

St Matthew's
MAIL

Suggested
Donation

£1.00

News from the Parish of Kingsley, Northampton

APRIL 2021



www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Services at the Parish Church of St Matthew

Please note: Below is shown the normal pattern of our worship at St Matthew's. However, as the present covid-19 pandemic restrictions ease, the church is now open for communal worship and offering a Sunday 10.15am Parish Mass and a Wednesday 7.30pm Mass of the day, with other services as advertised—please keep referring to our website for changes as they happen. Services will also be live streamed on our website and facebook pages.

Sundays

9.00am	Mass, with homily (with traditional language)
10.15am	The Parish Mass (sung)
5.30pm	Evensong — according to The Book of Common Prayer

First Sunday in the month

10.15am	All Age Mass for the Parish Family
5.30pm	Choral Evensong

*When the choir is on holiday (coinciding with school holidays and half terms)
Choral Evensong is replaced with Congregational Evensong*

Second Sunday in the month

9.00am and	Laying on of hands and Sacrament of Anointing is
10.15am	offered in the Lady Chapel
5.30pm	Congregational Evensong

Third Sunday in the month

5.30pm	Choral Evensong with Congregational Benediction
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Fourth and Fifth Sundays in the month

5.30pm	Congregational Evensong
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Weekdays *(During the winter months of November to March, held in the Parish Centre)*

Morning and Evening Prayer are said publicly at 9.00am and 5.30pm daily

Monday	7.00pm Mass (on Bank Holidays at 9.30am) (Healing Mass and Devotions on the first Monday in the month)
Tuesday	9.30am Mass <i>(suspended for the foreseeable future)</i>
Wednesday	9.30am Mass <i>(followed by coffee)</i>
Thursday	9.30am Mass
Friday	12 noon Mass
Saturday	9.30am Mass (Walsingham Cell Mass on second Saturday in the month)

Major Feast-Days

Procession and Sung Mass at 7.30pm

(Always held in church. The morning Mass may be cancelled— refer to literature in church)

Sacrament of Reconciliation, commonly known as Confession, is celebrated in the Lady Chapel by appointment with the clergy. They are also available for advice and guidance on any matter of concern. All aspects of the sacrament are in confidence.

Worship Calendar for April

<i>Date</i>	<i>Observance</i>	<i>Intention</i>
THE EASTER TRIDUUM — <i>communal worship resumes</i>		
1	MAUNDY THURSDAY	
2	GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION	
3	HOLY SATURDAY	
4	EASTER DAY	
	OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION	The Parish
5	Monday of Easter Week)
6	Tuesday of Easter Week)
7	Wednesday of Easter Week)
8	Thursday of Easter Week)
9	Friday of Easter Week)
10	Saturday of Easter Week)
11	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	The Parish
12	Feria	
13	Feria	
14	Feria	'Resurrection' in the natural world
15	Feria	
16	Feria	
17	Feria	
18	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	The Parish
19	S Alphege, B and M	
20	Feria	
21	S Anselm, B and Dr	Schools and their teachers
22	Feria	
23	S George, M, Patron of England	
24	Feria	
25	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	The Parish
26	S Mark, Evangelist	
27	Feria	
28	Feria	Our relationship with the international community
29	S Catherine of Sienna, V and Dr, Patron of Europe	
30	Monthly Requiem	The Faithful Departed

NB **Bold** denotes days on which a mass will be held in church

*The Church prays for the community daily.
Please include these topics in your daily prayers.*

April Letter from the Vicar

Easter: a time to colour outside the lines

It can't be done.

These are words we often hear, both from the world around us and inside our heads.

I can't. It is just... impossible.

Some things are hard to compute. There are too many lines drawn inside our minds, too many hurdles between A and B. Sometimes we see no way through at all.

It can't be done.

As we celebrate Easter, we come face to face with impossible things. It can't be done. Nonetheless, it turns out that God colours outside the lines. The way through is the most audacious one possible; the place that seems the hardest, the muddiest, the most blocked, becomes the path to freedom. We keep waiting for the right combination of factors, not understanding that there is no other way except to face the impossible and walk forward.

In the story we tell on Easter Day, the stone was rolled away. Life broke through death. The impossible was made possible. It is difficult to comprehend.

In the garden, Jesus walked.

This is the central premise of the Christian hope, the lynchpin, the tipping point. Without it our "faith has been in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:4). Believing the impossible is what we signed up for. Are we ready to embrace that? How can we live our lives differently because of this?

We are good at collecting self-limiting beliefs. Our minds are trained to accept things by habit. We can cling to our opinions out of sheer defensiveness without actually believing in them. Our doubt is often the thing that makes us afraid to consider things differently. We say the words, but our hearts remain closed; the stone is still in place.

What barriers have we built or reinforced by our thought patterns? What hurdles have we focused on, believing our legs are too weak to carry us over them? We often suffer from what I call 'perfect condition syndrome'. We tell ourselves when certain conditions are met, only then are the best things possible. But that's not our story; our story is one of strength through weakness, of unlimited grace beyond the constriction of circumstance.

In the time of Covid-19, many structures and routines have been pulled out from under us. But our story still stands, and stories have power. How do we live this story? Where have we idolised our belief systems rather than the person we claim to believe in? What do we need to shed in order to experience life in all its fullness? Perhaps we need to let go of some of the things we have clung to, stop focusing on colouring inside the lines and instead plunge into the joy of creative expression and unhampered love. Perhaps we need to de-tangle faith from religiosity. Perhaps we need to take one big deep breath and believe in the impossible: that the stone can be rolled away and the tomb truly is empty.

Happy Easter!

Your sincere friend and parish priest,

Fr. Nicholas

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 19

Christ is Risen – Are We?

So we enter our second Easter under covid restrictions. Some of our churches will be open for worship, and others won't. That is a tricky balancing act, and the decision has to be made by each Parochial Church Council, bearing in mind a number of factors.



If your church isn't open, please don't blame the vicar or PCC: they are doing their best in a very difficult situation. If it is open, but you don't feel safe going, find a way to join in corporate Easter worship from your home. If it is open, but with no congregational singing, no kiss or hug or handshake of peace, no communion wine, no coffee afterwards: be grateful that you can be together.

Whether your church building is open or closed at Easter, Jesus is alive, his people the church are alive, and our resurrection hope remains sure and certain.

Over the coming months, as lockdown is released (possibly in fits and starts, very gradually, frustratingly slowly), let's all resolve to know and experience and live out the new life which Jesus brings. How can you and your church be newly alive for your neighbours and your community? What new things should your local church be doing, and how can you contribute to those?

Many of our churches have been a huge blessing to their local communities during the dark days of covid. How can they change gear and bring blessing as we come out of the restrictions? Start discussing that in your church and with your friends!

Many of our clergy and church workers have been working incredibly hard without a proper break. Will your church make sure that the vicar, and others who have given so much, get a really good break this summer or autumn? Why not use online resources for worship to give the vicar a full uninterrupted month off this summer?

Let's really show that we love each other, and our communities, and our spiritual leaders. That could be a sign of the risen life of Jesus among us.

With best wishes

+Donald

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads '+ Donald'.

Produced by the Diocesan Office,
The Palace, Peterborough PE1 1YB
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Book Review: The Future of Brexit Britain

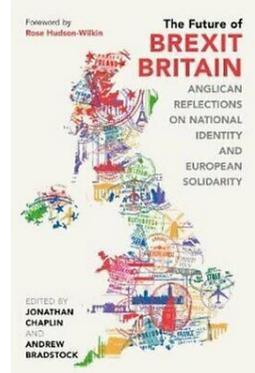
The Future of Brexit Britain:

Anglican reflections on national identity and European solidarity

Jonathan Chaplin and Andrew Bradstock, eds.

SPCK £12.99

Optimists beware: with 19 essays, six responses, a foreword, and the editors' introduction and conclusion, most readers will find their own views reflected somewhere, while other essays will arouse their irritation, even fury. The uncomfortable read that the editors promise, however, comes not so much from meeting views that you disagree with as from the evidence in these essays of the continuing deep and passionate disagreement. Presenting that in such a wide-ranging and substantial volume is a remarkable achievement on their part.



Many essayists reveal not just their opinions, but their wounds: on the Remain side, regret for having presented a somewhat visionless and utilitarian case for remain; on the Leave side, the continuing wish to justify the decision that they supported by critiques of the European Union and of the Church of England's apparent embrace of the Remain case. The self-flagellation of the former and the critiques of the latter contain important elements of truth; but such intense divisions could easily take a generation to transcend.

Yet there are here also hopeful signs of forward thinking, imagination, and intellectual fruitfulness to be found alongside the passionate conviction.

The Rt Revd Dr Peter Selby is a former Bishop of Worcester

An old man was wondering if his wife had a hearing problem. So one night, he stood behind her while she was sitting in her lounge chair. He spoke softly to her,

"Honey, can you hear me?"

There was no response.

He moved a little closer and said again, "Honey, can you hear me?"

Still, there was no response.

Finally he moved right behind her and said, "Honey, can you hear me?"

She replied, "For the third time, Yes!"

Laughter

32nd St Matthew's Multi-Aged Unit

Mandy Ludlow

In the space of just four weeks since I last wrote an article for the Parish Magazine, what a lovely surprise the leaders have had. At the end of February, I received an email from the Lord Lieutenant's office telling me that we had been nominated for a Rose of Northamptonshire Award, and not only that but, having been scrutinised, if that is the right word, we had in fact been granted this award. Very much a surprise, when I received the email – I thought it was either a joke or a scam.

On Wednesday 3 March HM Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, James Saunders Watson, presented our award at a Zoom Awards Ceremony. From the citation that he read out first, it would appear we were nominated for a Rose of Northamptonshire Award for all the hard work we have done with 32nd St Matthew's Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers throughout the pandemic – from doing the bag drops, keeping the meetings going virtually, right from the beginning of the initial lockdown, working with Northamptonshire Police to ensure that during this current lockdown the bag drops could go ahead, and becoming Community Volunteers; this involved four pages of risk assessments, plus producing a document outlining details and guidelines for this to continue all within the COVID-19 regulations, and providing all the leaders who undertake the bag drops each and every week-end with full PPE. He even mentioned that we had had a virtual campfire with everyone cooking s'mores. I am not one usually lost for words but when the citation was read out I was truly speechless, but I do remember saying in response to the Lord Lieutenant that "I didn't think we had done anything special"! Good job Jenna was there too and could tell those present exactly what we had done, although he was aware already, even down to the fact that we had had a virtual Christmas party and all the girls had received a box containing party food, including a pizza, games, activities, gifts, and cards.



I am absolutely thrilled and delighted that we won! We now have a Rose of Northamptonshire Award.

The girls across all sections have been busy, working on both Challenges and interest badges, and we have also managed to complete some Skills Builders and Unit Meeting Activities.

On 22 February we celebrated World Thinking Day; this is the day we celebrate the birthdays of both Lord and Lady Baden-Powell. If it had not been for their vision and dedication we would not be where we are now. We think of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts across the world. This year's theme was Peace, and during our Zoom meeting we all played Flag Bingo, made Peace Wreaths and Thinking Day Badges on which we then placed a tea-light and lit these – our very own "This Little Guiding Light of Mine", as the well-known campfire song goes. The girls also did activities at home around Peace and Thinking Day.



For the second year running owing to the restrictions, we have not met and been able to do anything for Mothering Sunday – though with a bit of creative thinking we have managed to make sure that the girls all had a hand made gift for their Mum. I potted up over 30 spider plants which along with pots and

soil went into the weekly bag drop; the younger girls decorated their pots with glittery foam shapes, whilst the older girls tried their hand at basic canal painting. The Rangers, in addition to the plants, made heart shaped decorations on which they placed mirrors and a tea light, and made a gift box which they filled with homemade sweets.



Once again, we were unable to do anything inside the church, but with Fr Nicholas's permission we decorated part of the church garden. All the girls and leaders decorated a clay heart which I had made; these were then strengthened and varnished to make them waterproof. Each one was made in memory of a Mum, Grandma or Special Lady who is no longer with us. Jenna and I then made a display for people to visit and take a moment.

If nothing else, COVID has certainly made us think outside of the box..!



Planning a Party

Where will the party be?
stables

What food and drink will you give your guests?
~~Hot~~
Juice pastor

What games will be played?
apple bobbing

Who will you invite?
 How will you invite them?
Remy Izzy
Phoebe Ella
Sophie Polly ?

What else do you need to think about?
Party bags

PEACE

harmony kind no fighting
 reading calm friendly
 be nice helping caring
 hope for give being thoughtful

Always think of others.

by Tallulah G



Rose of Northamptonshire Award

On behalf of the people of Northamptonshire

This certificate is awarded to

*32nd St Matthew's Parochial Bowries,
Langers and Guides.*

for your dedication to the safety of the community
throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Thank you.

James Saunders Watson Esq.

Lord-Lieutenant of
Northamptonshire

Theresa Grant
Chief Executive of
Northamptonshire
County Council

Paul Parsons Esq.

High Sheriff of
Northamptonshire

Croque Monsieur

This was made by Ruby as part of her Thinking Day Challenge Badge – the girls had to find and make a recipe from another country.

Ingredients

- 4 slices crusty bread, thickly sliced
- 4 slices ham
- ½ cup grated tasty cheese
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 eggs (for les Madames)

Method

1. Place two slices of bread on a flat surface
2. Top with ham (tucking in any stray bits) and cheese
3. Top with remaining two slices of bread
4. Heat a frying pan over medium heat and melt the butter
5. Fry the Monsieurs for 3-4 minutes each side until golden brown and the cheese has melted
6. Transfer Monsieurs to plates and serve immediately

Alternatively

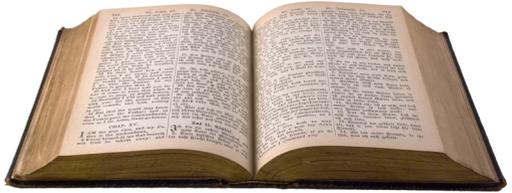
If you are making Madames:

Fry the eggs in a second frying pan. When the eggs are almost set on top, turn carefully to cook the top and then serve an egg on each Madame.



Weekday Scripture Readings for April

Our weekday scripture readings, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament, taken from the 'Additional Lectionary' which was constructed by the Church of England principally for use in Cathedrals at weekday Evensong.



Thursday	1 st	Exodus 11	Ephesians 2.11-18
Friday	2 nd	Lamentations 5.15-end	Colossians 1.18-23
Saturday	3 rd	Job 19.21-27	1 John 5.5-12
Monday	5 th	Isaiah 54.1-14	Romans 1.1-7
Tuesday	6 th	Isaiah 51.1-11	John 5.19-29
Wednesday	7 th	Isaiah 26.1-19	John 20.1-10
Thursday	8 th	Isaiah 43.14-21	Revelation 1.4-end
Friday	9 th	Isaiah 42.10-17	1 Thessalonians 5.1-11
Saturday	10 th	Job 14.1-14	John 21.1-14
Monday	12 th	Ezekiel 1.22-end	Revelation 4
Tuesday	13 th	Proverbs 8.1-11	Acts 16.6-15
Wednesday	14 th	Hosea 5.15-6.6	1 Corinthians 15.1-11
Thursday	15 th	Jonah 2	Mark 4.35-end
Friday	16 th	Genesis 6.9-end	1 Peter 3.8-end
Saturday	17 th	1 Samuel 2.1-8	Matthew 28.8-15
Monday	19 th	Exodus 24.1-11	Revelation 5
Tuesday	20 th	Leviticus 19.9-18, 32-end	Matthew 5.38-end
Wednesday	21 st	Genesis 3.8-21	1 Corinthians 15.12-28
Thursday	22 nd	Isaiah 33.13-22	Mark 6.47-end
Friday	23 rd	Isaiah 43.1-7	John 15.1-8
Saturday	24 th	Isaiah 61.10 - 62.5	Luke 24.1-12
Monday	26 th	Ezekiel 1.4-14	2 Timothy 4.1-11
Tuesday	27 th	Job 31.13-23	Matthew 7.1-12
Wednesday	28 th	Genesis 2.4b-9	1 Corinthians 15.35-49
Thursday	29 th	Proverbs 28.3-end	Mark 10.17-31
Friday	30 th	Ecclesiastes 12.1-8	Romans 6.1-11



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Tuesday 9.15&11.15am
St Matthews, Kingsley
NN1 4RY

Thursday 9.30&11.30am
Moulton Guide Hall,
NN3 7SZ

Chauneille-07894 314814

Monday 7pm
Saturday 8&10am
Salvation Army, Weston Favell
NN3 8EZ

Thursday 5&7pm
Church Rooms St Michaels
& All Angels, NN1 4HL

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-WORLD-

touching hearts, changing lives

Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2021

Girlie Franklin

Christian Aid week is an annual event that takes place across the UK every May, a fundraising drive to raise funds for 700 local organisations around 50 countries in the world. They help poor communities and enable them to deal with hardship from climate change and the possible threat of natural disaster. Alongside this Christian Aid helps with education, sanitation, health and reconciliation of certain communities.



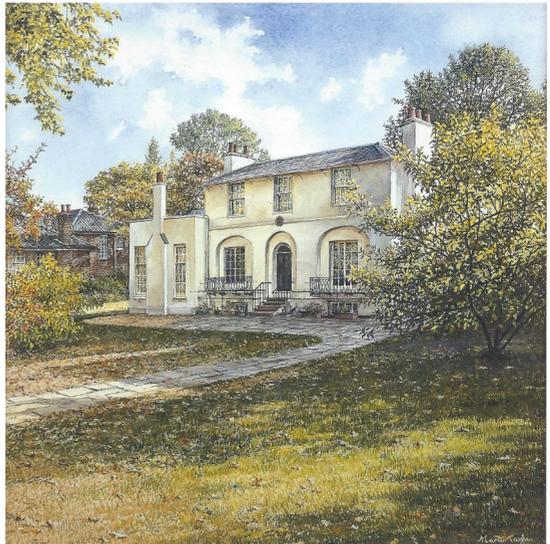
Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and let injustice thrive. Everyone is equal is the sight of God. Every gift can change lives.

Again, it doesn't look likely that we will be able to do our usual fundraising events this year, although I am hoping that we can do something to raise some much-needed funds. More details to follow in the pew sheets nearer the time.

John Keats Bicentenary

Susan Holliday

2021 marks the bicentenary of the death of the poet John Keats (1795-1821). In this lovely image of Keats' House, Hampstead, the artist Martin Taylor takes us back to the nightingale that 'singest of summer in full-throated ease'.



(Image used by permission of the artist)

Bombs Over Birmingham

Sheila Rotherham

A mystery person in St Matthew's congregation sent me a message at Christmas: 'Make sure you have plenty of parchment and quills'. With that exhortation, I searched my diaries for more adventures enjoyed with my Aussie friend Pirrial.

With no luck! And then I thought of the research I was doing for my Brummie brother, who is younger than I am and has fewer memories. So I resurrected my war-time recollections to pass on to him. I do not remember this event, but it is part of our family history.

I would have been about three years old when, during Holy Week, 9/10 April 1841, exactly eighty years ago this year and this month, two hundred Luftwaffe bombers dropped six hundred and fifty high explosives and one hundred and seventy sets of incendiary devices on the City of Birmingham.

Much of the town was a mass of rubble, and over four hundred and fifty people lost their lives. The bombing of the Midland Arcade and High Street caused a molten stream of blazing tar to push down towards New Street Station. The Roman Catholic Cathedral of St Chad's, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the old General Hospital were hit, and patients from that hospital were treated in the basement of nearby Lewis's. (There's a wonderful story of a gentleman patient in a third floor ward at the QE, who dragged the ward fire hydrant over to the window and sent water gushing down onto the fire below.)

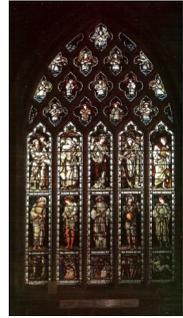


My father, at that time, was Musical Director of the Prince of Wales Theatre in Broad Street which received a direct hit – right into the stalls, but leaving the boxes on the sides. Emile Littler's production of *1066 and All That* was showing nightly. Fortunately, when the bombing occurred at 9.30pm onwards, the theatre was empty, as



everyone had left. Next morning, with some difficulty, my father made his way from our home in Handsworth, through Hockley Brook, which was devastated, factories and houses alike. Arriving at the town centre, he made his way along Colmore Row and on to Broad Street. At the theatre, he was able to scramble across the still-smoking debris towards the orchestra pit, over a mass of tangled music stands, and there, safely under the stage, where he'd had the presence of mind to put it, was his precious violin.

Another near-casualty of the night was St Martin's Church in the Bull Ring. On the morning of 9 April, the Bishop of Birmingham contacted the Vicar and told him to have the famous Burne-Jones/William Morris window removed and put somewhere safe. The Bishop must have had a premonition, for that night all the other beautiful windows were blown out, and there was some considerable damage. However, the structure of the church stood firm and the steeple remained, valiantly and victoriously pointing to heaven.



In 2005, a memorial sculpture named *The Tree of Life* by Lorenzo Quinn and dedicated to the victims of the Blitz was unveiled in the Bull Ring adjacent to St Martin's Church. The Burne-Jones window depicts Melchizedek, King of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who at the military victory of Abram and his allies, did not kill the fatted calf, but brought forth bread and wine (Genesis 14 verse 18). The mysterious writer of the wonderful epistle to the Hebrews speaks of Jesus, a high priest for ever 'after the order of Melchizedek' (Hebrews 5 verse 6).

(The Bishop of Birmingham and the congregation had experienced the sad loss of all the Burne-Jones windows in St Philip's City of Birmingham Cathedral during an earlier air raid in 1940.)

A	E	L	P	R	T	C	S	O	A	C	F
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I	Q	B	W	M	C	H	X	E	S	U	S
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R	E	D	L	E	V	N	E	K	A	L	Q
M	I	A	G	P	D	R	H	M	U	B	K

Wordsearch

Can you find the words listed in the grid? They may be written in any direction.

What is the theme that unites these words?

Easter Wings

Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,
Though foolishly he lost the same,
Decaying more and more,
Till he became
Most poore:
With thee
O let me rise
As larks, harmoniously,
And sing this day thy victories:
Then shall the fall further the flight in me.

My tender age in sorrow did beginner
And still with sicknesses and shame.
Thou didst so punish sinne,
That I became
Most thinne.
With thee
Let me combine,
And feel thy victorie:
For, if I imp my wing on thine,
Affliction shall advance the flight in me.

George Herbert (1593–1633)



Do you use Amazon? Are you thinking about your Christmas shopping? If so, you can help St Matthew’s Church raise donations for free.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of eligible purchases to St Matthew’s.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same price, same service. All you need to do is use the link below

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1130083-0>

Happy shopping!

Friends of St Matthew’s Music 100+ Club

Congratulations to the lucky winner of £50 in our MARCH draw —
Number **68**, held by **Nick Bailey**



You too could win the **single prize of £50** in our monthly draw if you had a number! For just £3.00 a month you’d be in with a chance, whilst also helping pay for our Director of Music’s salary.

For full details and a form, please email jonathan.starmer@yahoo.com

Jonathan Starmer

St David's food bank

Sandra Rivett

A couple of years ago I started volunteering at St David's Church in Eastern Avenue, Kingsthorpe.

On three mornings a week the Church opened its doors to welcome the hungry members of the community. St David's community cafe was very popular on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. You could come and have a chat and a bite to eat, see a friendly face and pass the time of day.

When we were hit by the Covid pandemic we had to make some changes. We became a food bank and started to hand out food to struggling families in the area. We have grown over the past 10 months or so and now support between 100 and 120 families each week. We provided over 100 Christmas hampers as well.

The volunteers arrive at around 7.30am and we finish at around noon. The doors are open for people to collect their boxes from 9am to 11am. They receive anything from baked beans to toilet rolls, cucumbers to sausages and eggs to flour. If we have it, we share it.

So where does all this food come from and the toilet rolls, shower gel and other essentials? Well, some comes from the community itself and the children from the youth club are fantastic at collecting supplies when they are not at school. Some people donate money so we can buy stuff that we are short of. The majority of our supplies come from the local shops in the area. Every week we go and collect from the shops extras that they haven't sold or donations that they have collected. Rachel the Vicar lets us use areas of the Church rooms to store our supplies and we use the main hall in which to sort and share it between the boxes. We give out around 38 boxes on each of the three days that we open. To some people we are a real lifeline. We try to make sure that everyone gets a fair share and we are getting to know our regulars and what they prefer. Some of



our people are vegetarian some don't have ovens only microwaves, some people struggle with tin openers so prefer ring pull cans. Sometimes we have loads of bread or loads of bananas, other times it might be potatoes and tomatoes. You never know what to expect but we try to give everyone the basics that they need and then add to that from whatever donations we have received. It's a very worthwhile task and it's very humbling to realise how hard life is for some families in our community. This has helped to keep Henry and myself busy and feeling useful during these difficult times. There are many more volunteers besides Henry and myself and they all put in 100% effort. I feel very proud to be a part of this team.

Next month's magazine

Contributions to our magazine are always appreciated so let us know what you / your group are up to! If you don't have the confidence to write something yourself, just let us have the details and we'll write it for you.

Please leave paper contributions in the 'P' (for 'Parker') pigeon hole in church or email files to: magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

When attaching photographs to the email address please send no more than 7mb -worth per email, otherwise it jams the system! Thank you.

Deadline for the MAY magazine is SUNDAY 11 APRIL

Editor: Dorrie Parker

Layout and production: Gary Drinkwater

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SOLUTION TO SUDOKO ON PAGE 3

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR ROAD SIGNS?????



DRUNKEN
DRIVER



GIVE UP
DRUGS



DROMEDARY
CROSSING



MAN WITH
BROKEN LEG



JOHN WAYNE



NO CROQUET
ON VICARAGE
LAWN



YOUR CHANCE
OF GETTING
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WILD BIRDS

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St Matthew's Residential Homes Singing Group



This group was formed over eighteen years ago, with the aim of entertaining the residents of the homes within our parish.

We usually visit four establishments each year: Oakwood Nursing Home (8 The Drive), St Matthew's Nursing Home (21-23 St Matthew's Parade), The Crescent Care Home (3 The Crescent), and Margaret's Rest Home (30-32 Kingsley Road). However, due to the Covid-19 Coronavirus, we are unable to function as we cannot enter their premises.

In the meantime, please pray for the residents of these homes.

Currently there are ten singers in the group (including some of our Methodist friends from across the road), but there are occasions when not all of them may be able to attend. Therefore we would welcome new recruits to join our happy band when the current restrictions are lifted.

If you would like further details, please contact Jonathan Starmer
Telephone 01604 406009, or email jonathan.starmer@yahoo.com



Annual advertising costs for *St Matthew's Mail*

A5	Full page	£100.00 per annum
A6	Half page	£60.00 per annum
A7	Quarter page	£40.00 per annum
A8	Eighth of a page	£25.00 per annum

Spaces are available – please contact

Anita, Parish Administrator, at the Parish Office

Floodlighting of the Church

If you would like to celebrate an anniversary or remember a loved one, St Matthew's can offer you the option of having the church floodlit at night.

The church would be floodlit all night, timed from dusk till dawn, at a cost of £20.00 per night. Please contact the Parish Office for further details.



Baptisms and Weddings

For Initial Enquiries for Baptisms and Weddings please telephone the office during the hours advertised on the back of the magazine or email office@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Prayer: Promoting thy glory

Almighty God, the giver of all good things,
without whose help all labour is ineffectual,
and without whose grace all wisdom is folly:
grant, I beseech Thee, that in this my undertaking,
thy Holy Spirit may not be withheld from me,
but that I may promote Thy glory,
and the salvation both of myself and others.
Grant this, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ.
Amen. Lord bless me. So be it.

Samuel Johnson (1709–84)

In this prayer by Dr Johnson, who could better the way in which the phrases of the opening address to Almighty God lead up to human ‘folly’?

Embodying the wisdom of his times, Dr Johnson had a profound sense of his own and others’ sin and folly, and, as he turns to God for the Holy Spirit’s inspiration, he is aware of the needs of all.

Perhaps – if one may dare to question – not all wisdom without grace is folly. Many wise men and women live and die wise, without faith and the grace that it brings. But, for the believer before God, human wisdom has the hope of redeeming grace. Enlightened by our Easter celebrations of God’s foolishness expressed in the cross (1 Corinthians 1:25), and fulfilled in resurrection, we can absorb part of the great man’s spirit by uttering his prayer.

Easter gives us participation in the communion of saints. We have good reason to be thankful for liturgical change, now that the Church of England calendar lists men and women, Anglicans and others, long revered by their fellow Christians, who are to be commemorated by the Church on earth. We join our prayers with them, and they with ours.

John Gaskell

*This is an extract from *The Church Times Book of 100 Best Prayers*, edited by Rachel Boulding (Canterbury Press, £14.99). By permission.*

We can recycle...

Used **postage stamps** from your envelopes
Your redundant **spectacles** (not the cases though)
*There are receptacles in the bookstall area in
which to put them*



Thank you!

Blooming Lovely!

For those who haven't been to St Matthew's lately and seen for themselves, here are a few images of the daffodils and narcissi now in bloom along the Collingwood Road and The Drive perimeter walls.

Clumps of tulips are through too.



The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Week beginning
28 March 2021
HOLY WEEK**

Sunday 28 March

**PALM SUNDAY
OF THE LORD'S PASSION
10.15am The Parish Mass**

streamed live online—see www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Monday 28 March

7.30pm Mass with homily

Tuesday 29 March

7.30pm Mass with homily

Wednesday 30 March

7.30pm Mass with homily

all streamed live online—see www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Week beginning
28 March 2021
HOLY WEEK**

Thursday 1 April

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30pm The Liturgy of the Last Supper

Friday 2 April

GOOD FRIDAY

**9.00am Morning Prayer with
Prayers at the Foot of the Cross**

2.00pm The Solemn Liturgy

These services will be held in church and also streamed live online—
see www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk*

** please inform the office by Tuesday 30 March if you are attending
so that the correct numbers of service booklets are printed*

The Parish Church of St Matthew

Week beginning 4 April 2021

Sunday 4 April

EASTER DAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

10.15am

**The Parish Mass of the Resurrection,
with the marking and lighting of the
Easter Candle and
Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

Wednesday 7 April

7.30pm

Said Mass

These services will be held in church and also streamed live online—
see www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk*

** please inform the office by Tuesday 30 March if you are attending
so that the correct numbers of service booklets are printed*



The Early Days

The 36th Northampton (St. Matthew's) Boy Scout Troop was formed on 12th March 1931 by the Rev. E. I. Carroll. The original foundation members were A. Pickhaver, R. Allen, T. Jones, A. Williams and R. Adams. These five were invested on 14th April 1931. Four patrols started at first. These were Hawks, Woodpeckers, Herons and Peewits. Later the Herons name changed to Owls. The first summer camp was held at Deene Park in August 1931.



Parish Giving Scheme

The Parish Giving Scheme exists to allow members of the St Matthew's community to support the life and work of the Parish, and the upkeep of our church, through regular giving. It provides our principal source of income and helps us meet our main financial commitments, including our contribution towards the Diocesan Common Fund (the 'Parish Share') and the costs of our employees.



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST MATTHEW • NORTHAMPTON

The Scheme is the most tax efficient way of contributing to the church because contributions may be eligible for Gift Aid (raising your donation by 25% at no cost to either you or St Matthew's).

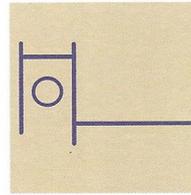
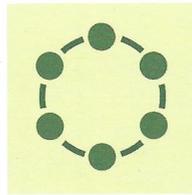
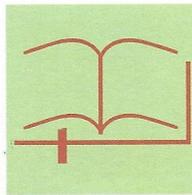
There are two methods of payment available: by a banker's direct debit or by weekly-numbered envelopes via the collection plate. The amount that you give is entirely confidential and is known only to the lay people who administer the Scheme.

If you are interested in learning more or in joining the Scheme, please speak to our Stewardship Recorder Polly Matthews. She can be contacted via the Parish Office or as below.

Polly Matthews

<office@stmathews-northampton.org.uk>

Tel. 01604 846074



PARISHGIVINGSCHEME

Parish Office

27A The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4RY (*within the Parish Centre*)

Telephone: 01604 791251 Email: office@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Anita Speake Opening hours for **telephone enquiries only**:

Tues/Thu/Fri 9.30am - 12.30pm. 1.00pm - 4.00pm; CLOSED Mondays & Wednesdays.

VISITORS TO THE OFFICE WILL BE SEEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Ministry Team

Parish Priest The Revd Canon Nicholas Setterfield
vicar@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Honorary Assistant Priest The Revd Canon Nicholas Gandy OGS
OGS@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Honorary Assistant Priest The Revd Canon Peter Garlick

Parish Officers

Churchwarden Vacant

PCC Secretary Donald Cran
pcc-secretary@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

PCC Treasurer Donald Cran
treasurer@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

St Matthew's Trust

David Waller
chairman@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Particular Responsibility

Safeguarding Officer Sarah Oughton
(Assistant: Ben Drouet)
safeguarding@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Verger Gary Drinkwater

Head Server Seymour Franklin
head-server@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Sacristan Patricia Sykes

Stewardship Recorder Polly Matthews

Banking & Gift Aid *Office*

Electoral Roll Officer Seymour Franklin

Archives Patrick Rawlinson

Website & Magazine Editor Dorrie Parker
magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Music Department

Director of Music Justin Miller
music@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Parish Organist Jonathan Starmer

Friends of Keith Hirst

St Matthew's Music friends@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Parish website

www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk