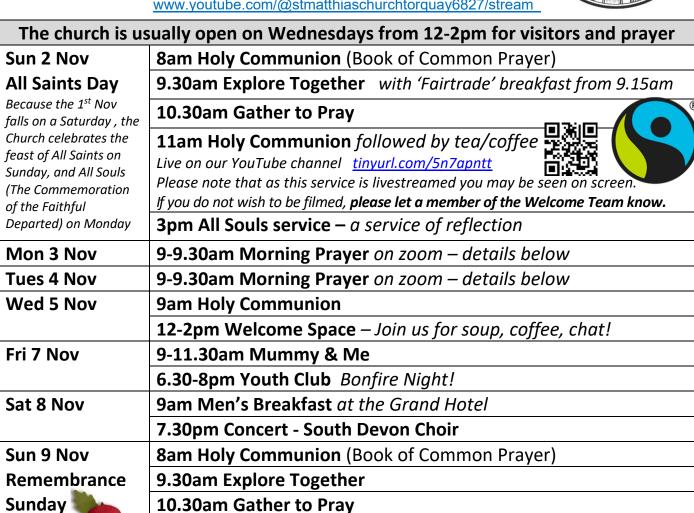


Sunday 2 November 2025 Welcome!

www.st-matthias-church.ora

Join us in church or online

www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/stream



10.45am United Family Service followed by tea/coffee

A chance to get together and pray for St Matthias as well as other issues

5.30pm Praying for the church – all welcome

Collect God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For Morning Prayer online, we use the Church of England 'Daily Prayer' app and this zoom link: tinyurl.com/2t56wex5 You are welcome to join us!

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

Thanks go to The lovely people who decorate the church week by week 💝

Church Office: 01803 214175 admin@st-matthias-church.org Rector: Vacancy – please contact the Office for any enquiries Associate Minister: Paul Barton 07807 636470 revpaulbarton@gmail.com Curate: Claire Reynolds 07858 313677 claire.reynolds.bmc@gmail.com Youth & Children: 07832 738998 helen.baker@st-matthias-church.org

Readings

Ephesians 1:11-23

¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory. 15 For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Luke 6:20-31

- ²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said:
- 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- ²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

- ²² Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil because of the Son of Man.
- ²³ 'Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.
- ²⁴ 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort.
- ²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.

- ²⁶ Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.
- ²⁷ 'But to you who are listening I say: love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who ill-treat you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Dates for the diary

Today, 2nd November, will be our Fair Trade Sunday. Join us for an organic/Fair Trade breakfast before the **9.30am** service - there will be blind chocolate tasting for the children. After the **11am** service, there will be samples of Fair Trade wine, more blind tastings as well as the usual Fair Trade tea and coffee. There will be presentations during each service.

Remembrance Sunday, 9th November advance notice that our service will begin at **10.45am**.

Girls Allowed will be meeting in the Hall on **Thursday 13th November @ 2.30pm** for Tabletalk followed by tea, cake and a mystery speaker and on **Monday 8th December @ 10.30 am** for coffee and mince pies (g/f available) at Me and Mrs Jones. Please reply to Judi (**01803 211947**) if you would like to come. *Elaine, Sue, Andrea, Susie and Judi*

A warm welcome awaits you at the Friends Christmas Market on Saturday 15th November between 10.00am and 1.00pm. Come along and enjoy our traditional pre-Christmas get-together over a hot drink and a mince pie. There will be a chance to browse through the Christmas Cards, craft stalls and displays providing the opportunity for some early Christmas shopping. Our activity area will provide entertainment for the children, to include competitions and face painting.

In the meantime, we would be grateful to receive donations of **jigsaw puzzles**, good quality **books** and **games** which you can leave in the Friends' labelled box in the Linkway. This year we are running a **bottle stall** and any donations (no spirits) should be left at the Friends Promotion Table. For more information please contact Christine Tibbetts on 07789 692321.

Saturday 15th November at 7:30 pm, Tear Fund Quiz in the church. Do come along with a team of 6 or come on your own and join a team. Pasties and cake and BYO*. Contributing to the brilliant work of Tear Fund. Contact us on ecoaction@st-matthias-church.org

[*BYO = Bring Your Own drinks, in case you didn't know!]

Sunday Lunch 16th November at 1.30pm We are going back to the Central Conservative Club in Union Street, the lunch was so good! To book please contact Gill on 07709 727714.

News



Shoebox Appeal As in previous years, we will be supporting cr2ee (Christian Response to Eastern Europe). If you'd like to send a Christmas Shoebox to someone in Moldova or Ukraine, pack a box full of new items – some practical, some to play with and some to wear, wrap it in Christmas paper, clearly mark it for a girl or boy (with suggested

age ranges), a family, a granny or grandpa, and **drop it into the Church by 16th November**. Pick up a leaflet for more information.

Update on recruitment of new rector

We continue to wait and pray, much as the disciples did after Jesus' Ascension.

The diocese will be readvertising the post in due course, and the plan is to hold interviews in the New Year. Please continue to pray that God will be stirring the heart of his chosen person, for strength for Paul, Dallas and Claire as they carry extra burdens and for all of us, that God will help us to be strongly supportive of each other and outward looking so that we grow in our faith and as a Church in this period of waiting.

Claire's last Sunday with us will be December 7th. There will be a special opportunity to say good bye and thank you to Claire and Al over tea in the hall that afternoon, 3.30-5pm, after the Friends Christmas Lunch. If you would like to contribute to a leaving gift for Claire there will be a collecting tin at the back of the church/hall.

School News The Open the Book Team are back in school this week. Monica Rook will be telling the story of Esther to the children at Warberry and Ilsham.

Brian Pearce was the St Matthias PCC Treasurer some time ago. Subsequently he and his wife Norma moved to the Isle of Wight, then Teignmouth and eventually to Corsham, Wilts. Brian died on 12th October and his funeral will be on Friday 28th November near Corsham. Please remember Norma and the family in your prayers.

6.

CONCERTS THIS AUTUMN at ST MATTS

8 Nov @ 7.30pm South Devon Choir Rutter & Puccini

22 Nov @ 7.30pm Torbay Singers Bach: Mass in B-minor

8 Dec @ 7.30pm Rock Choir

13 Dec @ 7.30pm Big Noise *Christmas* Concert

See posters around building or concert websites for more information

Prayers for this week

Sun International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church Pray for brothers and sisters – fellow saints – who suffer because they are followers of Jesus.

Mon Pray the conflict in Ukraine will end soon - with a just and fair peace settlement.

Tue Pray for those ministers considering Pastoral Vacancy - that they may have a sense of God's call on their lives and discerning a "good fit" of pastor and church.

Wed Pray for Welcome Space as it meets today that those who come may feel they belong.

Thur Pray for Claire Reynolds and her family as they prepare for the new ministry in Okehampton.

Fri Pray for Christians in Myanmar, as Buddhist-nationalist military persecute the church.

Sat Pray for those who work as local counsellors and in the Town Hall.

Sun Pray for the staff team that they will feel new energy and strength during the Pastoral Vacancy.