



### Welcome! Join us in church or online

[www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams](http://www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams)

The church is usually open on Wednesdays from 12-2pm for visitors or for personal prayer

<b>Sun 28 April</b>	<b>8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</b>
	<b>10.30am Gather to Pray</b>
	<b>11am Morning Worship</b> <i>followed by tea/coffee</i> <a href="https://youtube.com/live/nNSzlxEXW8?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/nNSzlxEXW8?feature=share</a>
	<b>5.30pm 'Praise @ 5.30pm'</b> <i>informal praise and worship</i>
<b>Mon 29 April</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom</b>
<b>Tues 30 April</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer on zoom</b>
	<b>9-11.30am Toddlers</b> <i>in church</i>
	<b>12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits</b> – <i>knit and natter</i>
<b>Wed 1 May</b>	<b>9am Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10am – 12 noon Ukraine support group</b> <i>in the church</i>
	<b>12-2pm 'Welcome Space'</b> <i>join us for soup, coffee and a chat</i>
<b>Fri 3 May</b>	<b>10-11.30am Mummy &amp; Me</b> <i>in church</i>
	<b>6.30-8pm Youth Club</b> <i>in the Hall</i>
<b>Sat 4 May</b>	<b>9am Men's Breakfast at the Grand Hotel</b>
<b>Sun 5 May</b>	<b>8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)</b>
	<b>9.30am Explore Together</b> <i>with breakfast!</i>
	<b>10.30am Gather to Pray</b>
	<b>11am Holy Communion</b> <i>followed by tea/coffee</i>

**Collect** Lord of heaven and earth,  
 as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in  
 prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose  
 hope, but always to bring our prayers before you;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Thanks go to:**  
 Our clergy team



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# Readings

**Acts 8:26-40** <sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.' <sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked.

<sup>31</sup> 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

<sup>32</sup> This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.'

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup> As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?' <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

## **John 15:1-8**

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

## Dates for the diary

**TODAY!** Sunday 28 April 'Praise @ 5.30pm' Our fantastic youth group have been leading this service for several months now (it's once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday) and are doing a super job...leading us in worship with songs, games, quizzes, dramas and generally having lots of fun as we praise God. It would be great to support them as they do this, so if you can, please join us. All are very welcome.

**Thursday 9 May at 9am** Service of Holy Communion for Ascension Day

**Change of date:** APCM now on 12<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon - straight after the 11am service. At this meeting we vote in a new 'PCC' the Parochial Church Council – who make the key decisions about church life. If you feel called to serve on this council, do chat to one of the clergy or wardens since there are vacancies! (And nomination forms available on the Welcome Desk.)

**Organ Extravaganza** The Friends of St Matthias are delighted that David Davies will be returning here on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** (at 7.30 pm) to follow up on the successful organ recital we enjoyed so much two years ago. If you enjoyed hearing him then you'll need no persuading. If you haven't yet heard him then now is your opportunity. For tickets and further information come and see us after the 11 am service on Sunday mornings. Or email or ring me for further information. **Rob Newman, Chairman 07305 681522** [rob.thenewmans@gmail.com](mailto:rob.thenewmans@gmail.com)

**Sunday 19 May @ 6pm** 'Thy Kingdom Come' celebration service at Exeter Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday. "An inspiring evening of prayer and worship led by Bishop Jackie and Bishop James, with music led by Andy Flannagan and a talk from Ruth Valerio." Free tickets from Event Brite <https://tinyurl.com/yuz69cuk>

**Church Family Away Day to Dawlish Warren 29 June** - a day to chat, play and eat together for all the generations in our church family – we've booked indoor hall space but there's plenty to do outside too of course. More details to come!

## News

Many of us will remember with fondness **Stanley Adams** and his wife Ann. They worshipped at St Matthias until moving to Bishopsteignton over 20 years ago. Stanley remained there after Ann's death, but sadly he has now died, on 6<sup>th</sup> April, the day after his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday, having moved to Camberley to be near his daughter, Rosemary. Rob Newman can pass on her details if you would like them.

**Electoral Roll** If you have been worshipping here for longer than 6 months you can join the Electoral Roll, which enables you to vote at the APCM and to help to make decisions for our church. Please see Paulina or fill in a form that is at the entrance of the church. (To be able to vote this year the deadline for completion of forms is Sunday 5 May.)

**Can you help? One of our church family is looking for a one-bed flat to rent.** Please contact Pere in the first instance. (01803 214175.)

## Use it –then lose it!

Look out for this new resource, still available this Sunday.

Use it first! and then 'lose it'

by giving the booklet to someone else to try praying!

<https://www.trypraying.org/>

The logo for 'trypraying.' is displayed in a teal-colored box. The word 'try' is in a smaller, lowercase font, and 'praying.' is in a larger, lowercase font, both in a white or light-colored sans-serif typeface.

**Choice Words – Newton Abbot** – our local Christian bookshop – are looking for volunteers – here are a few words from them. *Do you love books? Do you love serving Jesus? Are you friendly, willing to learn and blessed with some computer skills? Would you like to volunteer for at least a day a week with a small team in our Christian book shop? Full training will be given and we would also be happy to take older teenagers on Saturdays or during holidays. This would give them an opportunity to learn valuable retail skills required in the working world and to boost their CVs. If interested, get in touch: 01626 334 027 [shop@choicewords.co.uk](mailto:shop@choicewords.co.uk)*

## *Prayer* Suggestions for our prayers and praise this week

**All Scripture is God-breathed..... so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

**Monday** Please help us to accept and apply your inspired word equipping us for good works for Christ's sake.

**Tuesday** Lord Jesus, you challenged the devil as he tempted you by quoting scripture and that same powerful word is available to us to overcome evil. Help us in our daily battle.

**Wednesday** Thank you for the many ways which children can access scripture. May your word encourage them to know and trust Jesus.

**Thursday** We pray for the revitalisation and renewal of your church as Christians speak up for biblical integrity and give themselves in compassionate service to communities and the nation.

**Friday** We intercede for those who have a gift of evangelism. Fill them with your spirit as they share your gospel so that many will turn to faith in Jesus.

**Saturday** We pray that theologians, preachers, teachers and pastors will faithfully guard the truth of your word and share it with others that good works will touch and heal the lives of many. In Jesus name.

**Sunday** Thank you for your everlasting word of life planted in our hearts through every generation – transforming lives, building your church and growing the kingdom of God.