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27 January 2019

Epiphany 4

Welcome!

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

Please do join us for refreshments at 10.30am today.

Today	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Prayzone with speakers from LiNX
10.30am	<i>Coffee in the Hall</i>
11am	Morning Worship with speakers from LiNX
12.45pm	Thanksgiving service for Luna-Rae
5.30pm	Prayer Meeting
During the Week	
Tues	9am Morning Prayer
	9-11.30am Open House Parents and Toddlers <i>in the Lounge</i>
	12.30pm Matt's Knits <i>in the Lounge</i>
Wed	9am Holy Communion <i>followed by coffee in the Lounge</i>
Fri	6.30pm Youth Club
Sunday 3 February	
8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Breakfastzone <i>with breakfast at 9.15am</i>
10.30am	<i>Coffee in the Hall</i>
11am	Holy Communion

Collect

God of heaven,
 you send the Gospel to the ends of the earth
 and your messengers to every nation:
 send your Holy Spirit to transform us
 by the good news of everlasting life
 in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Contacting the Church

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Readings

Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹ All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

² So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. ³ He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

⁵ Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. ⁶ Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

⁸ They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

⁹ Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.' For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

¹⁰ Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

Luke 4: 14-21, 22-30

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' ²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were

fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, ‘Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.’

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. ‘Isn’t this Joseph’s son?’ they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, ‘Surely you will quote this proverb to me: “Physician, heal yourself!” And you will tell me, “Do here in your home town what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.”’

²⁴ ‘Truly I tell you,’ he continued, ‘no prophet is accepted in his home town. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed – only Naaman the Syrian.’

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

For our prayers and praise this week

Sun	Pray for our services today and all who lead them. Pray for Stephen in the Holy Land . Pray that he may find it a real blessing and a time he can walk with our Lord. Pray for Victoria and family left behind here in Torquay.
Mon	Much prayer is needed for the Wellspring Project . Pray for those preparing documents to go to builders etc for tenders. The PCC praise God for the generosity of people in giving in small but significant ways.
Tues	The PCC wish to appoint a team to help to do the work of the Treasurer as it becomes more onerous. Pray that we can find a team of people to do this.
Wed	Praise God for the many Home Groups , praying that everyone will find good fellowship and be built up in their faith journey.
Thurs	Please continue to pray for peace in our world especially where there are natural disasters and human stubbornness.
Fri	Pray for all who are suffering in one way or another, especially those recently bereaved.
Sat	Pray for the young people, in our schools, in our Youth club, and church. Pray for Victoria our Youth Worker. Pray too for our School, Street and Prayer Pastors who meet so many needy young people.
Sun	Praise God for our Staff Team and all who help in the Ministry of the Church . Pray especially for John, our Rector who bears the burden of leadership in so many areas.

What's on and News

The Friends of St Matthias Amici Meal Do join us at Amici restaurant on Wednesday 6th February at 7 for 7.30pm for our traditional New Year Italian meal. Tickets are on sale now on Sunday mornings over coffee. Rob Newman

You won't see **Stephen Yates** for a few weeks. He is currently in the Holy Land and will be beginning his curacy placement on his return. He's spending a month or so with the group of smaller churches based around Shaldon.

Wellspring Update

The Architect is visiting on Thursday this week to finalise the tender documents before they go off to contractors. We've also heard that the chairs are now ready for delivery. Thank you for continuing to pray about the Project.

Giving to support the church: We encourage people to give via the 'Parish Giving Scheme' (PGS) from their bank accounts. That's why the collection plate often goes around empty! So, if you are new to St Matthias, please do not feel you need to put any cash into the collection plate but do ask one of the welcomers for more information about the PGS. Thank you.

Men's Breakfast 9 February at English Riviera Centre with speaker Dave Burch. Contact Charlie to book. Email c.allansen@btinternet.com

We're sad to hear that Sally Salmon (Ann Gray's mum) died last week. Please note that her ***funeral date has changed and will be held on Fri 1 February at 11am.*** (St John the Apostle, Montpellier Rd, Torquay.) All are welcome. We have also heard that Joan Wakefield has recently died. Her funeral will be held at St Matthias on 7 February at 2.30pm. We pray for their families and friends at this time.

Winter Night Shelter 'Towns Project' - clothes and toiletries requested please. Good winter weight clothing eg jumpers, coats, gloves, hats, scarves. Underwear and socks (new please) and personal toiletries. Thank you so much. Please bring to church and put on the back pew. The first night is Sunday 10 February.

Advance notice for Lent – we are running a Lent course again this year on six Tuesday evenings and repeated on Wednesday mornings starting on 12 & 13 March.

Sunday 27th January is Holocaust Memorial Day – the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz by the Red Army. It commemorates the extermination of Jews and Roma as well as subsequent occasions of ethnic cleansing and genocide.

Thanks go to... the coffee makers ☺