



Parish of St Matthew, Surbiton

In the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry

18th February 2024

First Sunday of Lent

Today's readings: Philippians 2:1-11 & Matthew 6: 1-6,



Our 10.45 service is live-streamed on our [YouTube Channel](#) so your image may be visible on the stream. By attending onsite you are presumed to have consented to our Location Warning Notice which can be found in church or on our website.

9.00am Morning Prayer

Hymns: MP 372(omit v3), Lent Prose(Sh), Benedictus(Sh), MP 41(omit vv 2&4)

10.45am Worship Together with Holy Communion

Theme: "Celebration of Discipline"

This Week - "Solitude and submission"

We welcome the Rev Nicholas Lebey who will be leading our services today.

At the 9am service, the organ voluntary is Fantasia in C Minor (J S Bach).

Collect

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Motto Verse for 2024

*"Now you are the body of Christ, and each
one of you is a part of it."*

1 Corinthians 12:27

Give thanks for answered prayer and please pray for: Carolyn and William, THiS Team Ministry.

Miles Stuart-William, Mary Carter, Julie Martin and her family, Norma Yates.

For Robert, Vicky, Gillian, Emma, Alfie and all the family and friends of Doris Lelliott, a much loved long time member of our congregation, who died on 7th February. Her funeral, which will be conducted by Helen, is on Thursday 29th February at 11am in St Matthew's Church.

Diary for the Week - additional pages of notice sheet are on the church website at www.stmatthewskt6.org

Sunday	18th	5-6pm	Fuel (for ages 10-14) and Ignite (for ages 14-18)
Monday	19th	10.00am	Brunch Bunch Lenten Study: Sitzler Room
		11.00am	Holy Communion for residents at Milverton Care Home
Tuesday	20th	2.00pm	Bereavement Journey (Week 7): Chapel
Thursday	22nd	10.00am	Smarties Craft Group: Sitzler Group
		6.30pm	Choir Practice : Sitzler Room
Saturday	24th	10.00am	Garden/Coffee morning -see notice
		10.00am	Lent Pilgrimage for the climate -Kingston / Merton
		2.00pm	Quiz Afternoon : Church- see notice
<u>Sunday 25th</u>		<u>Second Sunday of lent</u>	
		9.00am	Holy Communion
		10.45am	Worship Together for all ages and stages

Vacancy update St Matthew's Rector- You are invited to share your thoughts regarding the role and person characteristics of St Matthew's new Rector. A guidance sheet is be provided for you to complete and these will, along with the information provided by the congregation for the Parish profile, feed into the role description and person specification document that will be approved by the PCC, Bishop and our patron. In order that this can be completed in a timely manner these sheets will need to be returned to Dave Farris not later than next **Sunday 25th February**. If you'd like the guidance sheet sent to you by email please request a copy from me at dave.farris@talk21.com The form can be downloaded from St. Mathew's church website, from the Keeping in Touch section; using the link within the Vacancy update No. 4 article.' Thank you for support during this time of vacancy. Dave Farris Lay chair PCC

Prayer Corner: As well as sharing your prayer requests with the congregation during "7 Whole Days", please feel free to use our prayer corner in the North Transept before and after services for quiet reflection, inspiration, and to display any prayer requests on the prayer board so others can join you in praying them.

Surprised by Generosity- This is the title of a new Lent course from the Diocese of Exeter. Based on the Gospel of Luke and featuring video reflections, interviews and group studies, it looks at God's generosity and at our call to live generously in return. Some of the house groups will be following the course, and there is a chance for others to join a group in church; depending on demand, this could be in the afternoon and/or evening: the possibilities are Wednesday pm, Wednesday evening and Friday pm. If you are interested, please let William know which you would prefer – 07818 641576 or wallberry49@gmail.com.

Lent booklets for daily reflection have been compiled by Carolyn and are ready for collection - I apologise that they are not as professional as in the past - my computer skills are somewhat lacking. The booklets are also available online to download as we are trying to avoid overprinting. Jackie

"Sing at St Matthew's" – Directed by Jason Edge

If you are someone who loves to sing (but welcomes flexibility) come and join us for 120 minutes of pure singing joy, on the third Saturday morning of each month between 9.45am -12.15am.

With "Sing at St Matthew's" there is absolutely no commitment or subscription (come and go when you please). There is no audition, you do not need to read music, but, of course, it helps, and there is no obligation to participate in any performances that "Sing at Matthew's" are invited to perform.

We will also be previewing forthcoming music that St Matthew's Church Choir will be singing in various services throughout the year. If we rehearse something you enjoy, you will be welcome to sing as part of the official choir for the service that features your favourite!

The initial dates are **Sat 17th February, Sat 16th March, Sat 20th April, Sat 20th May**. Do come along and tell your friends, the more the merrier. See poster at the back of Church and for more information email: jason.a.edge@gmail.com

Church Carpet -the carpet at the back of church will only be worked on the **2nd Saturday of each month**.

Quiz Afternoon - A series of social events have been planned for 2024. A flyer is available at the back of church with all the details. The first of these is a Quiz with Afternoon Tea, in the church, next **Saturday 24th February**, starting at 2pm. It's a family affair, with something for everyone. No tickets, no charge, just turn up and enjoy the fun! With each event, there will be the opportunity to make a donation to one of the many worthwhile charities that St Matthew's supports. In February, it will be the turn of Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness.



Eco Tips - Can you give up meat and/or dairy produce for Lent? - the single biggest way to reduce your carbon footprint. If not, might you cut down? Try a new vegetarian or vegan meal, and have at least two meat- and dairy-free days a week?

Save The Date: a reminder that the **St. Matthew's Weekend Away** is coming soon, on the weekend of **May 10th-12th**. Lots more information and opportunities to book will be available at our launch date on Sunday 25th February.

Lent Pilgrimage for the climate : Do you want to do something publicly to express our Christian concern about action on climate change? Bishop Martin of Kingston is leading a pilgrimage over six days in Lent to do just this. The Kingston and Merton section is on **Saturday 24 February**. A copy of the letter giving details is at the back of the Church, more copies are available if needed, just ask a Warden. A copy is also on the church website notice sheet (page 3). The online link to register is <https://southwark.anglican.org/news-events/events/whats-on/lent-climate-pilgrimage/> Those interested can also contact Sheena Evans (0208 399 2353) if they need help, or want to join up with others from St Matthew's for the walk.

Deanery Synod- St Matthew's is one of fourteen churches collectively represented on the Kingston Deanery Synod. The synod acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish and the synod of Southwark diocese as a whole.

Our area synod is keen to raise both its profile and involvement within member churches. Particularly looking to encourage and support (including assistance with enrolling on the appropriate courses) new readers and opportunities which may be available in other senior laity positions. For further details please have a chat with or mail Mark Curzon. markcurzon@icloud.com

Fellers

All gentlemen within our THiS community are cordially invited to join us at Fellers. Fellers is our THiS men's group encouraging friendship and fellowship as we grow in faith together. We used to meet (via Zoom) on the fourth Monday evening of each month in addition to coming together for occasional social events. Our last social gathering - the Fellers Christmas Dinner - was well attended and a really enjoyable evening. By popular agreement from our existing members we are relaunching the group. Reverting to meeting monthly in person at St George's Church lounge and switching to the fourth Wednesday, from Monday. Our next meeting is **28th February 8pm start**.

For further details please have a chat with Mark Curzon or otherwise mail me markcurzon@icloud.com

Kingston Foodbank- The box for food etc. donations is available at the **BACK OF CHURCH**.

They would also appreciate any money donations via their website: <https://kingston.foodbank.org.uk/>

KCAH- To donate please visit: <https://www.kcah.org.uk/can-you-help-us/donate-money/>

Giving to the church- Regular, predictable giving is of great value to the church as it helps us plan future expenditure. The easiest way of giving in this way is by setting up a standing order with your bank. This can normally be set up using your online banking or banking app. The key inputs are the amount the regularity of payment and the church bank details ie A/C name: Surbiton St Matthew PCC A/C number 50793698 Sort Code :20-46-73. If you do not have access to internet banking, you can still set up a standing order by writing to your bank with all the relevant details (including the account from which you wish the payment to be made).

The value of giving can be enhanced (by 25%) if you are a taxpayer and sign a gift aid form. This form can be found on the church website at www.stmatthewskt6.org/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=238647

Alternatively, paper copies are available at the back of church. It is also possible to give to the church in other ways.

Please contact the Treasurer (Tim Lucas) if you need any help in this area or have any questions.

Website: www.stmatthewskt6.org **email address:** admin@stmatthewskt6.org **Parish Office no.** 020 8390 5121. **Our Parish Administrator, Steve Blevins is working the usual hours Mon, Tues and Thurs 9am -1pm. During the Vacancy, if you need to speak to a member of the clergy, please contact either Rev Carolyn Lucas on 07933 022516 or carolynlucas@gmail.com or Rev William Allberry on 07818 641576 or wallberry49@gmail.com**

Church Notices- If you have any notices for the next weekly sheet, please contact Jennie or Jeff Akerman on jakerman28@btinternet.com or 8399 2549 or mob. 07519 514194, by **Thursday evening**,