



St Matthew Croydon

Sharing the love of God

Message from our
Assistant Priest
Revd Linda Fox

Dear Parishioner
In the Christian tradition, we use Lent (which started on 22 February) to prepare ourselves for the remembrance of the sacrifice that Christ made for us on the cross, and the great celebration of his rising from the dead on Easter morning. You may see us walking from the Vicarage to the church on Palm Sunday, singing joyfully as we re-enact the arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, greeted as a king and someone who was expected to save us from those who ruled at the time.

Our New
Vicar!



We are pleased to announce that The Reverend Ruth Chapman, presently Curate at Warlingham W Chelsham & Farleigh Team Ministry, also in the Diocese of Southwark, has been appointed Vicar at St Matthew, Croydon, subject to completion of the necessary procedures. She is very much looking forward to meeting you all.

<https://stmatthew.org.uk>

Easter at St Matthew's

Palm Sunday 2 nd April	8.30am	Said Eucharist
	10am	Sung Eucharist
Monday 3 rd April	8pm	The Stations of the Cross
Tuesday 4 th April	8pm	Eucharist with Reflection
Wednesday 5 th April	8pm	Taizé Service
Maundy Thursday 6 th April	8pm	Eucharist with Foot Washing
Good Friday 7 th April	12 to 1pm	Church Open for Quiet Reflection
	1 to 2pm	Meditation
	2 to 3pm	The Last Hour
Easter Day 9 th April	10am	Easter Sunday Celebration with Eucharist

For updates visit www.stmatthew.org.uk

Easter at St Matthew's Explained

During Holy Week, from Palm Sunday when we celebrate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on a donkey, to his rising again on Easter Sunday, we mark many of the events that took place in the run-up to the crucifixion with some different services.

The Eucharist is at the heart of Christian worship. It is celebrated by Christians around the world as a memorial of the death and resurrection of Jesus. It takes the form of a shared meal of bread and wine, and each time we share the meal that Jesus shared with his friends, we remember his offering of himself on the cross, we rejoice in his resurrection from the dead, and look forward to the coming of God's Kingdom.

From Monday to Thursday, our services take place at 8pm and everyone is welcome to attend. The Stations of the Cross or the Way of the Cross on Monday evening refers to a series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion with accompanying prayers. The stations grew out of the processional route in Jerusalem symbolising the actual path Jesus walked to Mount Calvary for his crucifixion. The objective of the stations is to help the Christian faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage through the events of his journey to his death.

The Taizé service on Wednesday evening is adapted from services of the Taizé community, an ecumenical monastic order with a strong devotion to peace and justice, based in central France. The monks come from many countries and different denominations of Christians. Today Taizé is one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage. Prayer and silence are at the heart of the Taizé experience. Their unique style of worship has become popular in churches, retreat centres and seminaries throughout the world. The singing of distinctive and much-repeated prayer chants during candlelit prayer services is one of its trademarks. Taizé music highlights simple phrases, usually lines from the Psalms or other pieces of scripture, sung over and over, designed to help meditation and prayer.

During the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday the feet of 12 people are washed to commemorate the time when Jesus insisted on washing the feet of his 12 followers.

On Good Friday, the church is open and we aim to offer space for people to follow the Three Hours' Agony from noon till 3 p.m. to commemorate the three hours of Christ's hanging on the cross, being the time Jesus is said to have died.

On Easter Sunday, we celebrate joyfully the discovery that Christ is still alive, by welcoming the Light of Christ (symbolised by a candle) into our lives.

<https://stmatthew.org.uk>



Coffee Mornings

2nd & 4th Saturday of the month

10.30 am - 12.00 noon



All Welcome!

Why not drop in for coffee and a chat?

**St Matthew's Church
Chichester Road, Croydon**



GALLERY GROUP

11am every Wednesday

at St Matthew's

" We meet in the comfortable
Gallery area.

We have coffee and chat, prayer requests for ourselves, family and friends, then read aloud from a Bible book (Old and New Testaments), and Christian books by writers such as John Bunyan, CS Lewis, Jim Packer, John Stott and RT Kendall. We discuss what we have read in a relaxed and free-ranging manner - nobody demands we must 'get back on message'.

Essentially this is a house group which meets on church premises.
All welcome."

Renew 121

A quiet shared space
where it's ok not to be ok

**Welcome to Renew 121
A Well-being Café at St Matthew's**

Every Monday from 2.00 to 4.00pm our Choir Vestry becomes a community space for a variety of hobbies and activities. These are run by the community for the community. Anyone is welcome to share a hobby or skill and anyone is welcome to join a workshop or activity. They are all free. Or you can come and relax and chat, or enjoy the peace in our quiet area.

The activities are based around the '5 ways to wellbeing' which promote good mental and emotional health. To **connect, give, be active, keep learning** and **take notice** will hopefully contribute towards a preventative approach to mental ill health.

The Renew Café is hosted by St Matthew's Church - all are welcome
For more information contact Penny on 020 8681 3147 or
by email churchadmin@stmatthew.org.uk
www.stmatthew.org.uk
Chichester Road, Croydon, CR0 5NQ

To view these events or to hire our space please visit our website here: www.stmatthew.org.uk or email Penny, our Parish Administrator, churchadmin@stmatthew.org.uk or phone 020 8681 3147



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