

Welcome

A very warm welcome to you, whether you are new to St Matthew's and All Saints' or worship with us every week. We hope you will feel at home in our churches. Please introduce yourself to someone, and stay for coffee, which is served after most services. Please see the back page for useful information for visitors.

If you are a newcomer or visitor, do please consider filling in and returning a welcome card, so that we can be in touch with information about groups and activities of interest and how we can serve you.

THIS SUNDAY

10th January – 3rd Sunday of Christmas

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at All Saints'

9:30am Morning Worship at All Saints'

11:00am Morning Worship at St Matthew's

Youth Fellowship at St Matthew's Church Hall

6:00-7:15pm for those in school years 7-9

7:00-8:45pm for those in school years 10-13

LUKE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sun 10th	3.1-9	The Preaching of John the Baptist
Mon 11th	3.10-20	John the Baptist Confronts the Crowds
Tue 12th	3.21-38	Jesus' Baptism and Genealogy
Wed 13th	4.1-13	Temptation in the Wilderness
Thu 14th	4.14-30	Opposition to Jesus in Nazareth
Fri 15th	4.31-44	Jesus' Authoritative Healings
Sat 16th	5.1-11	The Miraculous Catch of Fish
Sun 17th	5.12-16	The Healing of the Leper

See inside or <http://hcchurches.org/luke> for more info

NEXT SUNDAY

17th January – 4th Sunday of Christmas

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's

9:30am Holy Communion at All Saints'

11:00am Holy Communion at St Matthew's

6:15pm Evening Prayer (BCP) at St Matthew's

Youth Fellowship at St Matthew's Church Hall

6:00-7:15pm for those in school years 7-9

7:00-8:45pm for those in school years 10-13



**HARWELL
CHILTON
CHURCHES**

CONTACTS

Jonathan Mobey

Rector - Tel: 799376
rector@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

Pam Rolls

Associate Minister
Tel: 834475
pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk

Peter Shields

Children and Families Worker
Tel: 07467 038734
peter@machparish.co.uk

Vicky Johnston

Administrator & PA to the Rector
Tel: 834256
office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk
9.30am-2.30pm

If you would like to talk with the Rector about any matter, please contact Jonathan directly, or via the Church Office

St Matthew's Harwell
with All Saints' Chilton

NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM JONATHAN

Many of us will have made journeys in recent weeks to visit friends or relatives or even to go on holiday. Our family trip to wet and windy Wales was not entirely smooth, but we did at least make it there and back! For a successful journey you need to know where you are headed and make appropriate plans. Perhaps 2016 will be a bit like a journey for us as God's Church in Chilton and Harwell. So where should we be headed this year and what will we need?

A Guide

We can be confident that having been called by God to be his people, he will be with us and guide us ("Therefore go... and surely I am with you always..." Matt 28:19-20). As we remember at Christmas, Jesus is 'Emmanuel', God-with-us. We believe that God goes before us, like the cloud and fiery pillar leading the Israelites through the wilderness. God has given our churches a vision for growth - in numbers, in maturity and in our relationships - and he will provide the means.

Sustenance

So what do we need for our journey? For any journey you need to make sure you have the right provisions. So what is our 'spiritual food' to see us on the way? "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" Matt 4:4. God's Word, the Bible, is essential.

All the morning sermons January to March will be based on Luke's gospel, and we have the opportunity as a church during this time to read the whole of Luke's gospel together. Each day will have a short passage to read and an opportunity to discuss what we are reading via a website forum (<http://hcchurches.org/luke>). You may also find it useful to have a copy of the recommended book 'Luke for Everyone' that we can order for you (£6.75 each, just let Vicky Johnston know). Whether or not you get the book, please could I encourage you to join in, and even

pledge to do so on the forum? What better way to start the New Year? This week's readings can be found on the front page.

The Right Kit

What else will we need? God blesses us richly, but we need the wisdom and courage to use what he has given us. As we shall discover in the morning sermons in January, our money and possessions can be either a burden or a blessing, and our attitude towards and use of them is critical to the success or otherwise of the journey.

For many, January is the time of year when finances are organised, budgets are created, and spending is reviewed. And that is true for our churches, too. For individuals we will also be running another CAP Money Course over three Saturday mornings; this is for everyone and not just those in financial trouble. Do consider whether you might like to do this very highly regarded course. Do please also take this opportunity to review your personal giving, especially in light of the last thing I want to mention, which is...

A Key Team Leader

Another focus for us as churches over the next few weeks is to raise more funding for our Children and Families' Work. Peter Shields is almost half way through the three year term to which we initially committed. He has made an amazing start and has great plans for the future (more on this in due course), but if we are going to have a Children and Families' Worker beyond August 2017 we need to raise more money, including one-off gifts and regular donations. Together, with God, we can do it! There will be more about this over the next few weeks.

There is so much more that could be said, but I am out of space! Thank you for being on the team as we journey together, discovering God's plans for us and seeing his Church grow, wider, deeper and closer in 2016 and beyond.



THANK YOU

"We were very blessed as a family to receive some generous gifts this Christmas. Since we don't know who all of them are from we just wanted to acknowledge them and express our thanks here. Thank you for thinking of us and blessing us this way."
The Shields Family

CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORK

Thank you to the team who ran Kids Church over the Christmas break.

Great start back at Chilton Fledgelings, with 24 children (+20 adults) including 3 new families.

Chilton Primary school invited us to start their term off with an assembly in which they discovered what Beethoven's favourite fruit is. This gave the children (and many of the staff) quite an Epiphany!

All the other groups re-start this week. We look forward to welcoming everyone back.

INVITATION - To everyone involved in the Children & Families Work, "Bacon & Eggspectations! Saturday 16th January, 9.30am - 11.00am Breakfast; lessons from 2015; plans for 2016; prayer & praise; encouragement & equipping. Look out for the invite in your inbox, or contact Peter if you'd like one.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Holiday Club 2016
15th-19th August at Harwell Primary School**

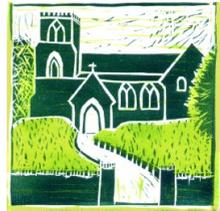
CTDD WEEK OF PRAYER

Churches Together in Didcot and District (CTDD) are holding a week of Prayer for Christian Unity 17th-24th January. Please see the website or posters in church for timings/venues of prayer meetings. We are hosting at St Matthew's on Tuesday 19th January at 10am.

DIDCOT FOOD BANK

Please continue to bring your food donations to help people around Didcot. The food donation plastic container is left at the back of the church in St Matthew's every Sunday for donations. At the end of the Sunday services it will be put in the office for safe keeping until taken to the Food Bank in Didcot. Donations can also be left at All Saints' Church. Thank you for your support. *Mel & Margaret Gibson*

WELCOME LEAFLET



Welcome

FROM JONATHAN MOBEY

A very warm welcome!

We are delighted that you have chosen to make Harwell your home. Whether you are completely new to the area or already familiar with it, we hope that you find this leaflet from St. Matthew's Church helpful. It contains information about various local facilities, groups and activities.

St Matthew's is a church which is very much at the heart of the community and enjoys a good relationship with the village and school. Together with our sister church, All Saints' Chilton, we aim to provide for all ages and interest groups. You can find out more and see an events calendar on our website www.hcchurches.org

Jonathan

There are welcome leaflets available in the back of both churches for people who are moving into the village. If you are aware that someone has moved into the village, please take one of these leaflets round to them – it can be an excuse to introduce yourself, and the Church to them. Thank you.

LUKE 18 : 29 - 30

Jesus said, "I tell you the truth. Everyone who has left their house, wife, brothers, parents, or children for God's kingdom will get much more than he left. They will receive many times more in this life. And after they die, they will live with God forever."

VISITORS' INFO

Children are especially welcome at our services. There are groups for primary aged children in Harwell, and a family area in Chilton with activities for younger children.

At our services of Holy Communion all who love the Lord are welcome to share with us. If you require a gluten-free wafer please indicate this to the sidespeople before the service.

Both churches have a hearing loop, and large print service and weekly noticesheets are available. Toilets are at the back of the church in Harwell and accessed from outside at Chilton.

NOTICESHEET ITEMS

Please submit noticesheet items to Vicky by Wednesday of the preceding week, either via the website, by email, by phone, or by leaving a note in the vestry. The deadline for Broadsheet items is the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

News items also appear on our website. You need to be logged-in to see some of them.

St Matthew's Registered Charity Number 1158861



P R A Y E R F O C U S

'...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God' Philippians 4:6

Please pray for...

- A peaceful solution to the troubles in Iraq, Syria, Ukraine and Gaza
- All those seeking refuge from war-torn countries
- Those affected by the flooding
- Those who live in Crafts End, Chilton and in Church Lane, Harwell
- The bereaved – especially the families and friends of Jan Plumb, Mollie Lay, Alma Staples and Edwin Stringer
- Ourselves, that we would have a sense of awe and wonder that Jesus came into our world

A prayer for those affected by flooding

Creator God, we remember at this time all those whose homes and communities have been damaged by flooding in Northern England.

In the name of Jesus we give thanks for the courage and dedication of the emergency services who have come to the help and rescue of all in need.

We celebrate the kindness of neighbours in caring for the most vulnerable.

Lastly, we ask in the power of your healing Spirit to rebuild not just the physical communities which are coping with many problems today but also to give us a sense of trust in your goodness through the kindnesses of one another, in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

Collect for 3rd Sunday of Christmas

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.