise God with them as they celebrate the engagement of <b>Prince Harry</b> . Pray for them as they prepare for their wedding next May.
Fri	Pray for all who are ill, in hospital, awaiting medical results, bereaved, homeless or have problems of any kind, praying they may feel God at work.
Sat	Pray for the <b>Ladies and Men's Breakfast</b> at the Riviera Centre, praying that it will be a time of fun and fellowship. Pray for speakers <b>Phil and Jan Miles</b> .
Sun	Pray for the <b>Youth led Service</b> , praising God for the young who lead it. Pray for <b>Victoria Yates</b> as she begins her role as Youth Worker.

**Congratulations to Victoria Yates** who has been appointed as our new Youth and Children's worker from 1 December. Thank you for praying about this.



**TOWNS Winter Night Shelter** begins here after Christmas – they would be glad of any warm clothes you may be able to donate. (Bedding not required thank you.)

**Coffee rotas** New rotas ready for next 3 months. Coffee makers please look in your pigeon holes. Thank you.

**Bible Notes for 2018** Please see Suzy Young if you would like to order for 2018.

**New Wine and Spring Harvest 2018** Several of us have booked into week 2 of New Wine 5-11 August - discounted rates for early bird bookings before 3 Dec. Also Spring Harvest at Minehead 3-8<sup>th</sup> April.

**Situation Vacant** The Friends of St Matthias are seeking a Treasurer to take over from Chris Payne who will be standing down in June. If you are interested, or would like to know more, please speak to me or to Chris Payne. Rob Newman, Chairman Friends of St Matthias' 07971 186521.