

St Matthew's **MAIL**

**Suggested
Donation**

£1.00

News from the Parish of Kingsley, Northampton

FEBRUARY 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, under the present covid-19 pandemic, the church is temporarily closed and we are offering a Sunday 10.15am Parish Mass and a 7.30pm Mass of the day, live streamed from our website and facebook page.

As circumstances change, please keep referring to our website for changes as they happen.

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

Third Sunday in the month

5.30pm	Choral Evensong with Congregational Benediction
--------	---

Fourth and Fifth Sundays in the month

5.30pm	Congregational Evensong
--------	-------------------------

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 February

<i>Date</i>	<i>Observance</i>	<i>Intention</i>
1	Feria	
2	CANDLEMAS	Presenting ourselves to God
3	Feria	The teaching profession
4	Feria	
5	S Agatha	
6	Ss Paul Miki and Comp, Ms	
7	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT	The Parish
8	Feria	
9	Feria	
10	S Scholastica	Isolation and loss of activity
11	Feria	
12	Feria	
13	Of the BVM	
14	SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT	The Parish
15	Feria	
16	Feria	
17	ASH WEDNESDAY	Our spiritual observance of Lent
18	Feria	
19	Feria	
20	Feria	
21	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	The Parish
22	Feria	
23	S Polycarp, B and M	
24	Feria	Perceiving God's activity in nature
25	Feria	
26	Feria	
27	Feria	
28	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	The Parish

*NB: **Bold** denotes weekdays on which a mass is live streamed*

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

February Letter from the Vicar

The View from Underground

It's always hard to picture a new season while you are stuck inside another. Especially if your current situation has felt like one long slog, one miserable moment after moment.

To imagine a different future can be a challenge, but most stories revolve around this theme – looking forward to an ending that overturns the challenge faced by the characters, of life triumphing over death, of something 'other' than where we are now.

This too shall pass – it is often said. Sometimes this is comforting. Sometimes, as with all potential platitudes, it stings. How can this ever pass? How can life ever be the same again?

Life will never be the same again. It is life. It moves, it ebbs and flows by nature. It brings light and it brings darkness, it brings joy and it brings pain. As with the seasons of our year, the world turns, and there are shifts in our realities. All the time.

To imagine a different future is to remember that life carries seeds of potential for change. That we are never stuck – even when it feels like it. Even when the change is achingly slow or brutally hard to initiate. Inside the chrysalis it is a swamp of dark and chaos. But the butterfly of potential lies within.

The Bible's contributors were writing from some of the darkest places – exile, pain, bereavement, imprisonment, grief in all its guises. But they looked to the One who had led them in the past and who they trusted would lead them in the future too.

*Your way was through the sea,
your path, through the mighty waters;
yet your footprints were unseen.*

Psalm 77:19

That often-cited verse from Jeremiah was spoken over a people in the middle of ongoing exile:

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Jeremiah 29.11

This was not a pie-in-the-sky magic-wand promise that came into immediate effect in the present; it was looking decades ahead.

To imagine a different future is to understand that with God, all things are possible. The Spirit of God shines through divine-filled humanity, whispering: don't give up. The curtains won't always be closed. The sun won't always be hidden. Change may take a form we don't expect or request. It may take us through a whole new valley. But change will come, in time. Have faith, whisper ancient voices.

Faith is not like fairy dust. It's the solid earth where things grow underground. Even when we can't yet see them.

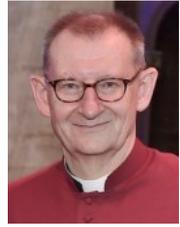
Your sincere friend and parish priest,

Fr. Nicholas

			9		1	6		
	8							
1	2					4		9
		5		7	9		2	
	6	2		1			9	
		9		6	4	5		
			3	9	7			2
5	7			8				
			1		5			8

SOLUTION ON PAGE 32

Lent – more of the same or a time for renewal?



Well, here we are once again on the cusp of Lent – traditionally a season of penitential preparation for the great feast of Easter; 40 days of self-discipline with the promise of a party at the end of it.

Except, of course, that this year is different. This year, we approach Lent having already been subjected to a period of almost unyielding restraint and self-denial. We have been deprived of so much that for so long we took for granted: the freedom to go wherever we wanted whenever we wanted; to enjoy unhesitatingly the company of family and friends; to shake hands, hug, be at ease with one another. As Christian people we have been permitted to ‘assemble and meet together’ (at least after the rigours of the first lockdown were eased), but our offering of worship has been muted by the need to keep safe. We have been socially distanced, separated from one another, masked; no sharing of the peace, no common cup, no after-service fellowship or coffee (who thought we could mourn the church coffee?!) and, possibly worst of all, no singing. For all the beautiful music offered by our Cathedral choir and other musicians, Christmas without carols felt (at least to me) an especially harsh deprivation.

It feels like such a long haul now, indeed we are fast approaching a year of life under Covid, and we are all wearied of it. Like Narnia in CS Lewis’ *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, it feels as if this winter of the soul will never end.

Well, of course, like all things, this will pass. The programme of vaccinations is beginning to pick up pace and maybe by Easter, life will be that bit easier; the ‘thaw’ will be underway, the spring will come and we begin to breathe again.

In the story of Narnia, it is the return to life of the great Lion, Aslan, after a cruel death, that breaks the power of the White Witch and ushers in the end of Winter. CS Lewis is of course writing an allegory of the Christian story, and the death and resurrection of Jesus.

So as we brace ourselves for Lent, that extraordinary hope stands before us as a guiding light. New life will come – for our Church, for our society, for our world. It may not look like the old normal – and perhaps that’s a good thing – but God’s unconquerable love is offered to us all.

So may we embrace the challenge of this coming Lent, and not see it as an unbearable continuation of what has been but a time to hope, pray and reflect on how, under God, things might be and (by his grace) shall be.

May he richly bless you this Lent.

The Very Revd Christopher Dalliston

Dean of Peterborough

Produced by the Diocesan Office,
The Palace, Peterborough PE1 1YB
Tel: 01733 887000

Email: communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Introducing Charlotte Nobbs

Our Diocesan Gen₂ team welcomed a new member at the beginning of 2021 – Charlotte Nobbs. Charlotte has been appointed Diocesan Children's Mission Enabler, and we thought we would catch up with her to say hello and discuss her new role.



Hi Charlotte – welcome to the Diocese! Please introduce yourself...



I am Charlotte Nobbs, married to Charlie, with four adult children. We have recently moved to Earls Barton, having lived in Northampton for 20 years. As a teenager I led younger children and have never stopped, starting as a house captain at school, a Sunday school teacher, running a youth group and, after studying for a theology degree, training as a primary school teacher. My own children brought new contacts with families and opportunities for fresh expressions of church, including Messy Church, assemblies, puppet shows, gardening with children, parenting support groups, growing new leaders and new teams.

My husband is a vicar, so our family life was shaped by life in the vicarage, and I feel very privileged to have been given this view. It means that I have a certain admiration and compassion for clergy and for all they are called to do. I chose to work voluntarily alongside him and the church teams we were involved with, focusing on intergenerational church and reaching out to children and families who had no connection with formal church.

In the spare time, I enjoy theology, writing, pottering in the garden and sharing food with friends. I also love to run – and I am a raving extrovert!

You have been appointed as Diocesan Children's Mission Enabler – can you tell us about what the role entails?

I am working to enable churches throughout our diocese to find ways to bring good news to children and their families through connections with school, home and fresh ways of doing church. I am here to encourage and develop good practice, new initiatives and to support clergy, children's workers and those who volunteer through their church across our diocese.

Is it nice to have finally started?

I am delighted to have started. It is a dream job to be part of such a fabulous team to bring good news to our children in this diocese.

Is it a role where ‘no two days are the same’?

I have been in post since the start of the year, so I am still finding my feet. So far, I have been working from home, with a few one-to-one walks, but mainly meeting people through Zoom and on the phone. A fun morning was filming an assembly on ‘Building a Peace Den’, with my cat making a star appearance! Never a dull moment!



How will your role sit within the team?

I am part of the Gen₂ team, and as well as having a lead on advising on children’s ministry, I will have some shared responsibility for youth ministry. Much of my work will be to train others through the Children’s Ministry Certificate, and to promote the vision of Growing Faith – a wonderful vision of interconnection between church, home and school.

What was your background prior to joining the diocese?

I have been a children’s practitioner all my adult life, whether volunteering, being a mum or professionally. My degree is in theology and I worked as a primary school teacher. We moved from Durham in 2000 for my husband’s first curacy at St Giles Northampton. We moved on to plant a church in Grange Park, connecting with community families and their children from babies through to top-end primary. I have been teaching RE to primary children, volunteering in the diocese to facilitate the Children’s Ministry Certificate, and teaching on various mission enabling modules. I have a passion for the Church to connect with families and children who do not attend formal church on Sundays, and to help them grow in the Christian faith together.

What are your immediate aims in the role? It must be difficult to start during lockdown.

It is very strange to start a job working from home, and away from the team. Even so, I am loving it already! I am meeting people, even if it is through phone calls, Zoom calls or one-to-one walks. It has been inspiring and humbling to hear about what churches are doing to connect with families in these very difficult times. I am reading various research papers, meeting with the Gen₂ team, preparing resources, gearing up to ‘How do we do Easter?’ and learning all the time.

What are you hoping to achieve ultimately?

I would love to enable parents to encourage faith in the family, and to see churches feel enabled to connect with families and children – not only within the church walls, but through school and partnership with other community groups. If this became a priority for churches – or at least as focused as adult ministry – then job done!

Prayer for Wisdom



We can all please God.
We must only choose well.
Many go abroad to study,
pursuing knowledge far from home,
but the kingdom of God is always here and now,
wherever you are,
within you.
Precisely because the kingdom is within,
and God is our friend,
our salvation only requires that we be willing.

St Athanasius of Alexandria

In what ways are we willing to accept the wisdom of
God's guidance today?

God of heaven and earth, your wisdom stretches
around the world, ordering all things for good:
Free us from anxiety and understand us like a
friend, that we might share the good news of your
friendship with all people; through the Word made
flesh, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



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!





that Slimming World feeling!

Sharon-07507 660712

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

slimmingworld.co.uk
0344 897 8000   

Slimming[®]
-WORLD

touching hearts, changing lives

Weekday Scripture Readings for February

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.



Monday	1 st	1 Samuel 1.19 <i>b</i> -end	Hebrews 4.11-end
Tuesday	2 nd	Haggai 2.1-9	John 2.18-22
Wednesday	3 rd	Isaiah 61.1-9	Luke 7.18-30
Thursday	4 th	Isaiah 52.1-12	Matthew 10.1-15
Friday	5 th	Isaiah 56.1-8	Matthew 28.16-end
Saturday	6 th	Habakkuk 2.1-4	Revelation 14.1-7
Monday	8 th	Isaiah 61.1-9	Mark 6.1-13
Tuesday	9 th	Isaiah 52.1-10	Romans 10.5-21
Wednesday	10 th	Isaiah 52.13-53.6	Romans 15.14-21
Thursday	11 th	Isaiah 53.4-12	2 Corinthians 4.1-10
Friday	12 th	Zechariah 8.16-end	Matthew 10.1-15
Saturday	13 th	Jeremiah 1.4-10	Matthew 10.16-22
Monday	15 th	2 Kings 2.13-22	3 John
Tuesday	16 th	Judges 14.5-17	Revelation 10.4-11
Wednesday	17 th	Isaiah 1.10-18	Luke 15.11-end
Thursday	18 th	Genesis 2.7-end	Hebrews 2.5-end
Friday	19 th	Genesis 4.1-12	Hebrews 4.12-end
Saturday	20 th	2 Kings 22.11-end	Hebrews 5.1-10
Monday	22 nd	Genesis 6.11-end, 11-16	Luke 4.14-21
Tuesday	23 rd	Deuteronomy 31.7-13	1 John 3.1-10
Wednesday	24 th	Genesis 11.1-9	Matthew 24.15-28
Thursday	25 th	Genesis 13.1-13	1 Peter 2.13-end
Friday	26 th	Genesis 21.1-8	Luke 9.18-27
Saturday	27 th	Genesis 32.22-32	2 Peter 1.10-end

Henry Meets the Challenge

Sandra Rivett

Congratulations to Henry for raising £260.00 towards Teenage Cancer Trust by completing the November push-up challenge.

During the month of November 2020, Henry decided to help a good cause by joining in and completing the November 3000 push-ups in a month challenge. He posted on Facebook and donations started coming in. Henry started doing 100 push-ups a day but by day 2 he wasn't feeling so good. His muscles were rather surprised by the excessive unusual exercise and protested somewhat violently. Poor Henry had to rest for two days which upset him because he felt like he had failed before he had started.

He then decided that 100 push-ups at a time was too many and so he split his quota into bite sized chunks of around 25 at a time throughout the day. He also had to work in the 200 that he had missed. So we would be awoken in the morning by Henry's exertions and sometimes kept awake at night by bursts of late night push-up sessions. On a couple of warmer days he would be outside on the drive doing a few, or in the park. He even did them during his break at the food bank (but that's another story). I am very proud to say that Henry managed it and his chest and triceps tell the tale of a job well done.

Thank you to all the people who donated to this very worthwhile cause. I hope you like the photos.



ONE MONTH PUSH UP CHALLENGE

*3000 push ups
in 30 days!*



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

Parish Office Update



Due to the current situation, Anita, our Parish Administrator, is now part furloughed and the Parish Office opening hours are changed. The Office is now CLOSED on Mondays and Wednesdays, and will be open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9.30am-12.30pm and 1.00pm-4.00pm.

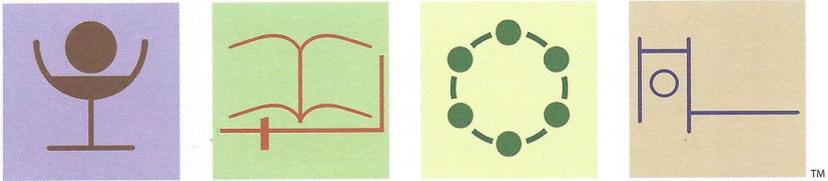
As Anita is working from home, please telephone during working hours ONLY: calls will divert after 15 seconds so please be patient. Do not leave a telephone message as they cannot be picked up.

Alternatively, please email office@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk and Anita will reply during working hours.

Also, for the latest updates as they happen, please keep looking at our website: www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Stewardship

Polly Matthews



PARISH GIVING SCHEME

The Diocese has recently introduced the **Parish Giving Scheme (PSG)** designed to replace the existing Stewardship Giving Scheme.

An Introduction to the Parish Giving Scheme

Why are regular donations so important to our Church?

The Church of England offers a Christian presence in every community. Together we seek to make this Christian presence the heart of our cities, towns and villages: by our wonderful buildings; by worshipping together; by serving our communities and by sharing our faith and values. This valuable contribution to our community has a cost of which 75% is met by personal donations. For our Church to survive and grow, we rely on regular donations so that we can plan confidently for the future.

What is the Parish Giving Scheme?

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) has been set up to help us best manage regular donations. It is run as a partnership between dioceses on a cost sharing basis.

How does it work?

Donations can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, by completing the relevant donor application form and Direct Debit instruction. Even though donations are made to the Parish Giving Scheme, they are restricted to our parish, giving you peace of mind that your gift cannot be used elsewhere. You are always in charge of what you give and your gift will be passed back to our parish each month. Gift Aid will be collected and received separately. The unique feature of the scheme is the option for you to commit in principle to increase your gift annually in line with inflation. Whilst this is a voluntary decision, it is one that could potentially have a huge impact on the life and future of our church.

What are the main benefits?

The main beneficiary of this scheme will be our church. Through your generous commitment, we can be assured of a regular, tax-efficient source of income which has the capacity to increase with the cost of living, yet involves virtually no administration. You will benefit from a system that is secure, confidential and easy to use, while supporting our church today and for the future.

Will this affect the Stewardship Weekly Envelope Scheme?

No – if you prefer to use the envelope scheme your payments will not be affected and you will receive a box of numbered weekly envelopes at the start of the year.

For more information on either of the above schemes, or to request an application form please contact Polly Matthews, Stewardship Recorder at the Parish Office.

Let's stand **together**, by standing **apart**

One in three people with **COVID-19** don't know they have it – **ACT** as though you have it

#NorthantsTogether

Public Health Northamptonshire Northamptonshire County Council

Let's stand **together**, by standing **apart**

Washing **hands** thoroughly, wearing a **face** covering and keeping **2 metres apart**, remains critical to stopping the spread of the virus

#NorthantsTogether

Public Health Northamptonshire Northamptonshire County Council

Let's stand **together**, by standing **apart**

An **increasing** number of patients in our hospitals need **critical care support**

#NorthantsTogether

Public Health Northamptonshire Northamptonshire County Council

Let's stand **together**, by standing **apart**

Every **unnecessary contact** could lead to a **death**

#NorthantsTogether

Public Health Northamptonshire Northamptonshire County Council

Raise funds for St Matthew's Church every time you shop online

Find us on easyfundraising to start:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmatthewsnorth/>



Shop with over 3,300 online stores

amazon.co.uk

John Lewis

ebay

M&S



Booking.com

Boden



DEBENHAMS



Viking

Sainsbury's

SCREWFIX

JUST EAT

moonpig

ASOS
discover fashion online



£ £20 Million raised

👤 1.2 Million users

📍 100,000 causes

DOGS

CATS

RABBITS

GUINEA PIGS

RATS

HAMSTERS

GERBILS

CHINCHILLAS

PETS PANTRY

SUPPLIER OF FOOD & TREATS FOR YOUR PETS

All Major Brand Names Supplied

James Wellbeloved ★ Burns ★ Skinners ★ Chudleys ★ Royal Canin
★ Eukanuba ★ Beta ★ Lilly's Kitchen . . . & many more available

GROOMING PARLOUR INSIDE THE SHOP

APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE 6 DAYS A WEEK!

Telephone: 01604 722 222

17 Collingwood Road, Abington, Northampton NN1 4RD

WILD BIRDS

BUDGIES

PARROTS

Candlemass

They came, as called, according to the Law.
Though they were poor and had to keep things simple,
They moved in grace, in quietness, in awe,
For God was coming with them to the temple.
Amidst the outer court's commercial bustle
They'd waited hours, enduring shouts and shoves,
Buyers and sellers, sensing one more hustle,
Had made a killing on the two young doves.
They come at last with us to Candlemas
And keep the day the prophecies came true;
We share with them, amidst our busyness,
The peace that Simeon and Anna knew.
For Candlemas still keeps his kindled light:
Against the dark our Saviour's face is bright.

Malcolm Guite



Epiphany Traditions

Gary Drinkwater

As I was on my way out for my daily exercise recently I was asked what the writing on my wall meant. I was able to explain the following.



The Church has a custom of blessing homes on the Feast of the Epiphany (6 January) and the weeks following. Family and friends gather to ask God's blessing on their homes and those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

A traditional way of doing this is to use chalk blessed during the liturgy for the Feast of Epiphany and write above or near the home's entryway or doorstep, 20 + C + M + B + 21. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, 'May Christ bless the house.' The '+' signs represent the cross and 2021 is the year.

Using chalk blessed by Fr Gary Ecclestone during the Epiphany Mass at Hanslope I marked my wall as follows:

20 + C + M + B + 21

As I did this I said: *The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty one years ago. May Christ bless my home and remain with me throughout the new year. Amen.*

Followed by: *Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.*

'Chalking the door' is a way to celebrate and physically mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. With time the chalk will fade. As it does we let the meaning of the written symbols sink into the depths of our hearts and be manifest in our words and actions.

As I was writing this I remembered another Epiphany tradition is the Proclamation of Easter. The ancient Church had a practice of announcing the dates of Easter as well as other feasts and fasts that do not have a fixed date. Since the Epiphany is a fixed date feast (6 January) and also the last major fixed date feast before we enter the Easter cycle which is characterised by moveable dates, it was a convenient time to proclaim the date of Easter and other moveable feasts and fasts. The Proclamation, however, announces more than dates. It proclaims that our lives are to be lived in rhythm with and according to Jesus' life. In years gone by it would have been sung by the Deacon after the Gospel but nowadays in the few places it is used is generally said.

The Epiphany Proclamation of Easter 2021

Dear brothers and sisters, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of His return.

Through the rhythms of times and seasons let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall the year's culmination, the Easter Triduum of the Lord: His Last Supper, His Crucifixion and Death, His Burial, and His Rising, celebrated between the evening of the 1st day of April and the evening of the 3rd day of April, Easter Sunday being on the 4th day of April.

Each Easter – as on each Sunday – the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed by which Christ has forever conquered sin and death. From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, will occur on the 17th day of February.

The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on the 13th day of May.

Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter, will be celebrated on the 23rd day of May.

And this year the First Sunday of Advent will be on the 28th day of November.

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the Passover of Christ in the feasts of the holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come, Lord of time and history, be endless praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

32nd St Matthew's Multi-Aged Unit

Mandy Ludlow

Since our last article we have only met the once, Monday 11 January. We decided that as it was a new year and the girls were all back to home schooling we had a bit of an 'active' evening. Keep Fit Bingo! All the girls had a bingo card with all sorts of exercise activities, star jumps, press ups, climb the rope, but who knew what 'mummy punches' were (?); there was twist and jump, shoulder taps, frog jumps and sumo squats. This was followed by a sequence of yoga activities, downward dog, cat cow poses and the butterfly – who knew such things existed! As it was the first night back in the new term, we all met together from Rainbows to Rangers; it was lovely too that three of our Young Leaders ran the yoga session for the rest of us.

Over the Christmas break we have had girls complete the Elf, Penguin and Advent Challenge. For the latter they had to do 24 different activities from writing thank you letters to wrapping Christmas presents whilst wearing oven glove, learning to knit to baking.

Prior to us finishing for the holidays, we collected Chocolate selection boxes, with each girl and leader donating one each. This made quite a collection and were all part of the 'Chocolate Elf' programme that was initiated in Northampton; these were passed to children who would otherwise not have anything, or very little.

Some of you may have noticed a wooden Nativity scene appear in the church grounds and I know that there was a mention in the pew sheet and also the pictures of this in the January magazine, so what was it all about? Historically the girls usually do something to decorate the Church – we have done window sill displays, hung snowflakes, put in a memory tree etc. Obviously, we could not do anything this year. It all started when Jenna and I were putting together the Memorial Garden for Remembrance and Jenna made a comment – “It would be lovely to do something for Christmas for everyone to see; it would be nice for the care homes over the road to be able to see something”. The seed was set. Thanks to Mr Google and Mrs Amazon I had sourced patterns and they were winging their way from Canada; an order was placed and soon a delivery was being made of an 8ft x 6ft piece of timber. Mark then had the job of making this idea come to reality. Never having done something like this previously we were all pleased with how it turned out.

This month's recipe is from one of our Brownies, Felicity. This she

researched and made as part of the Remembrance Challenge and is a wartime chocolate cake.

So, what for the next few weeks? As a leadership team we have made the decision, in conjunction with the parents, that we will not be returning (even if face to face Guiding were allowed), instead we will continue with our bag drops and Zoom – we are getting 100% on the sessions, so it is working. However, with the current message to 'Stay Home', could these be justified? I have done a comprehensive risk assessment and all leaders now have full PPE and we have a strict protocol in place, all agreed with Northants Police and we have had the go ahead from them to carry on.

We have looked at the coming weeks and will be looking at interest badges the girls do at home, plus birdwatching challenge, Burns Night and New Year.

Claire Irving

Admin

10 December 2020

When you get a message like this, your heart smiles. Mandy and her wonderful groups have donated directly to our friends at The Hope Centre. Thank you Mandy Hall and Happy Christmas to you all. ❤️



Mandy Hall

Lives in Northampton, Northamptonshire

MON 12:27

Good morning Claire my Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers have each donated a selection box for the Chocolate Elf Project - how can I get them to you. These are from 32nd St Matthew's Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers. Many thanks. Mandy - Unit Leader





32nd St Matthew's Rainbows, Brownies,
Guides and Rangers
Via email

Northampton Hope Centre
Oasis House, 35-37 Campbell Street
Northampton, NN1 3DS

T. 0845 519 9371
E. office@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk
W. www.northamptonhopecentre.org.uk

f [/northamptonhopecentre](https://www.facebook.com/northamptonhopecentre)
t [@NptonHopeCentre](https://twitter.com/NptonHopeCentre)

Wednesday, 16 December 2020

To all at 32nd St Matthew's Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers

Thank you from Northampton Hope Centre

On behalf of the Northampton Hope Centre I would like to send our sincere thanks for your generous donation each of selection boxes. Lots of people who are homeless or living in poverty in Northampton are going to receive these as a lovely treat this Christmas.

It was very kind of you to think of the Hope Centre. We are so grateful for your ongoing support.

As you may know, we have provided support for disadvantaged and homeless people in Northampton for over 40 years and we could not continue this work without the generosity of our supporters and donations like yours.

It is now however, more than ever before, that our services are in need and the charity which stands to support the Northampton community has done everything within its power to change how it is delivering its service and the scale of delivery in order to meet the increasing demand of those who are hungry and homeless in our community.

Thanks to people like yourself we are able to continue providing hot food, drinks, showers, clothing and workshops to local people who are most in need throughout the year.

The Trustees, staff and clients at the Hope Centre are extremely grateful for your support and generosity.

Merry Christmas.

Please find enclosed a certificate of thanks.

Yours sincerely

Tanya Haji-Miller
Community and Events Fundraiser
tanya@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk

tackling homelessness, rebuilding lives

Our Patrons: The Rt Revd Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton
Sally Keeble | David Laing, Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire
Prof Nick Pefford, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Northampton
The Rt Hon Earl Spencer, DL | Kelvin Thomas, Chairman, NTPC

Registered Charity no. 1015763, registered company no. 02768821
Registered address: Northampton Hope Centre, Oasis House, 35-37 Campbell Street, Northampton, NN1 3DS



Felicity's Chocolate Cake

“As an additional challenge Felicity made a dairy free, egg free, gluten free chocolate cake from a WWII recipe she searched for on the internet. It was a moist and yummy cake – no help apart from the putting in the oven and getting out was given to her.”

(Message received from Felicity's Mum following our Remembrance Challenge)

Eggless Chocolate Sponge with Dark Chocolate Filling

Ingredients

½ lb self-raising flour
¼ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons of cocoa powder
3 oz caster sugar
1 tablespoon syrup
14 tablespoons of hot water
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
3 oz margarine
Vanilla essence

Method

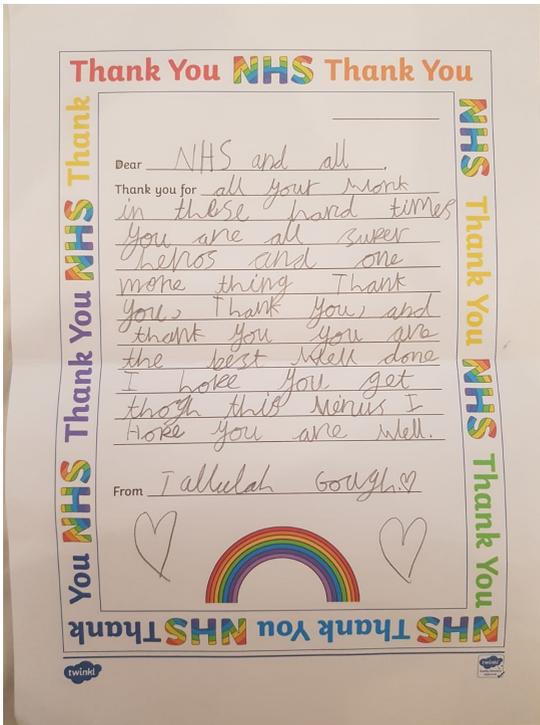
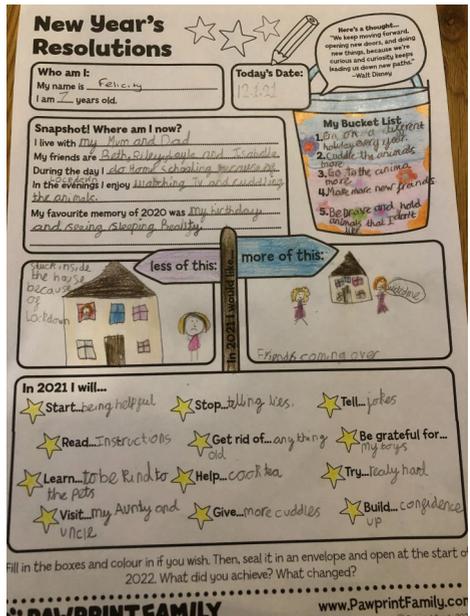
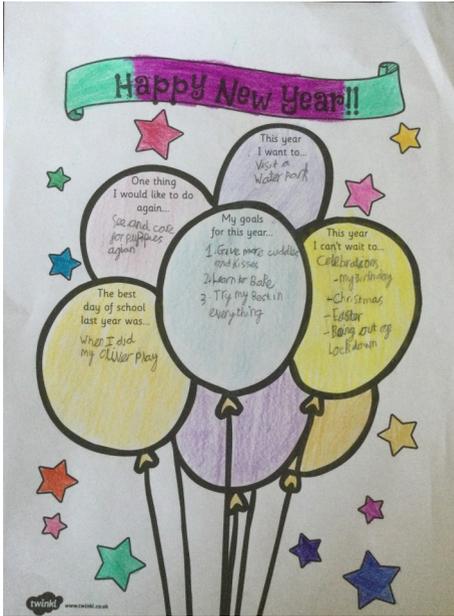
- * Mix the flour, salt, cocoa and sugar together.
- * Dissolve the syrup in the water and add the bicarbonate of soda.
- * Melt the margarine and mix all the ingredients together including the essence but do not beat the mixture which should be very soft.
- * Divide the mixture between two well-greased 8" sandwich tins and bake in a moderately hot oven for 20 minutes.
- * When cooled use jam or a chocolate or mock cream filling between the two layers.

Chocolate Filling

½ oz margarine
2 oz cocoa
2 oz caster sugar
2 tablespoons of strong black coffee

Melt the margarine. Remove from the heat and add the cocoa and sugar. Beat in the coffee until the mixture becomes a good spreading consistency.





**GARDEN AND
HANDYMAN SERVICES**

DRIVE & PATIO JET WASHING

GUTTER CLEANING

**SHED & FENCE REPAIRS &
MAINTENANCE**

CONSERVATORY ROOF CLEANING

SHELVES & CURTAIN RAILS

GARDENING

**COMPETITIVE RATES, FULLY INSURED
CALL MARK**

07514 665306 or 01604 456818

**January Wordsearch
Answers**

Did find the words listed in the grid?

Did you also know what links these words together? They are all names from *Lord of the Rings*.

BARADDUR
BREE
DOLAMROTH
EDORAS
EREBOR
HOBBITON
ISENGARD
MINASTIRITH
OSGILIATH

Friends of St Matthew's Music 100+ Club

Congratulations to the lucky winner of £50 in our JANUARY draw —

Number **58**, held by **Ben Drouet**



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

A Journey into Lent

Nearly everyone tries at some time or other a new diet programme, a self-help book, or a new form of therapy that seems to guarantee success. The market for such products has been flourishing since the 1950s. It may have started with Charles Atlas, but in the last twenty years there has been a huge proliferation of self-help books and makeover programmes. Even the Church has jumped on the bandwagon, with a plethora of programmes promising quick results from easy-to-follow formulae.

The promise that many of these books and programmes hold out is success, provided the recipe is followed to the letter, and maybe there is even a money-back guarantee if not fully satisfied. But most consumers who are disappointed never write for refunds – a mixture of guilt, indolence and embarrassment sees to that. Who can forget the cabbage soup diet? Living on nothing else for days on end may have shifted the weight, but may have made your friends unlikely to come near you too.

Lent is traditionally a time of penitence and self-denial, marking the days before Easter. In all probability, the first Christians spent only part of Holy Week preparing for Easter in this way; but as Christianity matured and spread, the periods of abstinence became longer and more formalized. The familiar scriptural readings that accompany us through Lent are also intended to help us as we journey through the penitential season. Typically, churches begin with readings that remind us that Jesus was tempted. And we are reminded to repent, because the temptations that Jesus is offered all cluster round seminal issues that are not that alien to our culture: diet – you will perform miracles with food; career – you will rule; and longevity – you will live.

Yet the temptations are more subtle than they first appear. For a start, like all true temptations, they are not ridiculous, but only slightly less true than something more worthy. These temptations are all things that Jesus will have to negotiate in his earthly ministry. But the questions are: Will the end justify the means? Is the short cut worth it? Does what is offered really match up to what is true? But the key is timing. The kingdom of God is a slow process of building, and unlike our quick-fix, instant self-help guides, this kingdom cannot be built in thirty or forty days. Put simply, the three traditional Lenten temptations of Jesus are really only one: why not take a short cut? Well, three reasons occur, that help us through the journey of Lent.

First, short cuts don't usually work – they cheat the journey of faith. In trying to shorten the long and winding road of discipleship, we may miss out on God's company and wisdom.

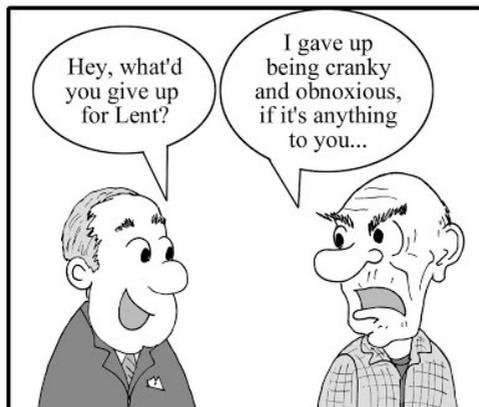
Second, God's work is slow; the Christian life is a marathon, not a sprint. Discipleship and holiness are built slowly, with years of patience, practice and learning. Lent is about this. Lent can't be done in ten days or twenty minutes; it is forty days. Short cuts can devalue our discipleship.

Third, short cuts rob other people of the chance to respond and grow. It may well be possible to grow a church or a ministry very quickly. The results can be spectacular. But now try and sustain it. Not so easy. There is no substitute for hard work. That's why miracle diets don't really work. So don't try a thirty-day wonder; slowly change the way you eat; effort and will are better than quick-fix cures.

So in one way, Lent is all about slowing down, and leaving quick-fix solutions behind. It is about patiently deepening our relationship with God, and doing so in a thorough and methodical way. The aim is not to achieve instant success, but steady and deep growth. Fruit that lasts comes from hard graft.

The early Christians observed Lent. That is to say, they didn't just look at the forty-day period that lay ahead with either indifference or fear. Rather, they entered into the spirit of the season and practised it. They saw it as an opportunity to re-evaluate their lives, perhaps laying aside those things that distracted and impeded spiritual development and the quest for a holier and purer life. They saw it as an opportunity to de-clutter their relationship with God; to concentrate on, focus and re-centre their discipleship through self-denial and penitence.

Moreover, they didn't just set things aside. They also took on new disciplines and responsibilities. So whatever you do this Lent, try and mark the season by changing the rhythms and routines of your life – if you haven't already! – and in so doing, make a little more room for God.



The Word and The Worm

Author: Ronald Blythe

The Shrove Tuesday sun spun up between the ash tree and Duncan's generator, as bright as a button. It gilded my tea mug, and glorified the white cat who, as usual, was glaring through the window at the blackbirds.

The window contains an ancient IHS stained-glass medallion that I found in Framlingham. It is fixed to the pane with Uno glue. The morning sun, being as bright as it can be, burns through it. Henry, the Vicar, will be walking to our minute school – 13 pupils – to toss pancakes.

There are two figures on the hilltop: a girl leading a horse, and a young man descending from it with light steps, his face ablaze. He carries something under his arm which, when he opens it, is also golden and blinding. He tells us that it is something called the Word. He holds it above his head. He has yellow hair, and he came from the north. The Word glitters like sunshine.

In the afternoon, I rake up oak leaves, prior to the first mow. It is bitterly cold and wonderfully hot at the same time. The new grass is springy, and Wordsworth's wild daffodils make a fine patch in the orchard. Kate is walking her new puppy, a chocolate-coloured animal of unrestrained joy. She is training her, she says. An old joke comes into my head: 'I am a dog. My name is Sit.'

I pick a few primroses for the table. I think of Ash Wednesday and of Joel. 'Let the priest, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar.' Henry won't be weeping. He will be burning last year's palms to make ash for our foreheads. I re-read T. S. Eliot's 'Ash Wednesday 1930'.

"If the lost word is lost, if the spent word is spent, if the unheard, unspoken, Word is unspoken, unheard..."

The fair young man with the Book walks through the land and opens its illuminated pages, calling out: 'Don't forget, you first heard it here!' Heaven knows what most of us made of it – this 'Word'.

Pip brings me our parish magazine, a monthly called The Worm, whose mast-head is a dragon having a virgin for supper. Her white legs dangle from its jaws. But St George comes riding in; so maybe all is not lost. Considering the inactivity of the village when I walk through it, its recorded activity is alarming. Somebody is going to line the bus shelter, free of charge. Should we keep the tele-

phone box? The village-hall sign still has not arrived – ‘The Recreation Trust has been asking for this for a very long time.’

Christopher writes about the Wormingford-to-Abberton pipeline and its funding. ‘Eight years on, and we are still waiting.’ Andrew, our archaeologist, tells us about Giles Barnardiston, the Quaker, who lived on our height above the Stour with his wife, Philippa, and who found the Word in quietness.

Bill and his dog, Cyrus, see a pair of otters in the river. As a boy, I witnessed an otter hunt – a disgusting business.

Spectacles

I am at the optician’s. We sit in a shop window, in various degrees of darkness and light. We are being framed at vast expense, or, in my case, being updated. We go to tiny rooms, and read the chart. The optician, who is about 25, won’t have to do this for donkey’s years. He has lustrous eyes, like a Gainsborough portrait. The black discs drop in and out; the giant letters dwindle to nothingness. ‘What do you see?’ What a question. He cleans my old specs, to my shame. ‘Your sight hasn’t changed much.’

About four feet below us runs the road along which the Emperor Claudius was driven to his temple, where he would be made a god. But I am in the optician’s chair, not the barber’s chair, and I must not distract his attention with this kind of local information. So I sit, stock-still, as the letters diminish, tumble about, tell him things about me which I will never know.

I think of the Revd Patrick Brontë having his cataracts removed with a knife. Charlotte held his hand. The bandages were removed after a month’s blind-fold, and, glory to God, he could see. She began to write *Jane Eyre* in the lodgings, while all the time there lurked the terrible possibility of sightlessness for the rest of his days. The Manchester life clattered below. I wait for the bill. My expert sight-giver says, ‘Next.’

The old high street is drab. The cuts are having their effect. Sale, sale, sale – but no customers. The bravura town hall is white in the afternoon sun. St Helena, clasping the True Cross, stands on top of it. She was Romano-British and the mother of Constantine. Is she the patron saint of archaeologists? She would remember morning coffee in the restaurants below, the dressed shop windows, the departed elegance, the public library service – marvellous, this – and the gentlemen-only bar at the Red Lion, where a Manet-like lady kept a roaring fire. All gone, all gone.

Should the cuts come within a stone's throw of our public libraries, let us all cry out. Increasingly, the Government seems to have its eye so firmly fixed on the red that it can no longer see the wealth on the opposite page. The young never-employed – through no fault of their own – laugh in doorways. The regiment from the barracks is in Afghanistan.

I write in the mornings; that is, when I am not in one or other of my market towns, seeing economic sights and visiting their fine public libraries; and I pull the garden round after lunch, so that the bulbs won't be put to shame in a week or two.

Frost has broached one of the springs that everlastingly bubble beneath the Big Field, and a sparkling new stream finds its way to the Stour. Alas, this cannot go on. My head turns to hardcore, to fill-in, or whatever. This year and wherever, water thinks that it can do what it likes.

How the robins sing! How the catkins shake! How once more that vengeful man on the Damascus road hoves into view with his list of victims. And that 'Why are you doing this?' – a question we all might ask ourselves. And then that blinding stab of the Epiphany light, and the subsequent helplessness. Then the turnaround. I de-mulch the snowdrops.

This is an extract from Under Broad Sky by Ronald Blythe (Canterbury Press, £14.99 By permission

February Wordsearch

Can you find the words listed in the grid? They may be written in any direction. (No clues!)

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

Eulogy given by John Greenwood at Richard Alcock's funeral

Wednesday 13 January

I am sure that for all of us here Richard was a special friend. For me, he was my best friend, and had been for 67 years.

We met in a hall of residence at Birmingham University in 1953, when I was starting my second year reading Law, and he was to begin his first year reading History. I cannot now remember our first meeting, but it must have been inevitable because we were in adjoining rooms. He was sharing with four others, several of whom Richard kept up with for most of his life.



We both had very privileged backgrounds, for we came, not from money, but from loving, stable families. We went to university with a great sense of security.

I got to know Richard's family very well. I became very fond of his parents, Harold and Joan, and of his siblings. Harold ran the family building business in Banbury. Joan ran the household of five children. The eldest was Richard and the youngest Michael, who was only six when I first knew him. I was very lucky to share many wonderful family meals with them. Particularly memorable were Richard's mother's Sunday roast dinners, which today would have earned her a place on MasterChef.

After university and a year's teacher training course at London University, Richard taught briefly at Leamington Spa and Deddington, before going to teach History at Keffi College in Central Nigeria. In our terms, the College was a residential grammar school for boys, some as old as their early twenties, and all of them very keen to learn. For Richard, teaching them was a joy. He always was, and remained, an idealist, who was helping his students prepare, in a general sense, for the post-colonial era which was then their near future. They would soon be part of a well-educated group who would shape the destiny of their country.

Richard relished the diverse culture of Nigeria, which gave him the background to understand the ethnic troubles Nigeria sadly experienced in later years. His four years in Nigeria also gave him the opportunity, when he had long periods off leave, to see many other parts of Africa. We, at home, benefitted too from his adventures because there were long hours of slide shows. That was in the days before endless travel programmes on television.



A few years later, in 1966, I was living in London and Richard was back in England, teaching at a tough school, Bessels Leigh, near Abingdon, for special needs children. On the last day of an exhausting term, he came to dinner at my sister's London flat, just before Richard and I were due to go on a summer holiday to Brittany. I had then only known Susan my future wife for about five weeks, so it was to be their first meeting as well as meeting about ten other friends. The first course was cold gazpacho soup, which was fortunate, because, only minutes into the meal Richard fell asleep headfirst into his soup. After that unusual start, the evening was of course a great success.

Susan and I were soon engaged. We married that October. Richard was our best man and our photographer which he was very good at.

In all the years since then, Richard was an integral part of our family life. He was godfather to our three children. When they were in their teens, we started having summer holidays in rented houses in France, often with the children's girl- and boyfriends, and Richard always came with us. He was by then a good cook. We all shared the cooking, except me. But Susan would not let him drive. She considered that was far too dangerous.

Richard left teaching to join the Education Service, which brought him to Northampton about 50 years ago. He rose to be in charge of schools in Northampton and in the shire. Then, to the end of his service, he was in charge of further education colleges.

From the time I married Susan, Richard spent Christmas with us and even after Susan died 24 years ago, the tradition continued at my house, and later at Jane's house, even to the Christmas before last, happily then with Ros joining us.

I spent this last Christmas Day at Jane's house. At dinner I asked Jane and Sally and Jane's three children to tell me their thoughts about Richard. Not surprisingly, everything they said echoed my thoughts and feelings about him. My children, Jane, Tom – now in Australia – and Sally, and my grandchildren, had always relished his company.

They all said that he had a genuine interest in people. He was intensely curious about life around him and was a man of great sensitivity and generosity. He was always interested in them and, however young they were, he never patronised them. He always took their views seriously. Richard also had a great love of music, the theatre, and books, was very well read, and never lost interest in world affairs. In our twenties my mother would say, "Don't let Richard, argue with your father".

He loved holidays and travel. Indeed, I think he had been to more countries than anyone else I have known.

Underlying everything that Richard was, and believed in, was his strong Christian faith, which had guided him since childhood. He loved this church. It was central to his life.

He bore his illness stoically, knowing it was terminal, and with Ros's great help, made the most of his declining energy. Ros was with Richard devotedly to the end of his life. She will miss him especially.

Farewell Richard.

We shall all remember you as a true brother and friend, and as a genuinely good and honourable man.

Requiescat In Pace

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 MARCH magazine is SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY

Editor: Dorrie Parker

Layout and production: Gary Drinkwater

3	5	4	9	2	1	6	8	7
9	8	7	4	3	6	2	1	5
1	2	6	7	5	8	4	3	9
4	1	5	8	7	9	3	2	6
7	6	2	5	1	3	8	9	4
8	3	9	2	6	4	5	7	1
6	4	8	3	9	7	1	5	2
5	7	1	6	8	2	9	4	3
2	9	3	1	4	5	7	6	8

SOLUTION TO SUDOKO
(page 3)

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



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 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).

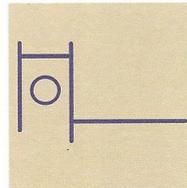
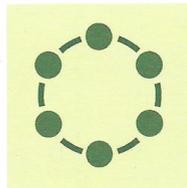
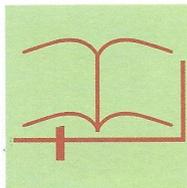
There are two methods of payment available: by a banker's direct debit or by weekly-numbered envelopes via the collection plate. The amount that you give is entirely confidential and is known only to the lay people who administer the Scheme.

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



PARISH GIVING SCHEME

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