



Parish of St Matthew, Surbiton
In the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry
2 May 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter



All our services are now onsite and online

9.30am All-age Worship

including groups for children and young people

10.45am Service of Holy Communion

If you are attending a service in church, social distancing must be observed and a face covering worn. Your details will be taken for track and trace.

Please do not attend in person if you any symptoms of the virus and why not take a regular free Covid-19 test to make sure you are not contagious, even if you've been vaccinated and provided you have no symptoms (when you should self-isolate).

*To watch online 'as live' or later please visit our **YouTube Channel***

Just search St Matthew's Church Surbiton and click "Subscribe"

Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Give thanks for answered prayer: and please pray for:

Reverends Helen Hancock, Luke Wickings, Carolyn Lucas & their families, Jen Houghton and family, and THiS Team, for Paul Atkins, Miles Stuart- William, Ian Vinton, Janet Harries.
For the family and friends of Pat Frith who died last weekend.

Returning to Church – We are trialling swapping our services around so our service times are now 9.30am (with children's provision) and the more traditional service at 10.45am. We will have children's groups in the 9.30am service, although they will still be operating in combined groups for the time being - Scramblers with Climbers and Explorers with Pathfinders.

We are planning a **Gift Day** for next **Sunday 9 May**. The PCC agreed to invite members of the congregation to make a donation to some exciting projects in the church but also donating 10% of anything raised to local charities and a further 10% to Christian Aid Week which runs from 10 -16 May this year. A letter is available on the KiT page of the website or today in hard copy. Please consider your response prayerfully.

Rev David Nyirongo who left St George's last week writes: *"Thank you so much for the gift you gave us. Thank you so much. Our car was serviced and it cost us dearly, I am sure the new home will need some TLC and we have not been on holiday for a long time. Thank you, your love for us demonstrated in this support has overwhelmed me. I was not expecting this love, Thank you".*
Please also keep in your prayers Nicholas Lebey who will be arriving at St George's as a Pioneer Curate in mid-June, along with his family.

Following the results of the survey, our **AwayWeekend** has been postponed – hopefully until Spring 2022. However, following the previously very successful AwayDay we are planning to hold another one of those on Saturday 16 October instead so please keep the date in your diary.

Ascension Day – there will be a THiS Team service at St Paul's at 10am which will then be available to watch on the Team YouTube Channel.

Christian Aid Week- Along with 5 other local clergy Helen is going to be walking 4.5 miles each day of Christian Aid Week (10 – 15 May), carrying 2 buckets of water to share in a very small way with those who make such journeys for water every day.

Christian Aid highlights the plight of Rose who walks 8km each day to collect 4 jerry cans of water - and then carries them home. People like Rose are struggling to survive without a reliable source of water. From drought to flooding, climate chaos robs people of control over their lives. I often feel hungry, Rose says. Because of climate change, I worry a lot about food. I pray to God that the rainfall will become normal like it used to be. In recent years, the drought has been so bad that it's caused a hunger crisis. Crops wither and die. Rivers run dry. People struggle to survive. The coronavirus pandemic has only made this lack of water more critical for Rose. Without water for handwashing, it is a struggle to stay safe from the virus. Please support my fundraising and help to provide reliable water source, for people like Rose. Your gift will help support Christian Aid's vital work with some of the poorest communities in the world. Thank you!

Please sponsor them at: <http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kingstonchurches>

Also, she would like some company! If you are willing to accompany her on one of the walks (or part) please let her know – the time can be mutually agreed for any particular day!

Water Butt - Do you have an unused water butt at home? As part of our Eco-Church initiative, we plan to start using rainwater to help our Church garden grow. If you do have a water butt you're not using and would like to donate to the Church, please contact Jen Houghton on jen.houghton@hotmail.com. Many thanks!

The Statutory proposal/consultation concerning a **new Church of England Secondary School** in Kingston has had to be re-run due to a last minute objection. It's more important than ever that the Council receives letter and emails in support. Please send a letter or email of support especially for the fact that it will be a faith school but open to all by Fri 21 May to Mr Matthew Paul (matthew.paul@achievingforchildren.org.uk) – Associate Director for School Place Planning for Kingston. Correspondence should be denoted: 'Response to Proposed Kingston C of E Secondary School'. For more details please look on the KiT page of the website.

Motto Verse 2021

I have come that you may have life, life in all its fullness.

From John 10.10.

For more information about our church and events visit our website at

www.stmatthewskt6.org email address: admin@stmatthewskt6.org

Facebook 'StMatthewsChurchSurbiton' Julie is currently working from home.

If you need to contact her you can try her on 07889 753290 or leave a message.

The Parish Office is closed until further notice but messages will be picked up occasionally.

Parish Office 020 8390 5121

Rev Helen Hancock 020 8390 3829