

Notices (continued):

Next Sunday is our **Christingle service (9th December 3pm)**: if you took a candle shaped collecting box for the Children's Society, please return it (full!) at the Christingle service, or as soon as possible before Christmas.

Also we invite you to bring a **wrapped present** to the Christingle service which will go to children cared for by Trafford Domestic Abuse Services. It would be helpful if you can label the present with the age it is suitable for and whether it is for a girl or boy. Thank you.

Quiz Night: at All Saint's Church Hall on Friday 14th December at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 each (steveworsley65@googlemail.com); up to 6 Members per team (children included). Everybody welcome. Lots of prizes and nice food!

The Social committee would be grateful for donations of mince pies and red/mulled wine for the refreshments after the **Carol Service on Sunday 16th December at 3pm.**

Christmas collection for Christian Aid: this year the focus is their work with children to overcome the impact of trauma through violence and conflict around the world. Envelopes are available throughout December for your donations.

Christmas service flyers: would you be able to deliver flyers in your street? There is a list of the streets in our parish at the back of church. If you could sign up for one or more streets we can try to do as many as we can. Flyers are also there. Thank you.

www.stretfordstmatthews.com

Welcome to St Matthew's Sunday 2nd December 2018 Advent Sunday

Today's Hymns:

- 329 Make way, make way
- 98 Come, thou long expected Jesus
- 529 Wake, O wake
- 295 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
- 358 O come, O come, Emmanuel

This week's services and events:

Today:

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist
followed by Bring and Share Lunch
in **Choir Vestry**

Tuesday 4th December:

9:45am Ecumenical Prayers
in Choir Vestry

Wednesday 5th December:

10am Midweek Eucharist
followed by coffee and light lunch in Hall

Friday 7th December:

NO 9am Morning Prayer

Saturday 8th December:

10am Coffee morning in Choir Vestry

Sunday 9th December:

The Second Sunday of Advent

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist
3pm Christingle Service

For prayer:

- Anne Plested now in Bethlehem with CMS
- Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe - illegally held in Iran

Today's Collect:

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Today's Readings:

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Luke 21: 25-36

There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Post Communion Prayer:

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of
good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Malachi 3: 1-4

Luke 3: 1-6

Notices:

Please join us today for our **Bring and Share lunch** in the **Choir Vestry** after our service as we celebrate with our recently confirmed young people: Murewa, David, Demilade and Damilola.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal: Heather and Rita have put some shoe boxes at the back of church if you would like to take one and fill it for the Destitute Asylum Project. See slips on pews for suggested contents and other information. **Today is the deadline for bringing your completed boxes to St Matthew's. Thank you.**

Stretford Foodbank: Christmas donations of tinned fruit, cold meats (e.g. corned beef, ham, chicken), tinned rice pudding and custard, packets of stuffing, mince pies and Christmas puddings (large and small) would all be much appreciated **by 5th December.** Thank you.