

# Welcome

A very warm welcome to you, especially to the family and friends of Griff Thomas-Snell, who is being baptised at St Matthew's this morning.

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, and for which there is no charge! 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.

You may also like to register on our website: <http://HCChurches.org>

## SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

### The first Sunday of Lent

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

No Youth Fellowship - re-starts next Sunday

## SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

### The second Sunday of Lent

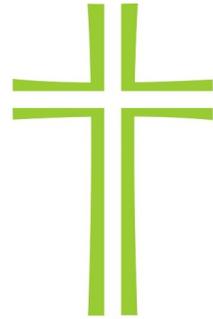
8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at All Saints'

9:30am Morning Worship at All Saints'

11:00am Morning Worship at St Matthew's

6:15pm Holy Communion at St Matthew's

Youth Fellowship at St Matthew's Church Hall  
7-8.30pm for 11-18 year olds



**HARWELL  
CHILTON  
CHURCHES**

## CONTACTS

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### Vicky Johnston

Church Administrator

& PA to the Rector - 834256

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Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 9.30-2.30

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

## PSALM 119:105



“Your word is a lamp  
for my feet,  
a light for my path”  
Psalm 119:105

## FROM CLIVE AND HEATHER HOUSE

“We would like to thank everyone for the wonderful send off, cards, wine and gift vouchers that you gave us before we left for Exmouth. We were very touched by your kindness and generosity. We are gradually settling in and getting unpacked and enjoying the sea air. We will really miss you all and you are in our thoughts and prayers. Do call in and see us if you are in the Exmouth area! With love from Clive and Heather House.”

## ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION 2018

The Electoral Rolls for St Matthew's Harwell and All Saints' Chilton are being revised in the period 1st March to 25th March inclusive. The Electoral Roll is your Parish Church's Register of Electors, the list of those qualified to vote at the Church Annual General Meeting at which the Parochial Church Council and Deanery Synod representatives are elected. You need to be on the Electoral Roll for at least 6 months to be a PCC member or Churchwarden. If you are already on the Electoral Roll you do not need to re-register.

For St Matthew's Harwell forms (form E2) may be obtained from the table at the back of church, and completed forms should be placed in the wall box near the main door. For All Saints' Chilton forms may be obtained from Gordon Cowan (telephone 831932) or from All Saints' Church (blank forms in the red envelope at the base of the font), and completed forms should be returned to Gordon or placed in the yellow envelope at the base of the font.

For both churches forms should be returned no later than Sunday, 25th March. Thank you.

## FLEDGELINGS

At Fledgelings last week we finished our topic of Creation. We made some wonderful animal masks and learned in our "See & Know" time that on day 6 God made animals and people and on day 7 He rested (as we are doing this week during half term when there is no Fledgelings!).

The children also made Christingles and we thought about what each of the parts meant.



## PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Lent is traditionally a time of almsgiving, and spring a time to review and refresh. As well as 'spring cleaning' our houses, it might be a good time to spring-clean our finances, too.

Last Sunday our church Treasurers, Stuart and Peter, reported on our annual accounts for 2017 and our budget for 2018. We also launched the 'Parish Giving Scheme' (PGS), which is a new way to organise regular, planned giving to All Saints' or St Matthew's.



The work of the church is only possible when supported through giving. We are grateful to all who give to church in so many ways, but the current focus is financial giving.

Planned giving especially helpful. It is also biblical: *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7).*

Many give regularly by Standing Order or the envelope scheme and we are exceedingly grateful for that. We would like to encourage all to consider giving regularly, and for those who already have Standing Orders or use the envelopes, to consider using the new Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) that is being introduced today.

PGS is a national scheme, promoted and supported by the Diocese. It is a direct-debit based and significantly reduces the administration for our hard-working Treasurers and Bookkeepers, and improves cash flow.

It has the option to index link the amount given, so inflation-proofing your gift, can be used to give anonymously, and can be used for either general giving or for a particular purpose.

Flyers explaining more about the scheme are available, and if you would like to join, please take a form from the back of church, to either return or post.

**Whether or not you already give regularly, please would you consider registering with PGS to support the work of the church?** Thank you.

## MENS OUTING

Philip Garner is organising a visit to the RAF museum in Hendon for men on Saturday 24th February. Entrance to the museum is free, but there is a parking charge. Contact Philip for more information and to arrange lift share.

fil2664@gmail.com

rafmuseum.org.uk/london/

## ST MATTHEW'S RE-ORDERING

We are delighted that the carpet has now been fitted and we have received the new chairs.

The full cost of the project is £59,000. We have already raised/secured £31,500, and the PCC has underwritten £15,000 from a legacy received, but we still have £12,500 to raise. Would you please consider donating towards this, for example by sponsoring a chair? See separate fundraising leaflet for further information.



## VISITORS' INFO

Children and young people are especially welcome at our services, and there are groups for children and young people in Harwell, and for primary aged and pre-school children in Chilton, along with a family area in both churches.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

News items also appear on our website. You need to be logged-in to see some of them: <http://HCChurches.org>

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...

- Those who live in Isis Close in Chilton, and in Reading Road in Harwell
- For Sarah Barrett and Melanie Shields as they begin as our Children and Families' Workers
- For the work of The Leprosy Mission, this month's World Mission Focus
- For CAP Debt Centre in Didcot & Wallingford, specifically two families that are facing eviction through debt and are in great need. Please pray that they will know God's love at this time.

### The Leprosy Mission Prayer

Almighty Father, the giver of life and health, look mercifully on those who suffer from leprosy. Stretch out your hand to touch and heal them as Jesus did during his earthly life. Grant wisdom and insight to those who are seeking the prevention and cure of the disease; give skill and sympathy to those who minister to the patients; reunite the separated with their families and friends; and inspire your people with the task set before The Leprosy Mission, that it may never lack either the staff or the means to carry on its healing work, in accordance with your will, and to the glory of your holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Collect for the First Sunday of Lent

*Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.*

There are many church groups and activities happening every week and space does not permit inclusion of all of them. You can find details of all church events and groups on the church website: <http://HCChurches.org>