

St Matthew's **MAIL**

**Suggested
Donation**

£1.00

News from the Parish of Kingsley, Northampton

SEPTEMBER 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 5.30pm Evensong/Choral Evensong with a Said Mass on Monday at 7.00pm, Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday at 12noon. Other services as advertised — please keep referring to our website for latest information. 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
--------	---

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 September

Date *Observance*

1	Feria
2	Feria
3	S Gregory the Great
4	Of the BVM
5	THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (Proper 18)
6	Feria – Healing
7	Feria
8	Birth of the BVM
9	Feria
10	Feria
11	Of OLW
12	THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (Proper 19)
13	S John Chrysostom, B and Dr
14	Holy Cross Day
15	Feria
16	Ss Cornelius, Pp, and Cyprian, B, Ms
17	Monthly Requiem
18	Of the BVM
19	THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (Proper 20)
20	Saints and Martyrs of Australasia and the Pacific
21	S MATTHEW, Ap – Patronal Festival
22	Feria
23	Feria
24	Our Lady of Walsingham
25	Of the BVM
26	DEDICATION FESTIVAL
27	S Vincent de Paul, Pr
28	Feria
29	MICHAELMAS
30	S Jerome, Pr and Dr

NB **Bold** denotes weekdays on which the eucharist will be celebrated

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

September Letter from the Vicar

Where your treasure is...

September is always a busy time within our worshipping community for it ushers in a series of autumn celebrations – the Patronal and Dedication Festivals, Michaelmas – that we rightly anticipate and enjoy. This year, perhaps more so than ever, our festivities, coming on the back of the widespread suffering and deprivations of the pandemic, have a particular resonance and poignancy for each of us. Their characteristic joy contrasts sharply with our shared experience and, God willing, will shine a little light into the shadowy places where we have been forced to live and endure. Our celebrations will therefore be tinged with an uncommon depth of feeling, and will make particular demands of us individually and as a community. Tentatively, step by step, we are hopefully emerging into the light, and moving toward something we recognise as 'normal'. Perhaps we can see these in September celebrations not only our Christian inheritance but also the challenges they present here and now for us to rededicate ourselves to Christ's service. We have the assurance of the prayerful support of those who have gone before.

Amid so many things, attendance at worship has been disrupted these past eighteen months for both understandable and inexplicable reasons. The month ahead invites us to come together not only to recall the founding of St Matthew's Parish, the consecration of our spiritual home, the generosity and foresight of benefactors, but also to consider afresh the here and now lessons to be drawn from our titular saint, Matthew.

Matthew's life was most likely one of adversity and then radical and unexpected change, indeed transformation. A social outcast among his own people, Matthew was chosen by Christ, and immediately he left behind his forced occupation as a tax collector for the occupying Romans to freely number among the twelve apostles. By human standards Christ made a surprising choice. He saw the potential and was not disappointed. Matthew co-operated with Christ's initiative, he faithfully, trustingly followed Christ not knowing where it would lead. He left behind old ways, old hurts, to embrace a new life, he chose freedom above familiarity, he discarded a preoccupation material treasure and instead became rich in spirit. And he became personally generous.

We know that we cannot reliably predict the future. There will always be the unexpected, many factors beyond our perception and control. September may be a good time for each of us to make a fresh start, press the reset button, and consciously move forward together. But which way to go? In so

many ways our priorities and the choices we make demonstrate who we are. As Jesus said, 'Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also'. He was not limiting himself to our money, though he was certainly not excluding it.

So, what choices will you make? Pray to God that they will be informed by your faith. It may seem safer to live without ideals and desires, to live an uncommitted life without any apparent particular purpose. It may seem more sensible and convenient to live without desire or hope in this world, and to be detached from such things. It may seem shrewd to have no religion at all, to reserve your position, especially when we consider the evil that even today is done in the name of religious conviction. But what a desert such a life would be.

If we can get matters of faith sorted, our own hearts and minds spiritually speaking 'in the right place', then individually and as a community the challenges we face at St Matthew's at the present time, not only for maintenance but for growth, will be cast in a different light. So, as we begin this autumn season let us pray that we may each come up with the difficult answers, and with committed faithfulness resolve to see them through.

Your sincere friend and parish priest,

Fr. Nicholas

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

SOLUTION ON PAGE 24

A Fond Farewell

This is the last magazine resource that I expect to write before my farewell service, which is due to be Evensong at the Cathedral on Sunday 31 October at 3.30 pm. Necessary precautions permitting, I hope that will be an occasion when I might be able to see many of you in person, in a way that has not been possible recently.



The life of an archdeacon can be somewhat relentless (as, I hasten to recognise, can many other roles) and I have been conscious of diminishing stamina over the past couple of years – and I no longer look exactly as I did in the 2012 photo that accompanies this letter – so it therefore seemed appropriate that, in this year in which I have become a pensioner, I should step aside and see the baton pass to someone younger (presumably!). Having made that decision some time ago, I have become increasingly aware of the fact that I will miss my role enormously.

Maria and I came to this diocese from London in 1994, first on my appointment as vicar of St Alban's, Northampton, where our son and daughter, Andrew and Elizabeth, were born. From there we moved to Peterborough in 2001, where I served first as vicar of the city centre parish of St John the Baptist, before I became archdeacon of the north-eastern half of the diocese in 2012. Just as it was a great honour to serve in those two parishes, so too has it been to serve as an archdeacon for the final stage of my stipendiary ministry. I have greatly enjoyed the visits I have been able to make over those years to so many of the 170 parishes in the archdeaconry, whether on Sundays or during the week, and grateful for the warm welcomes I have received. The pandemic has made for a very odd final year and more, doing virtually everything from my desk, with meetings and interviews on zoom rather than in the parishes.

As we enter what we hope will be a sustained period of greater normality, we thank God for one another, for the mutual support and cooperation that we have experienced and witnessed across the diocese and, indeed, throughout this land. We express our great gratitude to all who have been seeing us through this crisis, and not least the staff of the NHS, and we pray for all for whom this has been a particularly difficult or sad time, and for the many countries in the world that lack the considerable benefits which we enjoy.

Above all, let us continue to put our whole trust in God and seek to ever deepen our relationship with him, that we may be alert and responsive to his promptings, in all that he calls us to be and to do in the years ahead, whatever our circumstances. May he richly bless you as you continue onwards on your journey of Christian discipleship – in worship, witness and service.

With my prayers and very best wishes

Gordon Steele Archdeacon of Oakham

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

Email: communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk



Saturday 11 September 2021

It's almost time! Many thanks to those of you who have already offered help, but it's not too late if you still haven't got round to it yet...

What's it for?

Ride+Stride is organized by the county Historic Churches Trust – voluntary organisations that raise money for the restoration and maintenance of historic churches and chapels, supported by the national Churches Trust. It's been an annual event across most of the country since it began in Suffolk in 1981, Northamptonshire joining in 1955, and last year even COVID-19 didn't stop it, and with your help we raised £615, half of which came back to St Matthew's – funds raised are divided equally between the Trust and the individually sponsored church.

How can you help?

I now have the volunteers to record cyclists and walkers who come to St Matthew's — result! What we need now is **sponsorship**. Can you help us raise funds for Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust, to help churches in this county who need financial help for repairs and projects, like we benefitted with a generous grant when we needed it? If you can — and any amount is gratefully received — please pop it into an envelope addressed to **Dorrie Parker, Ride+Stride** with your clearly readable name, address and phone number and give it to me either in person after Sunday Mass or post it through the Parish Office letterbox. If you want to pay by cheque please make it out to 'NHCT'. And please indicate on the envelope if you are willing to gift aid to NHCT so they can claim another 25% on your donation from the tax you have paid.

Thank you in anticipation!

Dorrie Parker

IAO MIDLANDS ORGAN DAY

THE INCORPORATED
ASSOCIATION OF ORGANISTS



NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT
ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

Saturday 25 September 2021

St. Matthew's Church

Kettering Road, Northampton, NN1 4RY

TWO EVENTS : ONE DAY

I 10am IAO Midlands Organ Day ~ Liturgical Playing

Including Masterclasses led by **Richard Pinel** (Jesus College Cambridge) with **Andrew Reid** (Harrison & Harrison), **Justin Miller** (St. Matthew's, Northampton), **Jonathan Kingston** (St. Mary & St. Giles, Stony Stratford) & **Callum Alger** (St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton)

Open Consoles to play outstanding Northampton organs including St. Matthew's & All Saints'.

2 7pm The N&DOA Centenary Organ Recital

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the foundation of the Northampton & District Organists' Association given on the historic J.W. Walker organ at St. Matthew's Church by **Andrew Reid & Callum Alger**

Tickets: Organ Day £18 (Non-members £20) • U18 or FT Student £10
Organ Recital £16 • U18 or FT Student £8

Bookings: via www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/midlands-organ-day
Online in advance or pay at the door. Booking forms also in our leaflet

Reg Charity No. 274679

www.northamptonorganists.org.uk

Events sponsored by



HARRISON & HARRISON
ORGAN BUILDERS

CHURCH ORGAN WORLD
MADE • OPERATED • SERVICED • REPAIRED

A Date for your Diary

The Northampton & District Organists' Association will be holding the Midlands Organ Day at St Matthew's on Saturday 25 September 2021 and the N&DOA Centenary Organ Recital.

The Association wishes to invite members and friends of St Matthew's to attend this unique day focused on a skill central to the role of organists – Playing for the Liturgy, and/or to the evening organ recital.

The day will be structured around insightful masterclasses facilitated by:

Richard Pinel, Fellow and Director of Music at Jesus College, Cambridge,

Andrew Reid, Managing Director of Harrison & Harrison,

and **Jonathan Kingston**, Director of Music at St Mary & St. Giles, Stony Stratford.

Callum Alger, Director of Music, St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, and former organ scholar at St Matthews, will also demonstrate the organ.

Later in the day, we celebrate the iconic **J W Walker organ** at St Matthew's, Northampton – once described as 'the finest parish church organ in England' and would love you to stay and hear **The N&DOA Centenary Organ Recital** where Andrew and Callum will showcase the organ.

The Association promises you an outstanding and enjoyable day, and we do hope you will join us.

You can purchase tickets and obtain more information at the N&DOA website:

<http://northamptonorganists.org.uk/midlands-organ-day/>



Richard Pinel



Andrew Reid



Jonathan Kingston



Callum Alger

None Other Name

Sheila Rotherham

Back in April this year, the book for St Mary's Church Ware Bible Study was the Acts of the Apostles. As I read it beforehand in preparation, a couple of verses stuck in my mind. One was Acts 4 verse 12: '... there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.' It reminded me of a hymn which I remembered well. I could not find it in any of the different and new denominational hymn books on my shelf. Then I turned to the ever-helpful Google, and there it was! AND written by Christina Rossetti. Here are the three verses:

None other Lamb, none other Name,
None other hope in heaven or earth or sea,
None other hiding-place from guilt and shame,
None beside Thee.

My faith burns low, my hope burns low;
Only my heart's desire cries out in me,
By the deep thunder of its want and woe,
Cries out to Thee.

Lord, Thou art life, though I be dead;
Love's fire Thou art, however cold I be:
Nor heaven have I, nor place to lay my head,
Nor home, but Thee.

Each line is inspired by a verse of scripture - and the quotes here are from the Authorised Version, which I imagine Christina used, unless she was a Greek or Hebrew scholar.

Line 2 – 'Christ in you, the hope of glory.' Colossians 1 verse 27

Line 3 – 'Hide me under the shadow of Thy wings.' Psalm 17 verse 8

Line 5 – 'Oh ye of little faith.' Matthew 8 verse 26

Line 6, 7, 8 – 'My heart and flesh crieth out for the living God.' Psalm 84 verse 2

Line 9 – 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' John 14 verse 6.

Line 10 – 'I am come that they may have life and... have it more abundantly.'
John 10 verse 10

Line 11 – '...to an inheritance... reserved in heaven for you.' 1 Peter 1 verse 3

Line 12 – 'Whom have I in heaven but Thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire beside Thee.' Psalm 73 verse 25

Another nudge from Google, and I found the hymn in my precious 1933 Methodist Hymnal, with the lovely tune I remembered – *All Hallows* by Frederick Luke Wiseman (1859-1944). Underneath the music, and in tiny print, it says ‘Copyright 1904, Methodist Conference’. It appears he must have been inspired to write the music after reading the poem, which was published in 1892-3, shortly before Christina died in 1894. It is a sublime and inspiring mixture of words and music – it would be wonderful if it could become more well-known.

The Ebb and Flow

When first thou on me, Lord, wrought'st thy sweet print,
My heart was made thy tinder box.
My 'ffections were thy tinder in't:
Where fell thy sparks by drops.
Those holy sparks of heavenly fire that came
Did ever catch and often out would flame.

But now my heart is made thy censer trim,
Full of thy golden altar's fire,
To offer up sweet incense in
Unto thyself entire:
I find my tinder scarce thy sparks can feel
That drop out from thy holy flint and steel.

Hence doubts out bud for fear thy fire in me
'S a mocking ignis fatuus;
Or lest thine altars fire out be,
It's hid in ashes thus.
Yet when the bellows of thy spirit blow
Away mine ashes, then thy fire doth glow.

Edward Taylor (1642–1729)

August Wordsearch Answers

Did you find the words listed in the grid? They were all types of bread:

BRIOCHE	CHALLAH	CIABATTA	MUFFIN
NAAN	PITTA	PUMPERNICKLE	SODA

Finding God in all things

Fr Peter

An interesting thing happened to me recently. I was undergoing a number of tests for my heart. During two of these tests I had to lie full length with my arms above my head holding on to a strap. Whilst I was lying there I thought of Jesus stretched on the cross for six hours. Any discomfort I experienced could not have been anything like his, nailed to the wood. I thought not only of Jesus, but of those who are denied their freedom, people restricted in their movements because of their opposition to dictatorships, those like Mrs Ratcliffe in Iran being held as a political bargaining chip. I considered people whose movements are restricted in different ways because of illness/injury/age. People who are told they have an incurable illness and the effect on them and their loved ones.

The words of St Ignatius "finding God in all things" led me to a time of intercession for others in their experience of the cross in their lives. Put another way, it was a moment of experiencing "the sacrament of the present moment" in which God can give us a nudge through the ordinary things of life.

Olde England Public House

**199 Kettering Road
Northampton NN1 4BP
01604 603799**



**NOW OPEN AGAIN
(USE IT OR LOSE IT!)**

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 7.00pm - 10.00pm

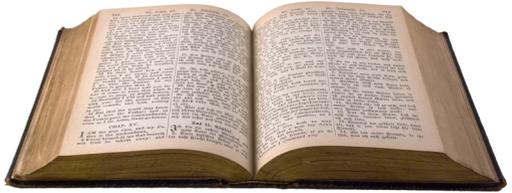
Thursday & Friday: 5.00pm - 12.00am

Saturday: 3.00pm - 12.00am

Sunday: 3.00pm - 11.00pm

Weekday Scripture Readings for September

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.



Wednesday	1 st	Judges 4.1-10	Romans 1.8-17
Thursday	2 nd	Isaiah 49.14-end	John 16.16-24
Friday	3 rd	Job 9.1-24	Mark 15.21-32
Saturday	4 th	Exodus 19.1-9	John 20.11-18
Monday	6 th	Haggai 1	Mark 7.9-23
Tuesday	7 th	Proverbs 21.1-18	Mark 6.30-44
Wednesday	8 th	Hosea 11.1-11	1 John 4.9-end
Thursday	9 th	Lamentations 3.34-48	Romans 7.14-end
Friday	10 th	1 Kings 19.4-18	1 Thessalonians 3
Saturday	11 th	Deuteronomy 29.2-15	2 Timothy 3.10-end
Monday	13 th	Job 12.1-16	Matthew 15.1-9
Tuesday	14 th	Isaiah 63.1-16	1 Corinthians 1.18-25
Wednesday	15 th	Proverbs 2.1-15	Colossians 1.9-20
Thursday	16 th	Genesis 1.1-13	John 1.1-18
Friday	17 th	Deuteronomy 7.7-16	1 Corinthians 1.18-end
Saturday	18 th	Jeremiah 1.4-10	Luke 2.41-end
Monday	20 th	Genesis 21.1-13	Luke 1.26-38
Tuesday	21 st	Ecclesiastes 5.4-12	Matthew 19.16-end
Wednesday	22 nd	2 Kings 4.1-7	John 2.1-11
Thursday	23 rd	2 Kings 4.25b-37	Mark 3.19b-35
Friday	24 th	Ruth 1.1-18	John 19.25b-30
Saturday	25 th	Exodus 15.19-27	Acts 1.6-14
Monday	27 th	Exodus 19.16-end	Hebrews 12.18-end
Tuesday	28 th	1 Chronicles 16.1-13	Revelation 11.15-end
Wednesday	29 th	Daniel 10.4-end	Revelation 5
Thursday	30 th	Nehemiah 8.1-12	1 Corinthians 14.1-12



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

September Recipe

Again, this month's recipe has been chosen owing to the fact that there are a lot of courgettes on the allotment and we are all looking for new and tasty ways of using them.

Courgette and Stilton Soup

Ingredients

- 1 tbs vegetable oil
- 250 gm onions, diced
- 2 cloves of garlic, chopped
- 500 gm courgettes, diced
- 200 gm potatoes, diced
- 850 ml stock – this can be chicken or vegetable
- Salt and pepper
- 85gm Stilton
- 2 tbs snipped chives

Method

1. Heat the oil in a large pan (large enough to take all the other ingredients)
2. Add the onions and cook on a low heat until soft
3. Once the onions are soft add the garlic and cook for a further 3 or 4 minutes
4. To this add the diced potatoes and courgettes, mix well to combine
5. Add the stock and bring slowly to the boil
6. Turn heat down and simmer until all vegetables are cooked
7. Using a stick blender blend together to make a smooth and silky soup (if you do not have a stick blender a food processor or blender can be used, failing that it can be done the 'old fashioned' way of pushing through a sieve)
8. Crumble in the Stilton, stir to combine
9. Taste and adjust seasoning – as required, to taste
10. Serve in bowls topped with the snipped chives

Delicious! Enjoy

Bell Boating at Pitsford with the 36th St Matthew's Cubs and Scouts followed by a PCC meeting on Zoom



An exciting ending to the Scouting year. On 22 July 2021, some Cubs and Scouts met at Pitsford Reservoir to try out a spot of bell boating.

Bell boats are like two long canoes joined together down the middle. The Cubs went first and all put on the special life jackets. Some Mummies and Daddies were persuaded to join us so we took out two boats. We will concentrate on the yellow boat because that had the best people in it. Bagheera and Baloo at the front, Elizabeth and her dad next, Shay and Camran behind them and Camran's mum and Hedgehog at the back, Mr Badger steering at the very back. The blue boat contained the rest. Mr Badger explained how to row so that we actually went forward and not just round and round in circles, and then we set off across the vast expanse of water. Akela stayed on the shore with his camera shouting reassuring words of encouragement.



When we had gone quite a long way out and Akela was rather small, his voice of encouragement could no longer be heard. That's when it got interesting.

Mr Badger decided to show us just how safe bell boating was; he said you couldn't capsize no matter what. So he got us all standing up down the middle of the boat. All that is except for Camran's mum and Hedgehog, whose legs had turned to jelly at the very idea of standing up in a boat in the middle of a reservoir. Now anyone who knows Hedgehog will know that Hedgehog can fall on or off or into anything. In the last year she has crashed her tandem resulting in many cuts and bruises, fallen off her bike and broken her finger (this little finger on my right), and fallen down the stairs at home causing a rather splendid black eye to appear. But those are another story.



Back to the Cubs standing up in the boats to show how uncapsizable they were. Mr Badger, to Hedgehog's absolute horror, then got them to sing with great gusto and elaborate actions. The song he chose was Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes. I suppose we should be thankful that it wasn't the Hokey Cokey. Anyway, surprisingly and thankfully the boats remained upright and everyone stayed in them. (But Hedgehog and Camran's mum still didn't stand up. No thank you. They were quite happy where they were. Hedgehog was trying to stay dry.)

We played lots of games like tug of war, races, pulling each other's boats and joining up to make one big boat. The Cubs got very confident with changing places and taking turns at steering. Amazingly no oars got lost which was rather surprising. We had a final race back to near the bank where Akela was looking dry and happy and still being encouraging.



We were all a little damp, but not too bad, that is until the last game – ‘see how wet you can make the people in the other boat, by splashing with your oars’. Well, that was it. Suddenly we were all incredibly wet (even our pants were wet). Now, Hedgehog had not planned on going out on the boats, so she hadn't brought a change of clothes or even a towel. She was feeling slightly vexed at the wetness of herself. Then as if that wasn't enough, the Cubs, bless them the little darlings, (I now remember why I stopped being Akela some years back and decided on the much safer role of Hedgehog) decided to jump in for a swim. Well, despite her pleas for a bit of genuine kindness, Bagheera and Baloo, nice boys normally, thought it would be hilarious to sneak up and do very big splashes right next to Hedgehog and Camran's mum, making them wetter than wet. So deciding to take one for team girl/mum, Hedgehog threw caution to the wind and jumped in too.

Everyone cheered, except for Akela, who went very white and started jumping up and down waving his arms wildly and yelling. It took a while for Hedgehog to realise that he was shouting “What are you doing (darling)? You have a zoom meeting in ten minutes! What on earth are you playing at? Are you mad? Whatever will Father Nicholas think? Please get out immediately!” So Hedgehog swam to the bank and got out. She was very wet and a bit smelly. Luckily Bagheera, feeling remorseful, lent Hedgehog his towel, as he didn’t need it just yet cos the Scouts were arriving for their session. Also, Akela (once a scout always a scout), was prepared and had a spare t-shirt in the car so Hedgehog, a bit damp and drippy, was able to sit on a bench dressed in an oversized t-shirt and wrapped in a towel. The zoom meeting went ahead without a hitch.



A very successful evening, I think. Home for a shower and fish and chips.
 Thank goodness for the washing machine.

Hedgehog ☐



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

Book Review

Learning to Pray

A guide for everyone

James Martin

Harper Collins £16.99

‘Learning to Pray’ offers a basic guide to what prayer is, how to set about it, and what it feels like. “I’ll assume that you know next to nothing about prayer. That way I’ll be able to include everyone, beginners through to those with years of experience. But I will also assume that you can come up to speed quickly.”

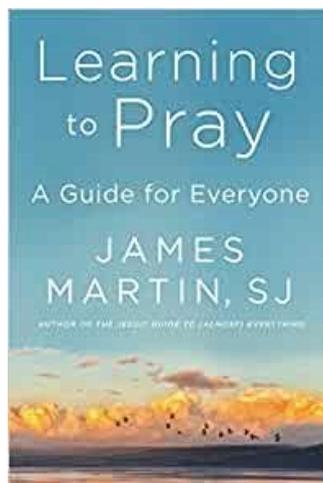
Martin starts by affirming how much implicit prayer we may have already experience of without realising, and commends as his dominant model for praying “conversation with God” as with a friend.

He is clear that prayer is about God – this is not a book on mindfulness – though it is some time before his generalised talk of God acquires some edges by reference to Christ or to the Bible.

As he reviews various methods of praying, it is clear that Martin addresses a general audience, but does so firmly as a Jesuit. He describes the common currency of conversational prayer, written prayers, lectio divina, and petitionary prayer, but reserves extended consideration for the daily Examen – the structured review of the day as taught by Ignatius – and for the practice of Ignatian contemplation.

‘Learning to Pray’ is full of good sense and helpful realism, not least about spiritual dryness – “Here is what sometimes happens in the morning – nothing.” Beneath its savvy, unpius presentation, it offers broadly conventional teaching that is not particularly theological, original, or deep, but provides for a general readership an easily digested introduction to personal prayer and showcases the Jesuit tradition.

The Revd Philip Welsh is a retired priest in the diocese of London



A Gift of Bread

by Jan Sutch Pickard (*This is an edited article which was originally published in magnet magazine. By permission*)

What can we learn from Jesus and the early Christians about living as a community?

What a challenging question – but perhaps together we can begin to answer it. To start the conversation, I believe the kind of community we are talking about is inclusive, attractive, alternative, sometimes controversial, travels light, is committed to the common good, is generous, hospitable.

Community is often found where food is shared. Right now, I'm sitting at the kitchen table of fellow members of the Iona Community in Glasgow. There's food on the table, laughter round it. One person describes an encounter with folk in their local church, unwilling to change. Another has been at a meeting of the city's Health Board, which faces many challenges. One spent the morning on her knees, at a foot clinic in a hostel for the homeless, another, giving shelter to an asylum seeker from Somalia, has taken up her case with the authorities.

Read Acts 2:44-47 and Acts 4:32-37

The community that came together after Pentecost shared meals – and many other things. What aspects strike you particularly? Having all things in common? The dramatic growth in numbers? These make it a hard act to follow for the communities of which you and I may be part.

My varied experiences of community include being part of a manse family in Notting Hill and a member of that inner city congregation for 18 years. For 20 years now I've been a Member of the Iona Community (which is dispersed), and for six of them worked in the Community's Centres in Iona, latterly as Warden of the Abbey. Since leaving Iona, I've twice been a volunteer with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel: for three months at a time forming a household with a small international team in a village house in a Palestinian community. We experienced great hospitality from our neighbours, who lived in poverty and stress in an occupied country. Home for me is now a village on Mull, where small congregations reflect the gifts, traditions and tensions of the local community.

What have you learned about Christian community and where? Reflect, write a list or share a story with someone else. You may be surprised.

When I lead worship in tiny Church of Scotland congregations (although my Methodist membership lies on the mainland) we try to connect with communities of the early church: a world away, culturally. But the book of Acts or Paul's Epistles may help us to reflect both on people trying to live in

God's way and on the breakdown of community caused by human frailty. As a storyteller however, it is to the Gospels I keep turning, because they bring alive the kind of community that gathered around Jesus, signs of the kingdom which may be glimpsed too where we are today.

Here are my 'signs of community'. You can find similar stories in other Gospels, and many more examples.

Inclusive – Jesus ate with taxcollectors and sinners (Luke 19:1-10), shared meals with watchful Pharisees; people in need of healing came through the door (or the roof! Mark 2:1-12) and women and children were welcome (Luke 8:40-56, Luke 9:46-48). He told parables of the great feast (Luke 14:15-23).

Attractive – the crowds followed him everywhere, fishermen were called from the shore (Mark 1:16-20), a blind man jumped up in the street (Luke 18:36-43) and a dodgy financier came down from a tree (Luke 18:35-43). Some became disciples.

Alternative – family ties were challenged (Luke 8:19-21); folk were taken out of their comfort zone (Luke 14:25-27).

Controversial – this community created many spaces where healing could happen and religious rules might be broken. It challenged assumptions (Luke 4:16-30; see also some of the above stories, or find other examples).

Travelling light – we see a group of people on a journey, hear conversations on the road. While 'the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head', community is being formed.

Committed to the common good – community happens when hungry people share an open-air meal (Mark 6:30-46 – depicted so vividly in the painting *The Five Thousand* by Eularia Clarke in the Methodist Art Collection).

Generous – Jesus' generosity with his time and awareness of people's needs and gifts are mirrored by those who offer other gifts, from Simon's mother-in-law (Mark 1:29-31) to the women who were among his followers (Luke 8:1-3).

Hospitable – the open homes at Bethany and Emmaus; the different welcomes of Martha's cooking and Mary's listening; a story of a father welcoming his lost son (Luke 15:11-32).

Which of these stories speak most strongly to you? Do any of them connect, in practical details or in spirit, with communities you know? What conversation might happen round your kitchen table?

I find meaning in the many meals at the heart of Jesus' community – 'they knew him in the breaking of the bread' (Luke 24:35). This is bread for us to go on sharing.

32nd St Matthew's Multi-Aged Unit

Mandy Ludlow

Having been back meeting face to face for just four weeks, our last evening was to have been spent at Jubilee, Girlguiding's camp site at Castle Ashby, but true to the British weather it was forecast for torrential rain, gales and the possibility of thunder. So unfortunately we had to cancel and revert to meeting at the Parish Centre, where we held a Teddy Bears' Picnic and had a fun games evening – not what we had planned but the girls had a fun time in spite of this.

As I write this, we are now over 50% through the school holidays and we only have three weeks before we return. During these three weeks we have a leaders' meeting to discuss the weeks ahead and what we will be doing. We must remain cautious despite all legal requirements for restrictions being lifted; we have leaders who care for vulnerable family members, and we also have a couple of youngsters who are yet to return face to face as they too are vulnerable. Therefore we will be continuing with our regime and the new way of working. We must be mindful too that there could be another variant or positive cases increase that will necessitate us moving back to zoom. When deciding our programme, we need to keep this flexible to accommodate every eventuality. The good thing is we do not have to redo our risk assessments – all 42 pages!

Although for the best part of 18 months we only met on zoom, we managed to maintain our numbers and in some sections had new girls. We were also fortunate enough to have two new leaders come and join us.

Bitesize bits 2

So if it's not it's, what's its?

Last time we saw that it's (with an apostrophe) only ever means it is or it has:

"it's a nice day" = "it is a nice day", or "it's been a nice day" = "it has been a nice day".

So what about its without the apostrophe?

It's (with apostrophe) = it is

And its (no apostrophe) = possession, as in his, her, their, my, your, our, its...

None of them has an apostrophe!

Job done.

More stumbling blocks to gently overcome will follow...

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!

Friends of St Matthew's Music 100+ Club

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

Number **6**, held by **Anita Speake**



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

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Macmillan's Coffee Morning is their biggest fundraising event to support people living with cancer. People all over the UK host their own Coffee Morning and donations raised on the day are made to Macmillan. We will be holding one in St Matthew's Parish Centre on

Wednesday 22 September
from 10.00am to 12noon

Please support this event if you can!

Thank you, Girlie Franklin

**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE MORNING**

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 OCTOBER magazine is SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

Editor: Dorrie Parker

Layout and production: Gary Drinkwater

St Matthew's Ladies Group

Please note the meetings are now on Monday afternoons from 2.00pm till 4.00pm in the Parish Centre, on the second and fourth Mondays of the month.

Our first meeting on 13 September will be a welcome back after such a long break. As there may still be concerns about sharing food we suggest everyone brings their own plate of food and a drink. There will also be a Beetle Drive.

We should be able to return as normal, just ensuring the room is ventilated. We will also be required to clean areas we use afterwards. We are sure you will appreciate the guidelines are subject to change so we may need to be flexible.

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back and if you have any friends you would like to introduce to the group please bring them along.

Your Committee

Autumn/Winter programme 2021

13 September	Welcome Social Afternoon with Beetle Drive (+£1)
27 September	AGM and Quiz
11 October	My Trip to India – <i>Sandra Rivett</i>
25 October	Social Afternoon with Bingo (+£1)
8 November	TBA
22 November	Christmas Auction with mince pies and mulled wine
13 December	Christmas Lunch

Though I stumble in my going *Traditional Scottish prayer*

As the rain hides the stars,
as the autumn mist
hides the hills,
as the clouds veil
the blue of the sky, so
the dark happenings of my lot
hide the shining of thy face from me.
Yet, if I may hold thy hand in the darkness,
it is enough, since I know,
that though I may stumble in my going,
Thou dost not fall.
Amen.

The following verses were handed to me recently by a parishioner who has found them helpful. They come from a book entitled, 'a Faithful Witness - an anthology of Brother Edward's teaching'. The section is called 'Members one of another'.

To all Communicants

I woke to hear as day was dawning,

My Angel say: "It's Sunday morning."

The flesh, my soft companion said:

The world which thinks its so knowing

And Satan argued twice a minute

"Why should you go? There's nothing in to ..."

The morning air, the glowing East,

God's holy house, the vested priest.

The faithful grouped in twos and threes,

The flesh washed, dressed and on its knees;

The Church obeyed, the world well flouted,

Our Saviour in and Satan out-ed,

The Cross proclaimed and Christ Our Lord

Sought out, met, welcomed and adored.

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

SOLUTION TO SUDOKO ON PAGE 3

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

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



September Wordsearch

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

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

What Life Has Become

(found on the internet)

I spent an hour in the bank with my dad, as he had to transfer some money. I couldn't resist myself and asked: "Dad, why don't we get you set up for internet banking?"

"Why would I do that?" he asked.

"Well, then you wouldn't have to spend an hour here for things like making a transfer. You can even do your shopping online. Everything would be so much easier!"

I was so excited about initiating him into the world of internet banking.

He asked: "If I do that, then I won't have to step out of the house?"

"That's right!" I said. I told him how even groceries can be delivered to your door now and how Amazon delivers everything you need!

His answer left me tongue-tied.

He said: "Since I came into this bank today, I have met four of my friends, and I have chatted a while with the staff who know me very well by now. You know, I am alone now... this is the company that I need. I like to get ready and come to the bank. I have enough time, it is the physical interaction that I crave. A little while ago, I got ill. The shopkeeper where I buy my fruit and veg came to see me and sat with me and chatted. When your mother had a fall a few years back while on her morning walk, our local newsagent saw her and immediately fetched his car to bring her home as he knows where I live. Would I have that 'human' touch if everything was done online? Why would I want everything delivered to me and force me to interact with just my computer? I like to know the person that I'm dealing with and not just the 'seller'. It creates bonds of relationships. Does Amazon deliver all this as well?"

Technology isn't life...

Spend time with people... Not with devices.

Anon

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!



To Autumn

John Keats 1795-1821

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness!
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For Summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spares the next swath and all its twinèd flowers;
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook;
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,
Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
While barrèd clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

Contributed by Richard Allen

**The Parish Church of
St Matthew Northampton**

From Monday 23 August 2021,
Weekday Services will be:

Mondays

7.00pm Said Mass

Wednesdays

9.30am Said Mass

Fridays

12noon Said Mass

Check out our website:
www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Tuesday
21 September**

**St MATTHEW
Patronal Festival**

7.30pm

**The
Parish Mass**



The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Sunday
26 September**

**128th
FESTIVAL of
DEDICATION**

10.15am
The Parish Mass

5.30pm
Solemn Choral Evensong

The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Wednesday
29 September**

MICHAELMAS

The Feast of
St Michael
and All Angels

7.30pm

The Parish Mass



The Parish Church of St Matthew Northampton

**From Sunday 29 August 2021,
Sunday Services will be:**

10.15am

The Parish Mass

5.30pm

Evensong *or*

Choral Evensong

Check out our website:

www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

The Parish Church of St Matthew Northampton

Come and join us for our monthly

All Age Worship for the Parish Family

Sundays at 10.15am

Battle of Britain Sunday 12 September

*'Never in the field of human conflict
was so much owed by so many to so few'*

Winston Churchill

Harvest Thanksgiving with Baptism 3 October

'There is no 'thanks' without 'giving'

Third Sunday before Advent 7 November

*Jesus calls his disciples. God calls each of us
And we all have an opportunity to answer that call*

Third Sunday of Advent 12 December

*'The Lord is near' is the message of John the Baptist
and of the Advent season*

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

- * Baby only area with sensory toys
- * Toys for Pre-School children to play in a safe environment, including craft and free play
- * For Parents/Grandparents/Carers to have a chat and meet new friends



Adult £1 * Child 50p

Hot drinks included

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

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).

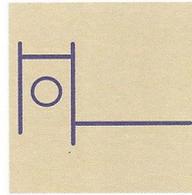
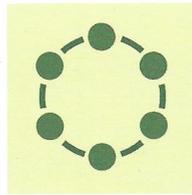
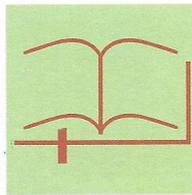
There are two methods of payment available: by a banker's direct debit or by weekly-numbered envelopes via the collection plate. The amount that you give is entirely confidential and is known only to the lay people who administer the Scheme.

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**:
Tue/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	Gary Drinkwater churchwarden@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
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 (<i>Assistant: Ben Drouet</i>) safeguarding@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Verger	Gary Drinkwater
Head Server	Seymour Franklin head-server@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Stewardship Recorder	Polly Matthews
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 Stamer
Friends of St Matthew's Music	Keith Hirst friends@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Parish website

www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk