



Join us in church or online www.youtube.com/@stmatthiaschurchtorquay6827/streams	
Sun 8 Mar <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Living Water</i> 	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together with Communion
	10.30am Pastoral Care – <i>are YOU being called to help serve in this area? Join us to find out more - meet at the back of church</i>
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Morning Worship <i>followed by tea/coffee</i> https://tinyurl.com/y7tj2itr
	5.30pm Praying for the church and wider world
Mon 9 Mar	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i>
Tues 10 Mar	9-9.30am Morning Prayer <i>on zoom – details below</i>
	9-11.30am Toddlers
	12-1.30pm St Matt’s Knits – <i>knit and natter!</i>
	7 for 7.30pm Lent Course – week three – in the Hall
Wed 11 Mar	9am Holy Communion
	10am Lent Course – week three, repeated in the Lounge
	12-2pm Welcome Space – <i>coffee, soup and chat! All welcome</i>
Fri 13 Mar	9-11.30am Mummy & Me
	6.30-8pm Youth Club ‘Scavenger Hunt’
Sat 14 Mar	9am Men’s Breakfast at The Grand torbay.mens.breakfast@gmail.com
Sun 15 Mar MOTHERING SUNDAY	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
	9.30am Explore Together
	10.30am Gather to Pray
	11am Holy Communion <i>followed by tea/coffee</i>

😊 **Thanks go to:**
Pere!

Collect
 Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

For Morning Prayer online, we use the Church of England ‘Daily Prayer’ app and meet on ZOOM using this 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



Church Office: 01803 214175 admin@st-matthias-church.org
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Readings

John 4:5-39

⁵ Jesus came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'

¹¹ 'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?' ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?'

¹³ Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' ¹⁵ The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.'

¹⁶ He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.' ¹⁷ 'I have no husband,' she replied.

Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.' ¹⁹ 'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.'

²¹ 'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.' ²⁵ The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' ²⁶ Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.'

The disciples rejoin Jesus

²⁷ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you talking with her?'

²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ 'Come, see a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?' ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way towards him. ³¹ Meanwhile his disciples urged him, 'Rabbi, eat something.'

³² But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you know nothing about.'

³³ Then his disciples said to each other, 'Could someone have brought him food?'

³⁴ 'My food,' said Jesus, 'is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵ Don't you have a saying, "It's still four months until harvest"? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷ Thus the saying "One sows and another reaps" is true. ³⁸ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.'

³⁹ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I've ever done.'

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

News

TODAY! Pastoral Team

One area where we **urgently** need more help is the Pastoral Team, which helps us to offer care to the church community in time of need. If you are interested in finding out more there will be a meeting in church at 10.30am on Sunday 8th March.



Starting on 14 April! Weekly on a Tuesday. Alpha is a space to unpack the basics of the Christian faith together. You can find out more here <https://alpha.org.uk/> Please have a word with one of the clergy to find out more.



Eco Action for March! This month's challenge is related to our individual carbon footprints. You may like to calculate the carbon footprint of your household, using the World Wildlife calculator - <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk> - or try to reduce your footprint (and bills!) by turning down the central heating thermostat by 1°C.



Dates for your diary

CONTINUING THIS WEEK! Lent Course: "How to be an overcomer"

Tuesday evenings (7 for 7.30pm until 9pm beginning with refreshments) and Wednesday mornings (10.00 – 11.30). Looking at the early life of King David led by Revd Andrew Green, Mar 10th/11th, 17th/18th and 24th/25th

Dine-out Sundays Our next lunch is on **22nd March at 1pm** at The Central Conservative Club, Torquay. Please note the change of time, and the lunches will be on the 4th Sunday of the month from now on. Please contact Gill for info or to book 07709 727714.



Calling all Quizzers! The Friend's next event is a Quiz evening to be held on **Saturday 11th April** from 7pm to 10pm. There will be a licensed bar and the cost per team will be £10. See you there! Nick Hewlitt (Chair).



Rising Lights is a great Christian Conference here in the Bay, **6-10 April**. There's too much for us to put here, but check out [the website](#) and this [video on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zzvtwmc) tinyurl.com/4zzvtwmc

School news: Our Open the Book assemblies continue this week, with Helen visiting Warberry and Ilsham to tell the children about the Sad Centurion.

Parish outreach for Easter

Can you help? We are seeking volunteers to take leaflets with information about our Easter services and weekly activities to streets in Wellwood, from **Saturday 28 March**, through Holy Week. A meeting will be held in church at 10.30am on that morning, to give out leaflets and allocate streets to visit, in pairs. Alternatively, perhaps you could give a few leaflets to friends and neighbours. Offers of prayer support would be warmly welcomed. For more information, contact Mike Higgins (07702 457350) or Joanna Wilkinson (07910 828321).

Easter Experience: This year we will be offering the opportunity for children from our local schools to visit the church for an interactive journey through the Easter Story. This will be on **Monday 16th & Thursday 19th March**. If you would be available to help with setting up, helping with the craft or refreshments then please sign up at the back of church.



Messy Church will be having it's own Easter Experience on Tuesday 17th March, 3.15pm-5.30pm. Come along for drama, craft and a meal together.

I am Mark ... is a bold telling of the Gospel of Mark and is a spectacular way to experience the Gospel and to perceive the Word (*capital 'W' intended*) in a whole new way. It is being performed in Brixham on 14th March – details here:

<https://iam-mark.com/performances>

Prayers for the week

Mon Lord, we pray for peace in all areas of conflict in our world.

Tues Dear Father, please forgive me for letting my heart become so easily distracted from good and right paths.

Weds Dear God, help me to share Jesus with everyone I meet.

Thurs God of grace, thank you for lifting my shame and sin through Christ's redeeming love.

Fri Dear God, thank you that you know me and value all I give you.

Sat Dear Lord, we pray for our clergy at St Matthias and thank you for them. We pray for Stephen Yates as he prepares to join us.

Sun Dear Jesus, please help me to see others as beautiful people created in your image.