

Notices (continued):

This year we are **celebrating 175 years** of the consecration of the present St. Matthew's 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.

Children's Society Collection Boxes: Please would you bring your filled boxes to Anne who will be counting the money soon to send off.

Visit to a Mosque: would you be interested? If so please sign the list at the back of church and we will be organising a trip to a local mosque to look around and learn a bit more about Islam and the faith of our Muslim neighbours.

Dates for your diary



August 13th - **Parish B.B.Q from 12 noon**
September 16th - **Gift day and Lunch**
September 17th - **175th Celebration service
followed by lunch**
October 7th - **Quiz night**
November 11th - **Charities Fair**

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Welcome to St Matthew's Sunday 16th July 2017 The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Hymns:

- CD Great big God
Rise and hear
494 The Spirit lives to set us free
139 For the beauty of the earth

This week's services and events:

Today:

- 8am Holy Communion
10am Worship @ 10
6:30pm Eucharist with anointing for healing

Tuesday 18th July:

- 9:45am Ecumenical Prayers at Sevenways
**(this will be the last one
before the summer break)**
7:30pm Deanery Synod at All Saints

Wednesday 19th July:

- 10am Morning Prayer
followed by coffee in Hall

Thursday 20th July:

- 7:30pm Worship Planning meeting in Hall

Friday 21st July:

- 9am Morning Prayer

Saturday 22nd July:

- 10:30am Coffee morning in Choir Vestry

Sunday 23rd July –

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity:

- 8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist

For prayer:

- David and Amy Roche working with CMS in the Lebanon
- Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe - illegally held in Iran
- Those to be baptized:
20th August – Michael Warren, Alfie George and Lola Dawn (parents Becky and Alex)
27th August – Isla Rose (parents Ashley and Amy)
27th August – Isabella-Grace (parents Andrew and Joanne)
3rd September – Charlie Andrew (parents Andrew and Natalie)

Today's Collect:

Almighty God,
send down upon your Church
the riches of your Spirit,
and kindle in all who minister the Gospel
your countless gifts of grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's Reading:

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!" ¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

No Post Communion Prayer today:

Next Sunday's Readings:

Romans 8: 12-25

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Notices:

Police Surgeries: The neighbourhood policing team will be available for you in the Hall to discuss concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour on the following dates:

- ❖ Wednesday 19th July 14:00 -15:00
- ❖ Thursday 10th August 11:00 – 12:00
- ❖ Thursday 7th September 11:00 – 12:00

There will be a **Taizé Service** at the German Martin Luther Church, Park Road, on **Saturday 22th July 2017 at 6pm**. All welcome.

Bible Studies: following on from our Away Day in January, we will be responding to the 2 value words which people indicated were the most important for us at St Matthews: '**Welcoming**' and '**Inclusive**', by holding a series of Bible studies in the Hall around this subject:

- Tuesday 25th July 7:30pm - disability
- Tuesday 1st August 7:30pm - gender
- Wednesday 6th September 7:30pm - sexuality
- Tuesday 12th September 7:30pm - poverty
- Tuesday 19th September 7:30pm - mental health
- Tuesday 26th September 7:30pm - where do we go from here?

Printed material will be given out at the sessions.

But please bring a Bible with you.

Singing group: are you interested in joining a Gareth Malone style singing group for St Matthew's Church? This will, we hope, come into effect in the Autumn and sing at some of our services. No musical training needed! If you are interested, please speak to Kate or Simon.