



PEW'S NEWS

Church of St Matthew, Croydon

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

Coffee Mornings

2nd & 4th Sats. 10.30 to 12

Gallery Group

Wednesdays 11am - 12pm

Prayer Focus



Lord Jesus, we pray for Christians around the world who have been forced from their homes by war, extreme weather events or persecution. We ask You to draw close to them and provide for their needs. Please bless efforts to reach those who are refugees or internally displaced persons as this Christmas season approaches. Enable our homeless brothers and sisters to remember that You began Your life on earth as a refugee in humble surroundings and in adult life had nowhere to lay Your head. Teach them to trust in Your providence, for we ask in Your mighty Name. (Luke 2:12; Matthew 8:20)

This week we are praying for the residents of:

Alden Court / Siskin Court / Peony Court
Woodbury Close / Elizabeth Court

Readings for 22nd December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5.2-5a /
Hebrews 10.5-10 / Luke 1.39-45 [46-55]

Diary Dates

Women of the Nativity

Reflection & Prayer after the 10am service until Candlemas

Christingle Service

24th December at 5pm

Christmas Services

See poster for details

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Please note:

No Morning Prayers:

25th December

30th December

1st January

No Wednesday

Eucharist:

1st December

No Zoom prayers:

31st December

Dear St Matthew's family

This year I bought myself a Christmas jumper. On it are the words, (in the shape of a Christmas tree)

“Jesus is the reason for the season”.

I'd encourage us all to hold fast to this especially when all around us the pressure for a 'perfect' Christmas can feel relentless and overwhelming.

It's right and good that we do celebrate, of course it is. But we must remember that the first Christmas was pretty simple, it's ok if ours is too. Even without all the trappings, what we must remember is that what we celebrate is the most amazing, most wonderful, most awe inspiring event. When God became a human being in the personhood of Jesus. And that event changed the world. And it changes us too if we allow ourselves to remember that Jesus is the reason for the season.

I hope and pray that you all you have a peaceful and blessed time this Christmas. I hope it's a season filled with celebration joy and wonder. And if it's not, if it's a really tough season for you, please remember that you are loved, God's gift to the world was Jesus over 2,000 years ago and is still the gift to us today.

May we hold fast to the certainty of God's presence with us in all things, because the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us and that this is the reason for the season.

Rev Ruth

Contact Us

Vicar - The Revd Ruth Chapman - email revruthchapman@gmail.com (not available on Fridays)

Asst Priest - The Revd Linda Fox on 07736 708828 or email linda.stmatthews@gmail.com

The Parish Office - Contact Penny on 020 8681 3147 or email stmatthewcroydon@gmail.com Mon-Fri 9am to 12pm.