



# Parish of St Matthew, Surbiton

In the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry

## 12th January 2025

### First Sunday of Epiphany

### Baptism of Christ

*Bible readings Acts 8:14-17 (page 1101)*

*& Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 (page 1049)*



## 9.00am Holy Communion

## 10.45am Worship Together for all ages and stages

*Hymns MP 89, Christ, when for us you were baptised (sheet), MP538, MP651*

*Our 10.45 service is live-streamed on our [YouTube Channel](#) so your image may be visible on the stream. By attending onsite you are presumed to have consented to our Location Warning Notice which can be found in church or on our website*

### Collect for First Sunday of Epiphany

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**

*At the 9am service the choir will sing the anthem "Come down O Love Divine" by Hilary Tadman Robins and the voluntary is from "Suite Gothique" by Leon Boellmann.*

**Give thanks for answered prayer and please pray for:**

Bishop Christopher, Caroline and family, Carolyn, William and Nicholas, THIS Team Ministry.

For St. Paul's as they search for a Vicar to fill their vacancy. For Diana Dowson in hospital, Michelle

Kapilan, Mary Carter, Julie Martin and her family, Noel & Niluma Tharumanayag request prayers for their dear friend "Amal Rodrigo" in ICU in Sri Lanka with a Kidney infection. For Dave Farris, Jackie and family.

### Diary for the Week – the notice sheet is also on the church website at [www.stmatthewskt6.org](http://www.stmatthewskt6.org)

Monday	13th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer (said service) in Chapel	see notice
		10.00am	Brunch Bunch in Sitzler Room	
		7.00pm	Christian Basics (4 week Course)	see notice
Tuesday	14th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer (said service) in Chapel	
Wednesday	15th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer (said service) in Chapel	
Thursday	16th	10.00am	Smarties Craft Group, Sitzler Room	
		6.30pm	Choir Practice: Sitzler Room	
Friday	17th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer (said service) in Chapel	
Saturday	18th	<u>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>)</u>		
		9.00 am	Morning Prayer (said service) in Chapel	
		9.45am-12.15pm	Sing at St Matthew's - Sitzler room	see notice
Sunday	19th	9.00am	Holy Communion with Morning Prayer	
		10.45am	Worship Together with Holy Communion	

**Weekday Services** – There are said services of Morning Prayer, lasting 20-30 mins, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 9.00am, in the Chapel.

**For Safeguarding Issues - contact Sue Fraser on 07510425619 or speak to someone in person, speak to her or any of our Wardens or Clergy.**

**Christian Basics** - We will be running a Christian Basics course that will be at 7pm on four Mondays starting tomorrow, January 13th. This course is suitable for anyone who is new to the Christian Faith and anyone who wants a brush up. It will include teaching on the history and structures of the Church of England, as well as basic doctrine. Adult and teen candidates for Baptism should plan to attend each session, either in person or on Zoom. Anyone else can drop in as you wish.

**St. Matthew's Family Quiz - Saturday 25th January, 3pm to 5 pm, in St. Matthew's Church** (please arrive at 2.45 so we can sort out teams etc). Can you 'spot the difference?' or read questions very carefully? Then you'll find our family friendly quiz just right for you. No general knowledge questions, just puzzles and thinking. Prizes will be awarded, and afternoon tea will be provided. Free to attend, with donations being taken for St Matthew's 150th Anniversary projects. More details on those to follow. Please sign up at the back of church or tell Dave Farris or Carol Cameron that you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you!

**KCAH-** To donate please visit: <https://www.kcah.org.uk/can-you-help-us/donate-money/>  
They would also like- Brand-new boxer shorts, M/L size Brand-new socks, Sleeping bags (new or good-as), Tracksuits M/L (mainly men's) Warm Jackets and coats (decent condition and clean) Some of the above for women.

**KCAH will aim to open the Winter Night Shelter from the 6th January 2025.**

"We need volunteers to get involved to ensure we can provide the safe space for those that need it – [you can sign up here](#). We are also recruiting additional paid staff, if you or someone you know would like to apply please see our website for more details. Running for 3 months, we will offer a place of sanctuary, safety and warmth for for up to 30 people, twice as many as last year and a direct response to the demand. To enable this we have been fortunate to have support from the Local Authority and a local landlord of a currently disused space in the centre of Kingston. Please help us to intervene in the local issue by signing up to volunteer. Thank you for supporting KCAH and thank you for hearing this message and ensuring many people in need will not be adversely impacted this winter". Georgie

**Thank You** "On behalf of the **Children's Society**, a big thank you to the congregation of St Matthew's for their generosity in 2024 when they donated a total of £534.19 to the Society. Of this, £374.03 including Gift Aid came from House Boxes and £160.16 through the Christingle collection, in cash and using the credit card tap machine. This money will go towards the many services provided by the Society that directly supported more than 72,000 children last year. Thank you so much. If you would like to learn more about the Society or how you can contribute to or assist with the Society's activities, please do not hesitate to talk with Dave Farris or myself." Paul Mackie.

**Kingston Foodbank- The box for food etc. donations each week is available at the BACK OF CHURCH. See list of required items with box:** They would also appreciate any money donations via their website: <https://kingston.foodbank.org.uk/> Thank you.

**Lent** - Lent is a good way off but we need you to be thinking about whether you could help out with a Lent Study group. We will be using Stephen Cottrell's book, Christ in the Wilderness, which looks at a painting by the English artist Stanley Spencer each week. We will need leaders/coordinators and hosts, although you could meet in one of the rooms at Church if not enough people feel able to invite people to their homes. The book is very thin and is discussion based. We encourage all existing housegroups to use it as well so that we can reference it in Worship. If you want to join a group we will sort out days and times later on. The new groups are intended for Lent, not for ever, so if you lead you are making, at most, a six session commitment. Let Caroline or a member of the Discipleship and Ministry team know if you can do this - you have plenty of time to pray about it!

**SAVE THE DATE - St Matthew's 150th Anniversary Weekend on September 20th and 21st, 2025,** will be a VERY special occasion for our church family. So, mark your calendars now to make sure you can join in the celebrations! More details on the events planned throughout the year, to follow.

**“Sing at St Matthew’s”** - Directed by Jason Edge. ONCE-A-MONTH (no strings attached!) No commitment or subscription (come when you please) 120 minutes of pure singing joy! (And cake!) St Matthews Church. **Workshop dates: 9.45am to 12.15pm on: • Sat 18th Jan 2025, • Sat 15th Feb** Please help to spread the word! Tell your friends. The more, the merrier. For more information and FAQ’s, there is a flyer on the notice board at the back of church or contact Jason via email: [jason.a.edge+sing@gmail.com](mailto:jason.a.edge+sing@gmail.com)

**Church Garden** Our regular garden maintenance is on the **first Saturday of the month**. There is still plenty of major weeding to do - that's brambles, seedling trees, ivy on walls, ornamental grass and alkanet etc. Our next meeting is **Saturday 1 February (weather permitting)**. Do come if you can, and keep St Matthew's looking planned and generally tidy! Sheena will definitely be there between 9.30am and 12 to open the garage for tools etc for the gardeners. Thank you all very much for your interest.



**Eco Tips**- Put on a jumper( and maybe a T-shirt or two underneath) and turn your central heating thermostat down by a degree or two.

**Reflection and Prayer**- Want to talk to God but need some inspiration? There are plenty of resources in our Prayer Corner in the North Transept. Take some time between the two Sunday Services to look through the different prayer topics, the books (you may take the books home for further study, as well), and the prayer requests on the board (and add your own, if you like).

**WhatsApp Prayer Group** - There is now a WhatsApp group open to everyone. It reminds us of prayer requests from the Sunday services and any others that we hear about during the week. Please see me for further information or to pass on their mobile number or send a message (Sue O’Hagan) on 07907 184018. Thank you.

**Week for Christian Unity - Unity and Solidarity with Palestinian Christians- what are they asking of us?** We warmly invite you to join us for a webinar during the Week for Christian Unity on **Tuesday 21 January 8-8-45pm online**. With guest speaker Charlotte Marshall, Director of Sabeel-Kairos, a Christian charity working for human rights, justice and equality for Palestinians, in solidarity with the Christian community in the Holy Land. RSVP to [claire@ctslondon.org.uk](mailto:claire@ctslondon.org.uk).

### **Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration 2025**

Join Kingston Faith & Belief Forum and the community to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day 2025 on Sunday 26 January at Glenmore House Glenmore House, 6 The Crescent, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4BN from 1.30 - 4pm. Please join us in marking Holocaust Memorial Day 2025. This is an important inter faith and community event that provides an opportunity to learn the lessons of the past, honour the experiences of people affected by the Holocaust and genocide, and challenge ourselves to work for a safer and fairer future. 'For a better future' is the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2025 which marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration camp complex, and the 30th anniversary of the genocide in Bosnia. Our Holocaust Memorial Day event will address sensitive and historical themes. Viewer discretion is advised as it may evoke strong emotions and reflections on atrocities of the past. **Refreshments will be served. Tickets are free but you must register attendance** [Book your free HMD tickets on Eventbrite](#) or contact Marina Payen on [marina.payen@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:marina.payen@kingston.gov.uk) Marina Payen (She/Her) Strategy & Partnerships Inclusion Lead, Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames`

**Church Notices**- If you have any notices for the next weekly sheet, please contact Jennie or Jeff Akerman on [jakerman28@btinternet.com](mailto:jakerman28@btinternet.com) or 8399 2549 or mob. 07519 514194, **by Thursday please**.

Website: [www.stmatthewskt6.org](http://www.stmatthewskt6.org) email address: [admin@stmatthewskt6.org](mailto:admin@stmatthewskt6.org)  
Parish Office no. 020 8390 5121. Our Parish Administrator, Steve Blevins is working the usual hours  
Mon, Tues and Thurs 9am -1pm. To speak to a member of the clergy, please contact  
Rev Caroline Kramer on [teamrector@stmatthewskt6.org](mailto:teamrector@stmatthewskt6.org) mbl: 07707 785721  
or Rev. Carolyn Lucas on [carolynlucas@gmail.com](mailto:carolynlucas@gmail.com) mbl. 07933 022516