

Social Events.....

26th May 10.00—12 noon Gardening Party with Bring and Share picnic
(Bring your gardening tools)

2nd June 1.00pm—4.00pm Jubilee Tae Party

7th July 1.00pm Summer Fete

1st Sunday in the month bring & share lunch alternating with pub lunch

Deanery Events.....

Thursday May 17th Deanery Ascension Day Eucharist 7.30pm at Christ Church. President & Preacher Bishop Timothy Bavin

Sunday 20th May Deanery Choral Evensong 6.00pm at Holy Trinity With Bishop Christopher and the Cathedral Choir.

Thursday June 7 (Corpus Christi) 7.30pm Deanery Mass at Forton

Tuesday July 3 (St Thomas's Day) 7.30pm Deanery Mass at Elson
Please attend and represent St Matthews at these deanery events—ask for a lift or look out for lists in the foyer.

ITEMS FOR THIS MAGAZINE

Items to be included in the next issue should reach the editor by 15th of previous month. (15th June)
office@stmatthewsbridgemary.org.uk. If you can't email material make sure you give it to Sue the Sunday before.



Magazine distribution

The magazine will now be published bi-monthly. That is just six times a year.

We are now printing just 40 copies of the magazine each month.

So that we get the widest possible distribution it would be very useful if people could take an extra magazine and give it to a neighbour or friend.



St Matthews Messenger

May 2012

OPEN TO GOD..... OPEN TO ALL.....



Parish CONTACTS:-

Parish Office: 01329 822487 office@stmatthewsbridgemary.org.uk

this is the main contact for booking Baptisms, Wedding Banns etc.

Priests: Rev'd Sue West 07786 662716 & parish office

vicar@stmatthewsbridgemary.org.uk

Reader: Corinne Pattinson 07590 257930 reader@stmatthewsbridgemary.org.uk

Churchwardens: Jeal Curtis 01329 480245

churchwarden@stmatthewsbridgemary.org.uk

Hall Bookings: Pat Goater 01329 234156

Magazine: Rev'd Sue West contact at the Parish Office

Website: Juleen Smith webmaster@stmatthewsbridgemary.org.uk



Poetry Page

A Seafarer's Prayer by Tony Finn

Cast adrift on the seas of life
'neath a sky so angry and grey,
My God, in You must I place my
faith
That You will show me the way.

The clouds are dark and my little
ship
Is ill-equipped for the storm.

Oh, how will I steer when my rudder
is gone
And all of my sails are torn?

The seas are rough and
mountainous waves
Have driven me far from land-
Oh God, please give me the calm
that I crave,
And stretch out Your helping hand.

Life is a voyage of peaks and
troughs

In a vessel that's ever fraught:
How I long for the sight of the
harbour lights,
That I may be safely in port.

So, God, help me steer an even
course

And send me a quiet sea:

For that do I pray at the start of
each day—

My God, please answer my plea.

Let me not fear of the trials of life,
However deep they may be;

I travel in hope that You my God
Will be here to look after me.

Submitted by Tina and David



Worship this month...

3rd June 8.30am BCP Holy Communion Trinity Sunday

10.00am Parish Eucharist Trinity Sunday

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

5th June 9.15am Holy Communion Requiem

Coffee served after the service

9th June 8.30am—3.00pm Indian Orthodox Church

10th June 8.30am BCP Holy Communion First Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Parish Eucharist First Sunday after Trinity

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

12th June 9.15am Holy Communion Our Lady of Walsingham

Coffee served after the service

17th June 8.30am BCP Holy Communion Second Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Parish Eucharist Second Sunday after Trinity (Proper 6)

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

19th June 9.15 am Holy Communion Feria

Coffee served after the service

24th June 8.30am BCP Holy Communion The Birth of John the Baptist

10.00am Parish Eucharist The Birth of John the Baptist

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

26th June 9.30am Holy Communion at Bridgemaury Methodist Church



PRAYER REQUESTS: reminder send your prayer requests to the Parish office office@stmatthewsbridgemaury.org.uk to have them included in the daily prayers at St Matthews. Please say if you want people included in the Sunday intercessions too.

Worship this month...



1st May 9.15am Holy Communion Requiem

Coffee served after service

6th May 8.30am BCP Holy Communion 4th Sunday after Easter

10.00am Parish Eucharist Fifth Sunday of Easter

12 noon Baptisms

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

8th May 9.15am Holy Communion Our Lady of Walsingham

Coffee served after service

12th May 8.30am—3.00pm Indian Orthodox Church

13th May 8.30am BCP Holy Communion fifth Sunday after Easter

10.00am Parish Eucharist Sixth Sunday after Easter

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

15th May 9.15am Holy Communion Feria

Coffee served after service

20th May 8.30am BCP Holy Communion Sunday after Ascension Day

10.00am Parish Eucharist Seventh Sunday after Easter

12 noon Baptism

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

22nd May 9.15am Holy Communion Ecumenical

Coffee served after service

27th May 8.30am BCP Holy Communion Whit Sunday

10.00am Parish Eucharist Day of Pentecost

Refreshments served after the Parish Eucharist

29th May 9.15am Holy Communion Feria

Coffee served after the service

My Dream of the Easter Bunny

In my dream I was in the Mayor's banqueting hall
There were little chocolate bunnies on all the tables
Three men were fumbling under their black and white checked aprons
I had to squeeze a rubber chicken which went 'Honk'
And the three men put out their hands which holding chocolate cream eggs
They gave me a strip of pink numbered tickets as a prize
I asked if they were for a raffle, but they said I would have to come back next year

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER

I had a tap on my shoulder and looked round to see a tall but slim Easter bunny
Then I paid £1.50 to a lady with a clipboard and pen for a photograph
The Easter bunny was now sitting down and he patted his knees enthusiastically
as an invitation so I knew that was what I had to do next
I was very excited as I had not sat on the Easter bunny's lap before, but giggling and kicking my legs in the air seemed to be not inappropriate, though the photographer had strangely disappeared

So I thanked Easter Bunny for his hospitality and stood up again somewhat bemused and more than a little disappointed

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER

I started returning to my table with the chocolate bunnies when the photographer reappeared and told me to go back and sit on the Easter Bunny's lap. I was brought up to obey instructions so I did not argue and anyway it meant I got another go at sitting on the Easter bunny's lap
(so cuddly and fluffy) plus a reward from his little bucket of chocolate cream eggs

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER

When I woke up next morning I knew it had to be a dream but strangely when I emptied my handbag there was a strip of pink raffle tickets

Oh Easter Bunny wherever you are - Thank you, Thank you for giving me something to believe in, and I hope you and your little Bunnikins will have a really chocolatey Easter!!!!



Submitted by Maureen Foster

APCM & AGM

At the time of writing St Matthew's has just had its Annual

General Meeting. This meeting is not only to elect officers to serve the church in various capacities but also for the whole congregation to hear what has been happening during the last year.

The meeting was chaired by Fr John Draper our Area Dean. The first part of the meeting was to elect churchwardens. This year Pat Goater stood down but Jeal Curtis was re-elected. This does mean we have a vacancy for one churchwarden. Unfortunately no one came forward at the meeting. However if you, or you know of someone else, who would like to stand please do let us know. It is an important role and even more so at this time when we are in a vacancy.

There were a number of reports given at the meeting and if you weren't there I'm sure there are still copies available. Please do make sure you read them.

This is an important and exciting time for St Matthew's, With the joint Parish Profile of St Matthew's and St Thomas' now complete and on the website, It is expected that interviews will take place at the end of June for a priest who will fill the vacancy of the plurality of St Matthew's and St Thomas'.

In your prayers please pray for the appointment of the right person who will be able to work with both parishes.

Sue

Morning Prayer Mon-Sat 8:30am

a wonderful way to start the day with some time in bible reading and prayer, joining with the whole church of God offering the day and its work to God.

If you are on the move try www.pray-as-you-go.org for daily prayer



An Inclusive Church. St Matthews Church is a signed up member of the Inclusive Church Network across Briatin. Celebrating and including women, lesbian, gay and bisexual people and people from all racial backgrounds.

Jesus included—we include too!



BBC Songs of Praise

As you may know Val obtained tickets for the real Songs of Praise to go out on Easter Sunday, so off we went again, wearing warmer clothes, parking in virtually the same place as the night before, a short wait outside the church before entering. On entering the church we headed for the Loo's bobbing up and down for 4 hours and not being able to move and only 2 loo's for 700 people!! long queues formed at the end. Again sitting very close to the Previous evening with a better view of choir in the stalls, conductor and guests. Party from St. Johns sitting further back in the congregation area, immediately behind us were 2 parishioners from St. Mary's, Rowner. Proceedings commenced with a formal procession down the aisle with actual church choir following the Easter Candle and boys from St. John's College, Southsea.

In addition to the hymns we were joined by the programme's presenter Aled Jones and guests Laura Wright and Ramin Karimo. They too had to undergo several "takes" on their recordings.

Sadly Aled did not sing although we experienced his wonderful sense of humour, we listened to the delightful voice of Laura who had to repeat her solo and reading several times.

Ramin sang while playing the guitar and read from the pulpit. At least when the guests were recording we were able to sit for several minutes, without bobbing up and down.

Val and I really enjoyed and appreciated being given the opportunities to participate in these evenings and now realise the amount of work that goes into each programme.

Sally James



Ministry for Mission prayer

Lord God,
whose purpose is to make all things new in Jesus,
help us by your Holy Spirit to use the gifts you give us
to share your love, today and every day.
Amen.