

St Matthew's
MAIL

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Donation**

£1.00

News from the Parish of Kingsley, Northampton

JULY 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 9.30am Wednesday Said Mass, with other services as advertised — please keep referring to our website for changes. Sunday and Major Feast-Day 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 July

<i>Date</i>	<i>Observance</i>	<i>Intention</i>
1	Feria	
2	Feria	
3	S Thomas, Apostle	
4	THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish
5	Feria The healing ministry	
6	Ss John Fisher and Thomas More, Ms	
7	Feria	
8	Feria	
9	Feria	
10	Of OLW	The Shrine and Society
11	THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish
12	Feria	
13	Feria	
14	Feria	
15	S Swithun, B	
16	Feria	
17	Of he BVM	
18	THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish
19	Feria	
20	Feria	
21	Feria	
22	S Mary Magdalene	
23	S Bridget, Religious, Patron of Europe	
24	Of the BVM	
25	THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	The Parish
26	Ss Joachim and Anna, Parents of the BVM	
27	Feria	
28	Feria	
29	S Martha	
30	Feria	
31	S Ignatius of Loyola, Pr	

NB **Bold** denotes days on which Mass will be celebrated

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

July Letter from the Vicar

Leaving old ways behind

A favourite character of mine in Charles Dickens' *Dombey and Son*, the Hon. Mrs Skewton, observes to her companion, Mr Carker: "We are so dreadfully real these days, are we not Mr Carker?" Dickens then observes that, in truth, Mrs Skewton was the last person who should complain of reality, since she was nearly all false – false hair, false eyebrows, false put-on face, and so on. She is a physical symbol, a picture of what so many of us are for large parts of our lives. She is the patron saint of those whose motto might be 'Appearances are better than reality'.

For one reason or another, society, self-interest and vanity force us to pretend or strive to be something other than we are, and in such a climate the effort to be our true selves is by contrast rather daunting.

It can start early in life with the schoolboy who, in his desire to impress his friends, tells them that his father is incredibly wealthy, has a yacht and goodness knows how many cars. And why? Because the tyrant 'peer pressure' has got him by the scruff of the neck and won't let him go. The boy hopes and prays that his real parents won't visit the school in a beaten up Mini, while other boys are watching. And unfortunately, it doesn't stop there. Just think of the sacrifices of truth made on the altar of other people's good opinion. We are so dreadfully unreal. Perhaps if you have been following the postponed UEFA Euro 2020 you will have detected distorted values (I don't mean with regard to your enthusiasm or otherwise for the sport), but elements of the superficial, the material, the shallow, the unreal.

Against this background, Christians are called to be real; for living in the refreshing and painful light of truth, not pretending to be what we aren't, or trying not to be what we are. For us, it is always time for being just as we are.

Perhaps we should reflect that most people can see through our little games, our pretences and vanities, and the fact that we can't appreciate their clear-sightedness tells us how blind our unreality can make us. Above all, 'the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart' (1 Samuel 16.7). There is one before whom all dishonesty is absolutely pointless. For, 'He who sees in secret' is not hoodwinked by our pomposities, vanities and charades. He sees us as we are; and the way to that integrity, that not having to put on a show, for the benefit of those who see through it anyway, is simply to be before God, as was Our Lord in the wilderness. We must ask him in prayer to teach us the courage to appear as we are. Long before Colin Firth, God loves us just the way we are.

Being who we really are implies change in some degree. For most of us, it will almost certainly entail leaving old ways behind. And so, to a hero of mine, who may help and inspire:

The year is 386; the place, Milan, in a garden; the time of year, July. A thirty-one year old man is alone there, pacing up and down, trying to make up his mind, to resolve the dreadful dilemma he is facing. Can he give up his colourful Casanova past and begin again, turn and return to a good and moral life? He wants to with one half of him; with the other he is too weak. In this familiar tension, he hears or seems to hear a voice from a nearby garden calling out in the words perhaps of a game learnt at school, 'Take up and read, take up and read'. Obediently he takes up the New Testament, which lies open at a page of St Paul and reads the words, 'Let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, ... not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires'. (Romans 13.13-14). Then, he writes, he needed no more prompting. It was a seminal moment of conversion. The name of the young man was Augustine.



*Saint Augustine (354–430),
in Meditation attributed to
Francisco de Zurbarán
(1598–1664)*

That story reminds us that we won't get anywhere unless we accept the fact that we can't redeem ourselves. We actually need the power of God's grace to become what God wishes us to be. This power was demonstrated to St Paul and St Augustine in a striking fashion. It is there for us too, although we may not have lived quite the loose life of an Augustine or shared in the persecuting zeal of Paul. We too need God's help.

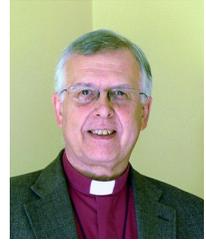
So, what does God wish you and me to be and do? To begin to answer that question we need to know our need, know God and something of his purpose in us. We need to be our true and arguably more attractive selves. We need to see our neighbour with fresh eyes, lay aside our squabbles, factions and self-interest, the struggles for power, influence and control, and selflessly encourage one another. History teaches us that worshipping communities develop and grow when these old ways are left behind. I hope we may enjoy a fruitful summer as we look forward to a better future!

Your sincere friend and parish priest,

Fr. Nicholas

Summer Holiday

I am writing this in early June, before the government announces the level and timing of the final relaxation of covid restrictions. Even at this stage, though, relatively unrestricted travel is allowed to a few countries, and people have started booking and taking their Mediterranean and other holidays. I don't begrudge that. We live in a pressured world, and a good break from work is really necessary. I have encouraged our clergy to make sure they take one.



However, I have a challenge for all of us who fly, for whatever reasons. Flying is very, very, heavy in its carbon cost. Why don't we all consider offsetting the damage we are doing to the planet when we book a flight? If you look at this online, through one of the sustainable travel or carbon capture websites, you will find that for between £25 and £50 you could plant enough trees to offset the carbon cost of your return flight to any short or middle distance destination. We are doing this as a diocese when we visit our link diocese in Korea (long-distance, about £75 per head to offset), and I will suggest it to those who travel with me on pilgrimage to the Holy Land (less than £50 per head). In practice, it comes to around ten percent of the cost of the flight.

One of the remarkable things about holidays away from home is that God's creation can actually re-create us. The beautiful world we live in, whether it is the Lake District or the Scottish hills which I enjoy, or the Mediterranean sunshine which blesses others, somehow enables us to relax and unwind, then re-energises us. Thank God for this wonderful provision.

This shouldn't be a surprise. "Holiday" is "holy day", originating from the pilgrimages of the Old Testament, running through the saints' days of medieval Christendom, through to our bank holidays and summer breaks today. The human spirit needs refreshment and renewal, and our wise creator provides for this.

I hope you can get away during this summer. I hope and pray that you will be blessed through that. I suspect you will be even more if you can spend some of that time consciously seeking God's renewal and re-energising in your life.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

+Donald Bishop of Peterborough

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The Bible cannot be silenced



An interview with Sir David Suchet

“John’s Gospel has been with me most of lockdown,” Sir David Suchet says. “I don’t make any apology for it.” On Easter Day, a virtual audience around the world watched him read the whole of it in the Jerusalem Chamber in Westminster Abbey. The recording has since been viewed more than 74,000 times.

He has engaged with scripture in detail over the years, recording the entire Bible for Hodder & Stoughton’s NIV Audio Bible – which necessitated many hours of reading to bring to life more than three-quarters of a million words.

Turning his attention to John, which, he says, lends itself to a more personal interpretation, he says, “I continually read it and re-read. It is the most intimate of all the Gospels. And it’s suitable to be read to one person. I don’t think this this is a Gospel to be read to millions all in one go.”

He finds a musical resonance to John’s Gospel, too. “John’s Gospel is Bach,” he says. “It’s all counterpoint: you’ve got the top line, but you’ve got other meanings and references that just go down, down, down, down, down, down, down.”

“I hope with my tone to convey a little of all the other layers that John is writing about. I wish I had the ability to have four different voices, all sounding at the same time. There are great depths and great mysticism in the Bible.”

He is passionate about the benefits of hearing scripture read aloud. “My message to everybody is to read it out loud, quietly to yourself. Never, never, never, never read the word silently... Let it go in into your body, absorb it. And let it come out, so you continue this wonderful, wonderful relationship you can have with God and his Word.

“I always read any passage of Bible out loud, because I can hear it at the same time. And that’s actually a great, a great source of nourishment,” he notes.

He attributes his own conversion to Christianity to reading a hotel Bible in 1986. In it, he “found a way of being or philosophy of life that I wanted”. John’s Gospel was central to his understanding of that: “When I got to the very end, I thought: this is it – this is my message that I’ve devoted my life since then.”

But he has also described himself in the past as a reluctant convert, “dragged kicking and screaming into the Kingdom”. Does he still have doubts and questions? “Oh, all the time!” he exclaims. “For example, when I watch nature programmes, and I see live animals killing and eating live animals. I see the beauty of nature, but also the cruelty of nature and the pain of nature. “And I look at the cruelty in the world and the suffering in the world, and the wars, and what we’re doing to our world, [it] creates doubt, saying, ‘What are you doing? Why can’t you intervene?’ ”

“But I have learned enough [to know] that that is not the way. He will, but in his time. But, when I look at the world around me, and the suffering and the cruelty and the pain, I, like all the prophets in the Old Testament, in the Psalms, hold up my hands and shout, ‘Where are you? Where are you?’ “But he is here, and I will not let that put me off. I’ve got to hang on. I’ve got to hang on to what I read here,” he says, touching the Bible next to him.

During the pandemic, the embrace of technology by churches has been important to him. “I do a lot of Bible reading from my own church online; so I was able to do that for them all through that. But it’s also given me a chance to move on, to expand myself and to open myself up to other churches.

“I’ve logged on to the Western Orthodox. I’ve logged on to Eastern Orthodox. I’m able to go to many different places, many different denominations, because they’re all tied to the same thing. And it’s been absolutely wonderful.

“I have enormous hope that the Christian family around the world can actually say hello to each other, and we cease to be just little pockets of Christianity. But, because it is a worldwide religion, we can join hands to what we’re doing now.

Alongside these global opportunities, he has found a silent companionship with God rewarding – part of what he calls “a developing relationship... and that is not shouting, talking all the time and not giving him a chance. “Sitting still, not saying a word. And being with it as a friend, just sharing time together. And sometimes with the person you really love, and very intimate, with the best time to sitting together.”

He is aware of the difficulties that many find with the idea of silent prayer: “People say, ‘Oh, I can’t do that. My head is too busy’. It’s not, actually. It’s just sitting down, having a cup of coffee, and closing the doors again. It’s no more than that. He wants to be as accessible to you as he can be.

“I have a little prayer that is totally impractical,” he says. “It is the homeless brought into churches, off the streets at night. Somehow. There’s so much real estate that religion wants to protect: our churches. But I’m sure if Jesus was walking around, he’d be the first to unlock the door of a church.”

He is convinced that generous hospitality is required. “Open your doors, because Christ doesn’t want them shut. They’re homes, the house of God, and I’m sure that God would open his doors for the poor, the lonely, the sick, the tired.”

His more ambitious prayer is for a global online gathering of Christians. “I would love to see the leadership of all Christians and denominations coming together worldwide, in a worldwide day of prayer.

“We’ve had a prayer day of reflection in this country on the anniversary of lockdown. I would like all Christian communities and all other faiths to come together with those with faith and those with religion, and throw ourselves open to God, and pray for healing and peace in the world. That would be a groundbreaking thing, wouldn’t it? And I think it’s time.”

He expresses concern over divisions that he has observed among Christians, and a lack of unity which has wider repercussions: “My wish is – especially in a multicultural society – for tolerance: greater tolerance, and unity within ourselves.”

He has approached this, in part, by expanding his knowledge of other faiths, “trying to be broad-minded in reading and studying other holy texts, reading the Qur’an”.

In his 2018 podcast *Questions of Faith*, he met and interviewed a range of people from the other Abrahamic faiths, including a terrorist. He describes it as his “tumble-dryer Christian experience”.

He continues: “I was going in there believing that everything was right with me and wrong with the terrorist, and coming out really seriously questioning myself and having to look through the world through their eyes. That’s what we must do all the time, and we must get rid of extremism. We must.”

He was struck, though, by the passions that he encountered. “When you meet people who have this zealotry about them: yes, it leads to terrible things – I’m not sympathising in any way with terrorism: I’m actually condemning it – but they have a fire.

“And they have a passion that, I think, we have lost in areas of our worship, in areas of our faith. We don’t talk about it. People say ‘My religion is private’.

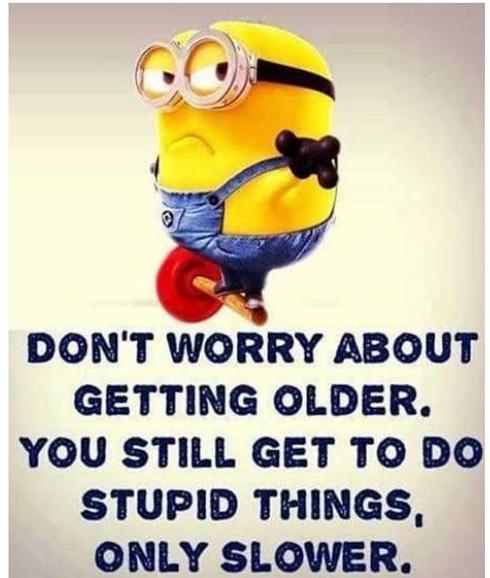
“Actually, religion in the way it was started was never private. It was always done in groups and in secret for fear of the others, even after Jesus’s crucifixion. And when he appeared to his disciples, they were all behind the closed doors that were locked for fear of persecution.”

He recognises the challenge and risk of biblical warnings about lukewarm Christians. “I don’t want lukewarm. You’re either hot or you’re cold. And what I met in those extremists, and in those terrorists, was boiling hot. “And I had to recognise that they really, really did believe that they were doing it in the name of God.”

He describes the difficulty of taking his own spiritual temperature: “I get frustrated, like all people, because I go into areas of not wanting to do anything. We Christians call it the dark desert experience, that you just feel separated from God; but out of that comes good, good things.

“Sometimes, I feel cold; sometimes, I feel lukewarm. Sometimes, I feel hot and passionate. But I never forget in my heart, [and] although I may cry out like the psalmist – and I have cried out in my early days, my goodness me – I will pray for God to do whatever he wants for me, because I’m completely helpless and angry and frustrated. I’m a passionate man. I’m not all head. I’m very gut-driven.”

This is an abridged interview which originally appeared in the Church Times. By permission.





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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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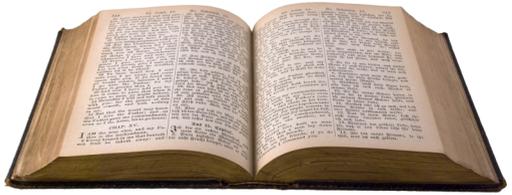
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Weekday Scripture Readings for July

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	Job 7	Matthew 7.21-29
Friday	2 nd	Jeremiah 20.7-end	Matthew 27.27-44
Saturday	3 rd	Job 42.1-6	1 Peter 1.3-12
Monday	5 th	Exodus 32.1-14	Colossians 3.1-11
Tuesday	6 th	Proverbs 9.1-12	2 Thessalonians 2.13 – 3.5
Wednesday	7 th	Isaiah 26.1-9	Romans 8.12-27
Thursday	8 th	Jeremiah 8.18 – 9.6	John 13.21-35
Friday	9 th	2 Samuel 5.1-12	Matthew 27.45-56
Saturday	10 th	Hosea 11.1-11	Matthew 28.1-7
Monday	12 th	Exodus 40.1-16	Luke 14.15-24
Tuesday	13 th	Proverbs 11.1-12	Mark 12.38-44
Wednesday	14 th	Isaiah 33.2-10	Philippians 1.1-11
Thursday	15 th	Job 38	Luke 18.1-14
Friday	16 th	Job 42.1-6	John 3.1-15
Saturday	17 th	Ecclesiastes 9.1-11	Hebrews 1.1-9
Monday	19 th	Numbers 23.1-12	1 Corinthians 1.10-17
Tuesday	20 th	Proverbs 12.1-12	Galatians 3.1-14
Wednesday	21 st	Isaiah 49.8-13	2 Corinthians 8.1-11
Thursday	22 nd	Zephaniah 3.14-end	Mark 15.40 - 16.7
Friday	23 rd	2 Samuel 18.18-end	Matthew 27.57-66
Saturday	24 th	Isaiah 55.1-7	Mark 16.1-8
Monday	26 th	Joel 3.16-21	Mark 4.21-34
Tuesday	27 th	Proverbs 12.13-end	John 1.43-51
Wednesday	28 th	Isaiah 55.8-end	2 Timothy 2.8-19
Thursday	29 th	Isaiah 38.1-8	Mark 5.21-43
Friday	30 th	Jeremiah 14.1-9	Luke 8.4-15
Saturday	31 st	Ecclesiastes 5.10-19	1 Timothy 6.6-16

St Matthew's Scouts in Lockdown 2020

Ian Rivett, Cub Scout Leader

On 12 March 2020 St Matthew's Scout Group celebrated its 89th Birthday. Part of the programme that evening included a look at the history of the old uniform that 'Wolf Cubs' used to wear and culminated in a photograph of the Pack. Little did we know that this was the last time we would be meeting for over nine months as the Coronavirus pandemic took hold.

Within days news came from Scout HQ that face-to-face meetings had been suspended until further notice and we leaders were left wondering how we could continue Scouting. Very soon we discovered the wonders of 'Zoom' and sent all our young people details of how we could meet up online using video conferencing. Before video conferencing, 'Zoom' was the name of the multicoloured, spaceship shaped ice lolly that we enjoyed in the 60s and 70s!

Unfortunately, the take up for online meetings wasn't as much as we had hoped, with only about a third of our total membership taking part. That meant about 3 or 4 young people from each of our three sections on a good night. We received emails from some parents explaining that their sons or daughters had been busy online all day with schoolwork and were 'zoomed out' by the evening. Others took up the challenge and took part every Thursday.

The usual St George's Day celebrations couldn't take place so we asked the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to renew their Promise on the doorstep and send us a photograph. Again, not everyone was able to take part but we did receive a few photographs which helped raise the spirits of the Group and show Scouting was still alive and well.



Our Group has embraced new technology and we now use Online Scout Manager (OSM) for our records. The people that run OSM created a new initiative called 'Badges at Home' which allowed our young people to complete badge work at home and send photo or video evidence via the system. Although we couldn't meet as a Group, outdoor activities could still be completed individually within the Covid-19 rules and some of our St Matthew's Scouting families took this up with relish.



Later in the year the restrictions lifted and we were able to meet for two weeks before Christmas. "My goodness, haven't they grown" was the comment made by the leaders as we resumed meetings at the Parish Centre, albeit under Covid restriction guidelines and the necessary risk assessments required by Scout HQ. During the final meeting before Christmas, we held a Christmas hat competition and the Cubs received prizes for the best efforts. We were pleased that we had about 50% attendance for those two weeks so a little better than online with Zoom.

In September we said goodbye to Alan and Karen Facer. Karen and Alan had been involved with the Group for around 8 years in various roles. We thank them for their service and commitment to our Scout Group. We are pleased to welcome Caroline Bird back as our new Beaver Scout Leader.

In January 2021, the start of the Group's 90th Birthday year, we saw the return of full lockdown and we all settled back into online Scouting. Of course, we were learning new skills with Zoom and developing our techniques to improve the programme we were able to offer online. It still, however, didn't match what could be achieved in person so we were delighted when we were able to resume face-to face Scouting after Easter.

Spring is the time for new life so we were very happy for Rana Holder and her new daughter Vera-Rose. Congratulations to Rana and Chris. This means we are a leader down in the Scout section for the time being but hope to welcome Rana back in the future.

We have now had 10 weeks meeting back face-to-face and I'm delighted to report that our numbers are almost back to pre lockdown levels. There are a couple who have left during the period but we have also gained some new members, especially in the Beaver section. It was wonderful to be able to play a game of rounders on the Church lawn on the evening of St George's day. Oh, and I'll let you into a little secret – Fr Nicholas is a dab hand at fielding in rounders, catching one of the Beavers out during the game!

Recipe: Wilfra Tarts

Food writer Jacqueline Bellefontaine has written about Ripon's Wilfra cakes for the city's Wilfra Week at the beginning of August. The festival began in 1108 for the return of St Wilfrid's relics to the city, and the granting of a royal charter for an annual fair. The cakes were baked and placed on doorsteps and window ledges along the route of the procession of the saint's effigy from the Town Hall to the saint's own cathedral.

I wonder whether the people of Ripon will be able to celebrate their patron saint so convivially this year. Plenty of cakes and ale must have been enjoyed in Wilfrid's honour over the centuries. The cakes are really tarts – a shortcrust pastry case filled with apples and Wensleydale cheese.

Ingredients

225g (8 oz) plain flour
115g (4 oz) butter
1 tablespoon sugar
a pinch of salt
1 egg yolk
1-2 teaspoons water
680g (1½ lb) cooking apples, peeled and sliced
85g (3 oz) Demerara sugar (plus a little for the top)
85g (3 oz) Wensleydale cheese

Method

- 1 Rub the butter into the flour, sugar (caster or granulated), and salt.
- 2 Mix to a stiff paste with the egg yolk and a little water. Leave to rest.
- 3 Heat the oven to 425°F/220°C/Gas Mark 7.
- 4 Line a Swiss-roll tin with half the pastry and lightly prick the bottom.
- 5 Lay on the finely sliced apples and cover with the Demerara sugar. Grate the cheese on top.
- 6 Cover with the remaining pastry, brush with milk, and sprinkle with sugar, and make a few slits on top.
- 7 Bake for 10 minutes, and then lower the heat to 350°F/180°C/Gas Mark 4 for 30 minutes.

If you're not generously putting them out for passers-by on your doorstep, Jacqueline suggests that you might serve them with cream.

This recipe was written by Terence Handley MacMath and was originally published in the Church Times. By permission.

Lockdown Longings...

Dorrie Parker

When we were thrust into 'Stay At Home' Lockdown last March I guess we all felt an acute longing for something we knew we'd lost for the foreseeable future... For me, I was heartbroken to have to cancel a short break, booked for that April, at my favourite place to be – the seaside!

Even at my age I always get a thrill at my first sight of the sea again, and can vividly remember as a small child looking out of the coach window as we turned a corner and there it was! Then all the small shops with brightly coloured buckets and spades, windmills, and all kinds of beach paraphernalia displayed outside, and then when we alighted from the coach that wonderful salty smell of the sea. This was when I was 4 years old, but although I was obviously too young to have remembered it, my very first time was a year earlier. That was in 1950 and our very first holiday as a family, to Mablethorpe in Lincolnshire. (The beach there is beautiful!) My brother Ronnie was born just 5 months before the outbreak of war, David in 1943, then I came along 10 months after my dad was demobbed.



In those days there was always a professional photographer on the beach and promenade, taking photos which you could collect later in the day at a kiosk. I also well remember the 1951 holiday as I was bitten by some flying insect and had the bandage to prove it! And my pink and white bathing costume, knitted by my mum, that sagged when I went in the sea!

My sister was born two years later so holidays became less regular as money was tight with four children, but when we did it was always a week on the east coast. Otherwise we would go on a day trip in the summer to Skegness.

When I came to live in Northampton as an adult, Brighton was my seaside day out, being very easy and quick to get to by train, but then it was jetting off abroad for holidays. David, having begun his career in Glasgow and marrying a girl from Paisley, retired back to Scotland and now lives in Ayr, so when I visit and on the local train from Glasgow, I'm always looking out for my first glimpse of the sea at Barassie, just north of Troon.

As a retirement present a friend said she would take me out for the day, wherever I chose, all expenses on her. She was expecting me to say London, or a stately home... Nah! I didn't even have to think about it, it was "to the seaside, with fish and chips on the beach and an ice cream." Perfect.

I've still not been to the coast yet as restrictions ease, but all being well, at the end of August I'll be in Whitby in North Yorkshire again, sniffing that wonderful sea air!

What have you longed for? Do tell us!

Prayer for the Summertime

Loving God, Creator of all times and places,
we thank you for the gift of summertime,
the days of light, warmth and leisure.

Thank you for the beauty that surrounds us everywhere we look:

the multi-coloured flowers,

the deep blue of the sky,

the tranquil surface of lakes,

the laughter of children at play,

people strolling in the park,

families gathered around picnic tables and

the increased time to spend with family and friends.

As we open our eyes and ears to the landscape of
nature and people,

open our hearts to receive all as gift.

Give us that insight to see you as the Divine Artist.

Help us to realize and appreciate that you are labouring
to keep all in existence.

And warm our souls with the awareness of your presence.

Let all the gifts we enjoy this summer

deepen our awareness of your love

so that we may share this with others and enjoy

a summertime of re-creation.

Amen.

Christian Aid Week 2021: Stand together against climate crisis

This year CA shift the attention back to the climate crisis and our global neighbours in Kenya who continue to battle the effects of extreme weather. People living in Kenya are caught up in a cycle of climate chaos, from severe drought to flooding, extreme weather robs them of what they need to survive: a reliable source of water. With our help we can make a huge difference to their lives.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic last year and this year we were unable to carry out our usual fundraising events. Instead we had to rely on donations by using the CA envelopes.

I am delighted to announce that we raised a total of **£766.61**. And with gift aid a further **£102.50** will be added.

Despite the circumstances surrounding us at the moment you have been very generous with your giving, thank you very much.

Girlie Franklin



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PARROTS

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

SOLUTION ON PAGE 22

Friends of St Matthew's Music 100+ Club

Congratulations to the lucky winner of £50 in our JUNE draw —
 Number **73**, held by **Polly Matthews**



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 Matthew's



St Matthew's Parish Centre
27 The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4RY

Thursdays in term time
from 9.45am to 11.30am

- * Lots of toys for Pre-School children to play in a safe environment
- * For Parents/Grandparents/Carers to have a chat and meet new friends



Adult £1 * Child 50p

Due to Covid-19 restrictions
booking is required to avoid disappointment



Contact the Parish Office on 01604 791251
or email minis@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

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 AUGUST magazine is SUNDAY 11 JULY

Editor: Dorrie Parker

Layout and production: Gary Drinkwater

Live Music at St Matthew's this July



**SATURDAY CONCERTS
AT ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH**

THE RULE OF THREE **£10** (Under 18s free)
Saturday 17th July at 4:00pm
An exploration of Schubert's chamber music.

 **Richard Roper** - Violin
Corinne Malitskie - Cello
Justin Miller - Piano

For further information please visit www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk



The 'rule of three' is a writing principle that suggests that a trio of events or characters is more humorous, satisfying, or effective than other numbers. We think that a piano trio (violin, cello, and piano) is the perfect combination to use to explore the chamber music of Franz Schubert. We're delighted to welcome Richard Roper and Corinne Malitskie to St Matthew's for this concert.

For further details of the programme and to book tickets online go to
www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Wine Appreciation Group (W.A.G.)

or

Wines of the World (W.O.W.)

Adrian Burch

I started this group in March 2019 having been encouraged by my late wife Michele to share my knowledge and enthusiasm about wine to a greater audience. We were a group of people, who under the tutelage of a wine educator, explored a small selection of Wines of the World, and learnt how to appreciate them! There was no membership fee, one just paid for the tasting each session.

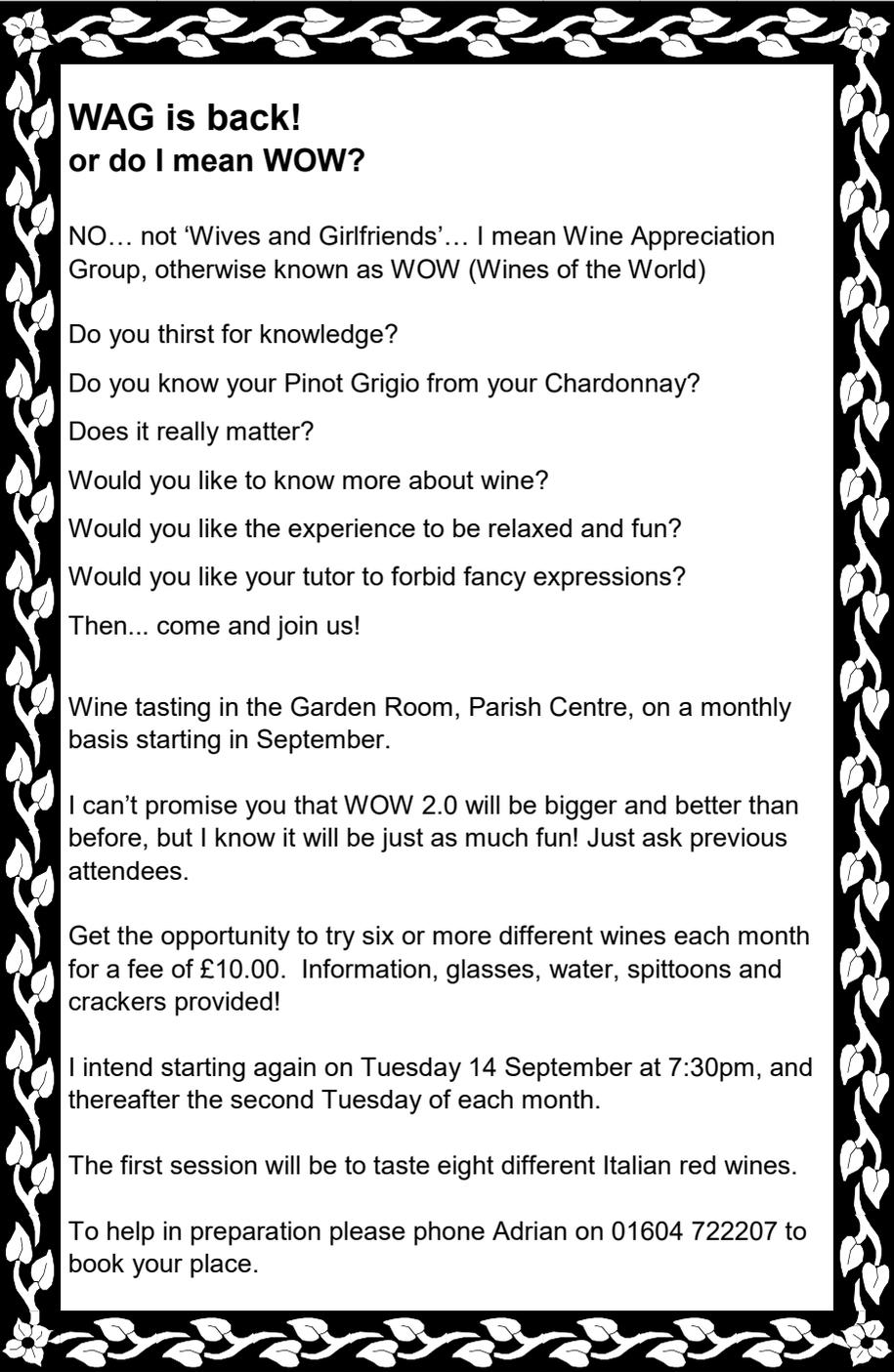
It met monthly in the Garden Room of the Parish Centre and over a period of two hours we would learn, taste and discuss that month's theme. Since it was an informal group, the discussions were lively and nobody felt inhibited in giving their honest opinions. Taste is a very personal experience, and does not respond to being told what is good or bad! Similarly, the aromas of each wine respond to our own 'smell' memories which can sometimes be an asset, and also sometimes a hindrance.

Unfortunately, the arrival of Covid-19 was unexpected, and we have been unable to meet for just over a year. However, in our first year we did manage to taste 92 different wines. We scored each wine on a scale of 1 to 10. We try to give a 'quality' score, based on our own impressions, since knowing the price of a wine can influence and alter one's opinion. With a score of 5 being a 'pass' mark, a total of 72 wines achieved a pass. One wine actually scored a perfect 10 (a 7-year-old dessert champagne).

One particularly lively evening was called BYOB – bring a bottle all wrapped up in paper, serve it around to all and sit back and grin at our attempts to identify the wine. It is good for business, because our lack of knowledge can be used in continuing the necessary education!



The good news is that lockdown is hopefully ending, and the WOW group will be starting again in September. Please see the accompanying advert with further details.



WAG is back!
or do I mean WOW?

NO... not 'Wives and Girlfriends'... I mean Wine Appreciation Group, otherwise known as WOW (Wines of the World)

Do you thirst for knowledge?

Do you know your Pinot Grigio from your Chardonnay?

Does it really matter?

Would you like to know more about wine?

Would you like the experience to be relaxed and fun?

Would you like your tutor to forbid fancy expressions?

Then... come and join us!

Wine tasting in the Garden Room, Parish Centre, on a monthly basis starting in September.

I can't promise you that WOW 2.0 will be bigger and better than before, but I know it will be just as much fun! Just ask previous attendees.

Get the opportunity to try six or more different wines each month for a fee of £10.00. Information, glasses, water, spittoons and crackers provided!

I intend starting again on Tuesday 14 September at 7:30pm, and thereafter the second Tuesday of each month.

The first session will be to taste eight different Italian red wines.

To help in preparation please phone Adrian on 01604 722207 to book your place.



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

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

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

SOLUTION TO SUDOKO ON PAGE 17

Olde England Public House

199 Kettering Road, Northampton
NN1 4BP
Tel. 01604 603799



NOW OPEN AGAIN
(USE IT OR LOSE IT!)

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 7.00pm - 10.00pm

Thursday & Friday: 5.00pm – 12.00am

Saturday: 3.00pm - 12.00am

Sunday: 3.00pm – 11.00pm

smile.amazon.co.uk

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!

32nd St Matthew's Multi-Aged Unit

Mandy Ludlow

Well, at long last it has happened! After 15 months, as some of the Rainbows and Brownies reminded us, we have met together for the first time, face-to-face at the Parish Centre, albeit outdoors, but nonetheless, altogether.

Monday 7 June was our much-awaited and planned-for return; 42 pages of risk assessments, planning of a suitable programme, purchase of more PPE and organisation – we did it! The weather was in our favour, warm and sunny with a breeze. The first challenge was how do we set up and how do we do something that is suitable for all the girls, age range 5–15? The answer lay in the church garden. For the weeks leading up to half term when we were still meeting on Zoom, the younger girls planted a variety of seeds – these were grown and brought back on the 7th. First the weeds needed to be removed, that was my job, spade in hand; these were soon removed, much to Fr Nicholas's mirth – he had popped along and was talking to the girls. As I said to him, having two allotments prepares you for the removal of weeds. Next it was time to do something about the soil as it was not in particularly good condition, certainly for planting. The younger girls loved the fact that they could get their hands dirty moving compost from the bag to the garden. Once done, they started to plant and sow more seeds. Brownies had been doing recycling projects in earlier weeks and made watering cans out of old milk containers so were in charge of the watering. The church grounds are a wonderful space, and we are so very lucky to have access to them every Monday; many units only have the hall they meet in and that's it. Although in an urban area it could still be a habitat for insects and the like, with this in mind the Guides made a bee house and a bug hotel; these will give bees and insects somewhere to 'live'. The girls completed these tasks, being given the chance, under very close supervision, to use a drill, screwdriver and hammers. Once done, they went off to decide where they should be positioned – have a look – can you see them?

Because of social distancing and the need to clean everything, the Rangers did a separate activity and did the first stage of making a buddy burner. These girls will get their chance by making a butterfly house and two types of bird box.

Whilst still 'zooming' some of the girls took part in the Captain Sir Tom Moore 100 Challenge. We had everything from 100 trampoline jumps, 100 forward rolls, 100 laps running around the garden, 100 leg ups to collecting 100 daisies and making up the numbers 100.

Our older girls have made earrings with Jenna and the Guides have made a pizza in a mug using the microwave – who knew you could do such a thing?

Some of you reading this will recall some months ago the girls made cards to say thank you to the NHS; these were then sent to Northampton General Hospital. A number of weeks have passed but on Friday last week I received an email from the Chief Executive to say that they were delighted with them and I am led to believe, having now spoken to the hospital, that they are looking at ways to put all the cards together in one poster and these will go on to every ward.





UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Associate Teaching Hospital



Northampton General Hospital
NHS Trust

From the office of Eileen Doyle
Hospital Chief Executive
e-mail: Eileen.doyle1@nhs.net
Our Ref: EQ/AP

Cliftonville
Northampton
NN1 5BD
Switchboard: 01604 634700

Mandy Ludlow and the Leadership Team
32nd St Matthew's Rainbows, Brownies, Guides
and Senior Section



8th June 2021

Dear Mandy, Leaders, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section

I write to thank you for the wonderful cards and badges you all sent to us here at Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust.

The past year has been very challenging for everyone but especially for those working in the hospital and it makes such a difference to all the staff to know that what they are doing is appreciated by the general public, it is particularly touching when children take the time to write and thank us.

We are especially grateful for the beautiful COVID-19 Heroes badges that you sent and we are working on a way to make sure as many staff as possible can receive one – perhaps in a digital format. We are also working on making a display of the many cards so staff from all over the hospital can see them.

Thank you again for writing, it is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Eileen Doyle
Hospital Chief Executive
Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust

Pizza in a Mug

- 4 tablespoons of self-raising flour
- A pinch of salt
- 3 tablespoons of milk
- 1 tablespoon of oil
- 1 tablespoon of tomato puree or passata
- 2 tablespoons of grated mozzarella cheese
- A mug
(You may wish to add additional toppings to your pizza.)



Method:

1. Mix the self-raising flour and the salt together in a mug.
2. Add in the milk and the oil, mixing until it makes a dough.
3. Spoon the tomato puree on top of the dough and spread it around.
4. Sprinkle on the cheese and any other additional toppings.
5. Cook in the microwave for 1 minute and 40 seconds.



(Timings are based on an 800W microwave. Your timing may vary.)

Tip out of the mug, cool and enjoy!

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!



NHS CHARITIES
TOGETHER

YOU'RE INVITED TO A TEA PARTY LIKE NO OTHER



The NHS celebrates its birthday on 5th July. So join us for the NHS Big Tea, a national outpouring of gratitude to our NHS champions. Brew your thank you for every nurse, hospital porter, cleaner, clinician and paramedic – who have given so much to care for us.

#NHSBigTea

WHEN:

Monday 5 July

3pm - 4.30pm

WHERE:

St Matthew's

Parish Centre /Garden



Powered with support from



nhsbigtea.co.uk

NHS Charities Together is the trading name of the Association of NHS Charities. Registered Charity No: 1905905. England & Wales and 8028276. Scotland. Charitable Company No: 12105218.

FREE ADMISSION - Donations for NHS Charities Together will be taken on the day. Whilst not essential it would help with planning to let Gary Drinkwater 07861860985 or the Parish Office 01604 791251 know if you are coming.

28 garydrinkwater@hotmail.co.uk

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 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).

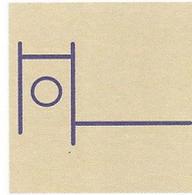
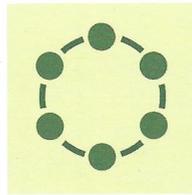
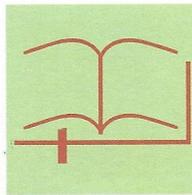
There are two methods of payment available: by a banker's direct debit or by weekly-numbered envelopes via the collection plate. The amount that you give is entirely confidential and is known only to the lay people who administer the Scheme.

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