

Notices continued:

Our Parish Away Day: will be next **Sunday 22nd January 2017 from 10am-3pm** at St Clement's Branch Church, Humphrey Lane, Urmston, M41 9PE.

- Please do sign up to come on the list at the back of church so we can sort out transport for everyone.
- Please bring your own lunch on 22nd. Tea and coffee will be provided.
- We will all meet in the car park at 9.30am to share transport.

Our day will be led by Revd Andy Salmon, the Diocesan Officer for Mission Action Planning, who will help us look at our **Vision**, our **Values** and **Priorities**. What we discuss and decide will affect us all as we move forward at St Matthew's, and we urge you all to be part of this day. Please do pray for the day, using the prayer card, over the next week.

The auction to raise funds for the repair of the clock which is in the region of £10,000 will be on March 11th at 7:30pm viewing starts at 6:30pm.

If you know of anyone who can donate something to be auctioned please see Hazel or Justine. This can be anything ie an old heirloom that you no longer want, a voucher for a spa day etc or even the offer to bake a cake for a special event or an hour's gardening.

This year we are **celebrating 175 years** of the consecration of the present St. Matthews Church building. On **Sunday 17th September** we are having a Celebration Service at 10am, led by the Bishop of Manchester, followed by a buffet lunch. We would love to invite all those who have a connection to St. Matthews to our service and lunch. If you know of anybody who would like an invitation please can put contact details on the list at the back of church, or speak to Jeannette.

Dates for your diary:

- * February 11th - Quiz night
- * April 2nd - Marathon day breakfast
- * May 20th - Plant sale and ploughmans lunch
- * July 8th - Garden party
- * August 13th - Parish B.B.Q.
- * September 16th - Gift day and Lunch
- * September 17th - 175th Celebration service followed by lunch
- * November 11th - Charities Fair

www.stretfordstmatthews.com

Welcome to St Matthew's Sunday 15th January 2017 The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Today's Hymns:

- 193 Hail to the Lord's anointed
94 Come, let us join our cheerful songs
Psalm: 40: 1-12 p. 186

This week's services and events:

Today:

- 8am Holy Communion
10am Mattins
11:30am FRESH
6:30pm Evening Eucharist

Tuesday 17th January:

- 9:45am Ecumenical Prayers at Sevenways
11:30am Funeral of Norman Heap
7:30pm Discipleship course (1) at All Saints' Church

Wednesday 18th January:

- 10am Midweek Communion followed by coffee in the Horrocks Room
7:30pm Deanery Synod at St Clement's

Thursday 19th January:

- 1:30pm Children's Workshop (Year 4)
7:30pm MAP Steering group meets in Hall

Friday 20th January:

- 9am Morning Prayer

Saturday 21st January:

- 10:30am Coffee morning in Choir Vestry

Sunday 22nd January - The Third Sunday of Epiphany:

- 8am Holy Communion
10am-3pm - **Parish Away Day**

Sunday 29th January - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple:

- 8am Holy Communion
10am All Age Eucharist

For prayer:

- David and Amy Roche working with CMS in the Lebanon
- Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe - illegally held in Iran
- Peace in our world
- Those to be baptized:
 - 5th February - Elijah Asher (parents Nashaun and Megan)
 - 5th March - Bradley Derek (parents Steven and Michelle)
 - 12th March - Douglas Fearchar and Anwen Ula (parents Jon and Jenny)
 - 27th August - Isla Rose (parents Ashley and Amy)

Today's Collect:

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's Readings:

Isaiah 49: 1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." ⁵And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—⁶he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."⁷ Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

John 1: 29-42

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Next Sunday's Readings:

Luke 2: 22-40

Post Communion Prayer:

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Notices:

Used stamps: please don't throw these away! They can be placed at the back of the church in the container and Mary Johnson sends them away to raise money for the Leprosy Mission.

Discipleship course: there will be a new course shared between All Saints' and St Matthew's called 'Moving On'. The seven sessions will be held at All Saints' Church on Tuesdays at 7.30pm: January 17th, 24th, 31st, February 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th. There is a course booklet to accompany the DVD material we will be watching, so please sign the list if you would like the course booklet.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: There will be a joint service on Sunday 22nd January at 6pm at All Saints' Church. All welcome.

Philip Holt: Philip's funeral will be Wednesday 1st February at 11am here at St Matthew's.

J-Club - will next meet on 5th February.