



Welcome



Sunday 28th January

www.st-matthias-church.org

Welcome! Join us in church or online

www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams

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

Sun 28 Jan Candlemas	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Morning Worship <i>followed by tea/coffee</i> https://youtube.com/live/Ygv42wG5Qxo?feature=share
	5.30pm 'Praise @ 5.30'
Mon 29 Jan	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom</i>
Tues 30 Jan	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom</i>
	9-11.30am Toddlers Group
	12-1.30pm St Matt's Knits – <i>knit and natter</i>
Wed 31 Jan	9am Holy Communion
	9.40am Ukrainian support group
	12-2pm 'Welcome Space' <i>in the church</i>
Fri 2 Feb	10-11.30am Mummy & Me <i>followed by workshop 12-2pm</i>
	6.30pm Youth Club
Sat 3 Feb	9am Men's Breakfast at The Grand torbay.mens.breakfast@gmail.com
	1.30pm Torbay Singers workshop <i>in church</i> www.torbaysingers.org
Sun 4 Feb	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together <i>with breakfast!</i>
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by tea/coffee</i>
	3pm Newcomers Tea

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel:
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God. **Amen**

Thanks go to
Our musicians



Readings

Hebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Luke 2:22-40 Jesus presented in the temple

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord’), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: ‘a pair of doves or two young pigeons’.

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ ‘Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.’

³³ The child’s father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: ‘This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Dates for the diary

‘Marking Lent’

This year’s Lent course is an **exploration of Mark’s Gospel** over 5 Tuesday evenings beginning **20th February at 7.30pm (7pm for refreshments)**. *(Repeated on Wed mornings at 10am)*. On Maundy Thursday 28 March (from 7- 9pm), we’ll listen to the whole Gospel together followed by a short service of Holy Communion.

Choral workshop 3 Feb @ St Matts – Torbay Singers invite you to join them – Brahms ‘Ein Deutsches Requiem’ from 1.30pm – see posters or www.torbaysingers.org

Tues 6th Feb from 7pm New Year meal at Amici restaurant in Torwood Street. If you’ve not yet booked your place but would like to join us, come and see us at the Friends’ desk at church on Sunday morning. **Rob Newman 07305 681522**

Friday 9 Feb @ 7pm Musical Variety Evening for Ukraine – St Matthews Church, Chelston – all proceeds to Ukraine. See posters or tickets on the door adults £10.

Israel and Gaza – need help understanding what is happening?

We have put together three resources to help us. Join in all that you can.

1. How to pray? A recent talk at St. Andrew’s Plymouth with the Dean of St. George’s in Jerusalem offers some guidance. [Click here](#) to watch the recording on YouTube *(with some annoying ads in the middle! ☹)*. Rev Richard Sewell is very happy for people to view the recording but please do not share it too widely.

2. ‘A simple, basic & prayerful introduction to the roots of the conflict.’

A seminar at St. Matthias, just for the church family here by Rev Robin Pirrie, a Don at Cambridge, and minister in Barnstaple. We are only sharing details of this in person at church services, or by contacting the church office.

3. “Thinking about Israel’s claim to Israel and its biblical underpinnings” by Dr Megan Warner **Wednesday 28th February 7pm on zoom**

Megan is Tutor in Old Testament and Biblical Hebrew at Northern College/Luther King Centre for Theology and Ministry and holds positions as Honorary Researcher at the Universities of Exeter and Manchester. To be sent the (free) zoom link, please complete the booking form on the Diocesan website here (the course is definitely open to all, and is listed towards the bottom of the form)

<https://exeter.anglican.org/ministry/ordained-ministry/continuing-ministerial-development-clergy/>

News

How green is your garden? Environmental concerns in gardening.

Save the date: **27th April at 2pm**. Many of us enjoy gardening and gardening programmes, even if a balcony or window box. But how do we translate our environmental concerns when we put on our gardening gloves? This afternoon event

will help us! It will provisionally include peat free compost, no dig gardening, what plants work well in a coastal environment, planting edibles and herbs, companion planting, wildlife in the garden, mental well-being, drought resistant plants, Torbay green spaces and similar. More to follow...

A note from Compassion following the Christmas gifts towards hungry people in Togo: *Thank you so much for standing in the gap with us... again! £657.58 is an incredible blessing and will make a real difference to the beneficiaries.*

And also from Exmouth based CR2EE, 'Christian Response to Eastern Europe', the other charity we supported at Christmas: *'Please thank all your lovely congregation for their continued help. We loaded an articulated lorry last week and this was unloaded in Ukraine yesterday...Please may I ask you to pray for the pastors in Ukraine. They continually have to give comfort to those whose loved ones have been killed or wounded, support those who have lost their houses etc. in the war...'*

Prayer Suggestions for our prayers and praise this week

Monday *"Here is my command - Love one another, just as I have loved you." John 15 v.12*

Let's pray that this week we will be able to give someone our love that perhaps we have not found very loveable!

Tuesday *"Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory"* Let's pray that before we condemn others we will look at ourselves in the light of this verse!

Wednesday *"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."* Ps 150v6

With all the problems of the world that weigh heavily on us let's not forget at the beginning of this new month to praise God for his creation and all the good things he has given us.

Thursday *"He has not forgotten the one who is hurting. He has not turned away from his suffering, He has not turned away from him. He has listened to his cry for help."* Psalm 22 v24. Pray today for all those suffering through persecution, wars, or as a result of natural disasters. Help us to know where and who you are asking us to help.

Friday *"The Lord is good to all. He shows deep concern for everything he has made."* Psalm 145v9 Pray today for all the sick and bereaved known to us, particularly those in our own church fellowship.

Saturday *"Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth."* But the Lord said to me, *"Do not say, 'I am only a youth'; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak"* Jeremiah 1 v 6-8 Pray today for all young people known to us that those who know You will be able to witness to their friends. Pray too for those who work with young people across Torbay.

Sunday *"Lord, all the nations you have made will come and worship you. They will bring glory to you. You are great you do wonderful things. You alone are God."* Psalm 86 v 9-10 Let's pray today that many throughout the nations may enter the house of God and be saved.

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