



4th January 2026

# PEWS NEWS

Church of St Matthew, Croydon

[www.stmatthew.org.uk](http://www.stmatthew.org.uk)

## Services

Sundays at 8.30am - said service of Holy Communion  
Sundays at 10am service of Holy Communion with singing led by the choir (live-streamed and on YouTube). Mid-week Communion Service on Wednesdays at 10.00am.

## Young Church

Sundays at 10am except the 2nd Sunday of each month which is an Altogether Now Service.

## Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer on Mondays & Wednesdays at 9am in the Lady Chapel. Zoom Morning Prayer - Tuesdays at 9am. Log in details: 524 546 0709 Password: stmatts

## Toddler Group

Thursdays 8.30 to 10.30am

## Renew 121

Mondays 2-4pm

## Gallery Group

Wednesdays 11am - 12pm

## Prayer Focus



Praise the Lord that Alphonsus Afina, a church minister in Nigeria's north-eastern Borno State, has been released after being held for two months by Boko Haram. Alphonsus was rescued by security forces two months after he was kidnapped on his way to a humanitarian and peacebuilding conference in Maiduguri in April. The militants who carried out the ambush fired shots and threw a grenade at the vehicles, killing one passenger and abducting the others. Give thanks for the rescue of Alphonsus and ten women who were also held. Pray that other kidnapped Nigerian Christians still in captivity will be released, and until they are, that the Lord will provide them with courage and comfort.

## This week we are praying for the residents of:

Arthur Court / Cedar View /  
Wilhelmina House

## Readings for 4th January - Second Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 60.1-6 / Ephesians 3: 1-12 /  
Matthew 2: 1-12

# Diary Dates

4th January 2026

## Epiphany Party at the Vicarage

4th January 2026 after church

## How to Lead Intercessions

11th January 2026 after church

## All Age Candlemas

31st January 2026 2-4pm

## Lay Ministry Taster Day

31st January 2026  
10-2pm at Trinity House

## St Matthew's Social

7th February 2026

## Follow Us



## Support Us

Please support our ongoing work in the community

### ROOF APPEAL



Recycle  Charity

 easyfundraising

Dear St Matthew's

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed and wonderful Christmas, New Year and Epiphany and to share this Christmas blessing;

May the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the perseverance of the wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ-child  
be yours this Christmas.

Rev Ruth

All Age  
Candlemas Service  
With Christingle and Crafts

31st  
January  
2-4pm

A collection will be taken for the Children's Society



St Matthew's Church,  
Chichester Road, CR0 5NQ  
www.stmatthew.org.uk



Lay Ministry Taster Day

Saturday 31st January  
10-2pm @ Trinity House (SE1 1HW)

Come and find out more about the different types of ministries including Pastoral, Reader, Pioneer, Church Army and Children and Young People.

With guest speaker Adjoa Andoh MBE — actor, writer, director, and Licensed Reader (Parish of Herne Hill).

For more information and to book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)

Christ Centred Outward Focused

## CONTACT US:

**Vicar** - The Revd Ruth Chapman - email [revruthchapman@gmail.com](mailto:revruthchapman@gmail.com) (not available on Fridays)

**Asst Priest** - The Revd Linda Fox on 07736 708828 or email [linda.stmatthews@gmail.com](mailto:linda.stmatthews@gmail.com)

**The Parish Office** - Contact Penny on 020 8681 3147 or email [stmatthewcroydon@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewcroydon@gmail.com) Mon-Fri 9am to 12pm.