



www.st-matthias-church.org

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4 March 2018

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.*

Today	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Breakfastzone with breakfast at 9.15am <i>in the Hall</i>
10.15am	'Ministry Fair' – <i>find your opportunity to serve (and at 11.45am)</i>
10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
11.45am	Coffee and 'Ministry Fair' – <i>find your opportunity to serve</i>
During the Week	
Mon	12.30pm Matt's Knits – <i>new social knitting group</i>
Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9-11.30am 'Open House' parents and toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
	7.15pm Lent courses continue – <i>meet in the Hall</i>
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i>
	10.30am Lent courses continue – <i>meet in the Lounge</i>
	12 noon Lent Lunch <i>in the Hall</i>
	7.30pm St Matt's Cats
Fri	6.30pm Youth Club <i>in the Hall</i>
Sat	9am Men's Breakfast at Kent's Cavern Café
Sunday 11 March	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	All Age Worship
5.30pm	Evening Communion
Sunday 18 March	
<i>10.30am Holy Communion, baptism and confirmation with Bishop Sarah</i>	

Collect

Eternal God, give us insight
to discern your will for us
to give up what harms us
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings

2 Corinthians 8: 1-12

And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: they gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶ So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷ But since you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you – see that you also excel in this grace of giving. ⁸ I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. ¹⁰ And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹ Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. ¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

Mark 12: 38-44

³⁸ As he taught, Jesus said, 'Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the market-places, ³⁹ and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets. ⁴⁰ They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.'

⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few pence.

⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on.'

For our prayers and praise this week

Sun	Pray for the "Ministry Fair" that people will be given a vision of what goes on in the Church and where we might get involved. Make this a real prayer for all in church.
Mon	Praise God for people who God is healing - April and Malcolm Ford, that they will continue to feel God's healing; for Ben Cowdry running the London Marathon sponsoring "The Teenage Cancer Trust" and praise God for his recent healing, and for others feeling God's touch on their lives.
Tues	Praise the Lord for the "Torquay Community Larder" who help so many during this very cold weather. Pray for all homeless and others at risk.
Wed	Praise God for the Ministry of Mark Comer and Peter Greig, the speakers (by DVD!) at our Lent Courses. Pray we may all become more like Jesus.
Thurs	Praise God for all members of the Staff Team and all who help in the church in so any practical ways. Pray for all the preparations building up to Easter.
Fri	Pray for peace in our world, and for leaders endeavouring to make peace.
Sat	Pray for all the activities and groups that meet in the name of the church, praying that they will all be safe from any dangers.
Sun	Pray for our services today that there will be a real sense of worship.

LENT 2018

- Lent lunches – every Wednesday 12-1.30pm (delicious cheese, bread, pickles etc) – all profits to Christian Aid ... and bring a friend!
- Lent courses Tuesdays @ 7.15pm and Wednesdays @10.30am – see below
- John Mark Comer will speak (on DVD) on 'Practising the Way of Jesus' looking at the spiritual disciplines eg fasting, prayer, solitude
- Pete Greig will help us to look at prayer (DVD)
- 'Generous God Generous People' - daily bible readings booklet - £1
- Maundy Thursday 29 March – 7pm Holy Communion service

What's On & News

The children's team is in need of some Happyland or Duplo figures for story/activity bags which are being made for young children to use during services. We also need 24-30 seed trays for use at Messy Church. If anyone could give either of these, we would be delighted! Please see or phone Judi S.

Coffee Makers The March rota is now in your pigeon holes. Thank you.

Pigeon holes - apart from the coffee rotas above, there is some post dating back at least to Christmas. Please have a look – you may find something interesting 😊

Torquay Community Larder donations requested - we particularly need cereal, long life milk, tinned veg, tinned fruit, instant coffee – thank you.

Ben Cowdry, our grandson, is running in the London Marathon for The Teenage Cancer Trust. Please see the notice in the Church Hall or ourselves, Jenny & Ian.

Men's Breakfast Sat 10 March at Kent's Cavern. See Charlie Allansen for tickets and information or c.allansen@btinternet.com

More dates for the diary at St Matts:
19 & 20 May Renewal Weekend

"Sleuth" ... the next Friends of St Matthias' event at The Little Theatre on 17 Mar - tickets on sale after the service £8.50 - proceeds to support the church.

A Three-Fold Hand Prayer to start each day

I hold up my hands as a symbol of surrender

Jesus, I surrender to your Lordship today

I surrender my preferences, my time,
my fears, finances, friends and family to you.

Hands Up
Surrender



I hold out my hands to receive all the good things you have for me.

The Father's love, your Holy Spirit, your grace, forgiveness,
your provision for me.

I also hold out my hands as a symbol that I am only a steward
of all that you have given me. I want to mirror your generosity
today and live an open handed life.

Hands Out
Generosity



I hold my hands forward as a symbol of mission.

I want to embrace and welcome your mission Lord,
to the lost, last, least and lonely – the poor, powerless, privileged
and persecuted.

Hands Forward
Mission



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