

### Join us in church or online

[www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827streams](https://www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827streams)

<b>Sun 11 Jan</b>  	<b>8am Holy Communion</b> (Book of Common Prayer)
	<b>9.30am Explore Together</b>
	<b>10.30am Gather to Pray</b> <i>all welcome to join us before the service</i>
	<b>11am Morning Worship</b> <i>followed by tea/coffee</i> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/599sm6nc">https://tinyurl.com/599sm6nc</a>
	<b>5.30pm Prayer Meeting</b> <i>all welcome to join us</i>
<b>Mon 12 Jan</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer</b> <i>on zoom – details below</i>
<b>Tues 13 Jan</b>	<b>9-9.30am Morning Prayer</b> <i>on zoom – details below</i>
	<b>9-11.30am Toddlers</b>
	<b>12-1.30pm St Matts Knits</b>
<b>Wed 14 Jan</b>	<b>9am Holy Communion</b>
	<b>12-2pm Welcome Space</b> – coffee, soup and chat! <i>All welcome</i>
	<b>2.30-4pm Girls Allowed</b> – <i>see note which follows</i>
<b>Fri 16 Jan</b>	<b>9-11.30am Mummy &amp; Me</b>
	<b>6.30-8pm Youth Club</b>
<b>Sun 18 Jan</b>  <i>With Bishop James</i>	<b>8am Holy Communion</b> (Book of Common Prayer)
	<b>9.30am Explore Together</b>
	<b>10.30am Gather to Pray</b>
	<b>11am Holy Communion</b> <i>followed by tea/coffee</i>

### Collect

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen

😊 Thanks go to:  
The PCC secretary and treasurer – Ester and Margaret!

For Morning Prayer online, we use the Church of England 'Daily Prayer' app and meet on ZOOM using this link:

[tinyurl.com/2t56wex5](https://tinyurl.com/2t56wex5)

You are welcome to join us!

The words we use can be found here, with an audio version: [tinyurl.com/2djd3t7f](https://tinyurl.com/2djd3t7f)



# Readings

## Isaiah 42:1-9

'Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on him,  
and he will bring justice to the nations.  
2 He will not shout or cry out,  
or raise his voice in the streets.  
3 A bruised reed he will not break,  
and a smouldering wick he will not  
snuff out.  
In faithfulness he will bring forth  
justice;  
4 he will not falter or be discouraged  
till he establishes justice on earth.  
In his teaching the islands will put their  
hope.'

5 This is what God the Lord says –  
the Creator of the heavens, who  
stretches them out, who spreads out  
the earth with all that springs from it,  
who gives breath to its people, and life  
to those who walk on it.

6 'I, the Lord, have called you in  
righteousness;  
I will take hold of your hand.  
I will keep you and will make you  
to be a covenant for the people  
and a light for the Gentiles,  
7 to open eyes that are blind,  
to free captives from prison  
and to release from the dungeon those  
who sit in darkness.  
8 'I am the Lord; that is my name!  
I will not yield my glory to another  
or my praise to idols.  
9 See, the former things have taken  
place, and new things I declare;  
before they spring into being  
I announce them to you.'

## Matthew 3:13-17

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. 14 But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?'  
15 Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.' Then John consented.

16 As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said,

'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'



## News

**School News:** Open the Book assemblies are back at Warberry and Ilsham Academies. This week Helen is talking to the children about Jesus being left behind at the Temple.

**Alisdair Macdonald's** funeral will be held here at St Matthias on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 12 noon.**

**Anthony Hindley's** funeral will also be held here on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm.** Our thoughts and prayers are with both Carole and Sally and their families.



**After Christmas... why not explore life, faith and meaning?**

We will be running an Alpha course in the New Year.

Watch this space for details or speak with one of the clergy.

**Nicci Maxwell** – Nicci is our CMS link in South Sudan, based in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, providing paediatric and neonatal medical care to local and refugee communities, and training and supporting local paediatric teams. To read her latest newsletter click on the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yk9vhnk4>

It isn't too late to pick up with the **Daily Reflections** from the Bible Society, which take about 10 – 15 minutes.



Have a look here <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/daily-reflection>

**Daily reflections**



Designed for those who want to read the whole Bible in one year.

**Claire's licensing service** which took place earlier this week, can be seen here: <https://tinyurl.com/5amujycm>

## Dates for your diary

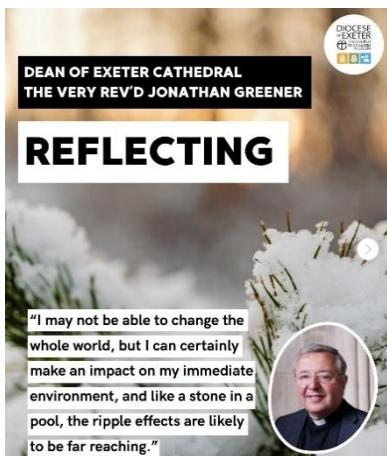
**Girls Allowed Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Jan @ 2.30 - 4pm.** All ladies are welcome to an afternoon of board games with tea and cookies in the church. Please reply to Elaine Biden at [elainebiden@hotmail.com](mailto:elainebiden@hotmail.com) or **01803 390222.** Donations of £3 appreciated. We look forward to seeing you! *Elaine, Andrea, Sue, Susie and Judi*



**Sunday Lunch?** We are resuming the Sunday lunches for 2026, starting on **Sunday 18th January.** By popular request we are again at The Central Conservative Club in Torquay, at 1.15pm.

Please contact Gill to book or for more information 07709 727714

**Thursday 5th February** The Friends of St Matthias' New Year meal will be held at **Amici restaurant** in Torwood Street at 7 for 7.30pm  
Open to all - members and non - members. You can book now - we're looking forward to seeing you there for an evening of good food and great fellowship! Nick Hewlitt, Chairman 07749 595599



### January Reflection from the Diocese Newsletter:

In their first monthly reflection of 2026 we hear from the Dean of Exeter Cathedral, the Very Rev'd Jonathan Greener, who shares about the importance of taking time to pause before we begin again in this New Year.

You can read the full reflection on their [social media](#).

You can also read a text-only version of this reflection on their [website](#).

## Prayers for the week

**Mon** Lord, we pray for all those parts of the world where there is unrest and war. Please bring peace and your love into those areas.

**Tues** Dear God, please encourage us to serve you this week and to remember that with you, small things can become mighty.

**Weds** Dear God, we continue to pray for a new rector for our church. Encourage us to continue to trust you as we wait for an outcome.

**Thurs** Lord, please prompt us to be mindful of your presence throughout today.

**Fri** Dear God, please help us to see others as you see them and thank you for the complete forgiveness of our sins.

**Sat** Dear Lord, please help us to rest in and rely on your abundant love towards us.

**Sun** Lord, please keep us from holding grudges and help us to forgive others as you have forgiven us.

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