

# *St Matthew's* **MAIL**

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**News from the Parish of Kingsley, Northampton**

**NOVEMBER 2021**



[www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](http://www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)

# Services at the Parish Church of St Matthew

**Please note:** Below is shown the normal pattern of our worship at St Matthew's. However, as the present covid-19 pandemic restrictions ease, the church is now open for communal worship and offering a Sunday 10.15am Parish Mass and 5.30pm Evensong/Choral Evensong with a Said Mass on Monday at 9.30am, Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday at 12noon. Other services as advertised — please keep referring to our website for latest information. Sunday and Major Feast-Day services will also be live streamed on our website and facebook pages.

## Sundays

9.00am	Mass, with homily (with traditional language)
10.15am	The Parish Mass (sung)
5.30pm	Evensong — according to The Book of Common Prayer

## First Sunday in the month

10.15am	All Age Mass for the Parish Family
5.30pm	Choral Evensong

*When the choir is on holiday (coinciding with school holidays and half terms)  
Choral Evensong is replaced with Congregational Evensong*

## Second Sunday in the month

9.00am and	Laying on of hands and Sacrament of Anointing is
10.15am	offered in the Lady Chapel
5.30pm	Congregational Evensong

## Third Sunday in the month

5.30pm	Choral Evensong and Benediction
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## Fourth and Fifth Sundays in the month

5.30pm	Congregational Evensong
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## Weekdays *(During the winter months of November to March, held in the Parish Centre)*

Morning and Evening Prayer are said publicly at 9.00am and 5.30pm daily

<b>Monday</b>	7.00pm Mass (on Bank Holidays at 9.30am) (Healing Mass and Devotions on the first Monday in the month)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am Mass <i>(suspended for the foreseeable future)</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am Mass <i>(followed by coffee)</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	9.30am Mass
<b>Friday</b>	12 noon Mass
<b>Saturday</b>	9.30am Mass (Walsingham Cell Mass on second Saturday in the month)

## Major Feast-Days      Procession and Sung Mass at 7.30pm

*(Always held in church. The morning Mass may be cancelled — refer to literature in church)*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**, commonly known as Confession, is celebrated in the Lady Chapel by appointment with the clergy. They are also available for advice and guidance on any matter of concern. All aspects of the sacrament are in confidence.

# Worship Calendar for November

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Observance</i>	<i>Intention</i>
1	<b>ALL SAINTS' DAY</b>	
2	<b>ALL SOULS' DAY</b>	
3	<b>Feria</b>	
4	S Charles Borromeo, B	
5	<b>Feria</b>	
6	Of the BVM	
7	THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT	
8	<b>All Saints of England</b>	The ministry of healing
9	Feria	
10	<b>S Leo the Great, Pp and Dr</b>	
11	S Martin of Tours, B	
12	<b>Feria</b>	
13	<b>Of OLW</b> The Shrine and Society	
14	THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT	(Remembrance)
15	<b>Feria</b>	
16	S Margaret of Scotland	
17	<b>S Hugh, B</b>	
18	S Elizabeth of Hungary	
19	<b>S Hilda of Whitby</b>	
20	S Edmund, K and M	
21	CHRIST THE KING	
22	<b>S Cecilia, V and M</b>	
23	Feria	
24	<b>Feria</b>	
25	S Catherine of Alexandria, V and M	
26	<b>Feria</b>	
27	Of the BVM	
28	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
29	<b>Feria</b>	
30	S Andrew, Ap	

NB **Bold** denotes weekdays on which the eucharist will be celebrated

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*The Church prays for the community daily.  
Please include these topics in your daily prayers.*

# November Letter from the Vicar

## For all the Saints

Saints come in all shapes and sizes. Granted, it is easy to be humorous with hagiology – the study of saints. There are saints for travellers, sore throats, children, pets and television. Their benefaction leaves nothing untouched. Yet to focus on their patronage misses their point. Saints serve a far more serious purpose in life, and we ignore their function at our peril. But why, for example, remember Monica? I think one answer might be that for everyone who performs and achieves on the world stage, there are many more who are unsung heroes, working hard behind the scenes. Normally, someone like Monica would hardly merit a footnote in history. Yet it is only through the patience and love she showed that Augustine gained the courage and wisdom to become the kind of person and leader the world needed at the time. Sometimes when we look behind the great leaders and saints who dominate the foreground, we can see some evidence of an even greater work of love and service in the background. The invitation is to look with care, and see beyond the immediate.

Almighty God, grant us the grace, wisdom and courage to follow your saints in faith and hope and love. May our lives reflect your greater light, and so illuminate your world with all virtue, godliness and truth. Amen.

According to one Jewish tradition, we are all in the hands of God. But it is the righteous souls who 'glow like sparks in the stubble'. It is an enchanting image. Saints, rather like the embers of a fire, continue to give off light and heat, and may still illuminate life. But they are also thrown out of the fire into the world. They are on loan there, setting light to life, but illuminating us with their wisdom and holiness. Although they are dead, it is because of their deeds that they are not forgotten. But their lives – sacred, selfless and sacrificial – still speak to us today, and ask us what we think life is really worth living for.

To answer this, you have to look into your heart and ask some searching questions. What random and costly acts of kindness and generosity will you perform today? Can you love and serve others – putting all before yourself – and yet not count the cost? Can you, at the same time, radiate warmth, peace, openness and hospitality? Can you be a beam of God's light and warmth in a world that is sometimes dark and cold? Can your friends and colleagues say, hand on heart, that to know you is to somehow have been touched by the presence of God?

All saints, like all souls, are basically normal folk. They just give their lives over to God and watch God make the ordinary into the extraordinary. There is no better way to live. As another prayer puts it:

Set our hearts on fire with love for thee O Christ, that in that flame we may love thee and our neighbours as ourselves.

The feast of All Saints is celebrated on Monday 1 November, and we commemorate All Souls the following day. They are two sides of the one coin. There is Sung Mass of each at 7.30pm, and they provide another opportunity for us to remake our lives in the light of their wonderful example.

Your sincere friend and parish priest,

*Fr. Nicholas*

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 24

# Prayer for the World

Dear Friends,

As this magazine insert appears, the long-awaited United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP 26) on Climate Change will have started in Glasgow and Italy.



Political, scientific and religious leaders from around the world will be meeting to review progress since the previous summit in Paris.

You'll expect me, as Chair of the Diocesan Environmental Group, to encourage you to take an active interest in COP26, but can I also plead with you to pray for the success of this meeting, for the sake of our children and grandchildren and our friends around the world who are more vulnerable than ourselves.

Here is a suggested prayer, written by Roman Catholic Bishops and the relief agency CAFOD;

*Loving God,  
We praise your name with all you have created.*

*You are present in the whole universe,  
and in the smallest of creatures.*

*We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us  
as stewards of your creation.*

*May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they  
seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable  
society.*

*Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer  
solutions  
for the poorest and most vulnerable,  
and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.*

*We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.*

*Amen*

With my prayers and best wishes,

+ 

+John Bishop of Brixworth

Produced by the Diocesan Office,  
The Palace, Peterborough PE1 1YB  
Tel: 01733 887000

Email: [communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk](mailto:communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk)

## May your angels

May your angels, holy Son,  
guard our homes when day is done;  
when at peace, our sleep is best,  
bid them watch us while we rest.

Prince of everything that is,  
High Priest of the mysteries,  
let your angels, God supreme,  
tell us truth dressed as a dream.

May no terror and no fright  
spoil our slumber in the night;  
free from care our eyelids close;  
Spirit, give us prompt repose.

We have laboured through the day:  
lift our burdens when we pray,  
then our souls in safety keep,  
that our sleep be soft and deep.

*Attributed to St Patrick (c.390-460)  
Translated by Michael Counsell*

## Macmillan Support Coffee Morning

*Girlie Franklin*



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our event on Wednesday 22 September – to all those who attended and those who didn't but gave donations. A total of **£470.23** was raised. This is a huge amount and will help towards people living with cancer and their families receive essential medical, practical and emotional support.

Thanks also to those who made cakes and helped out on the day. Also to Elizabeth March for her help in counting the money, especially all that small change!!

# No fear of death

*Author: Esther de Waal*

**Date: 01 November 2021**

Today many people seem to hesitate to talk about death and dying easily and unselfconsciously – we even hesitate to use the word itself and instead say ‘passed’.

If death is taboo, or at least uncomfortable, in daily life and conversation, then poetry and music have no scruples: they both confront grief and loss.

My own hope when it comes to the hour of my death is to be able to say: ‘My roots are deep in eternity.’ I take heart from those standing on the edge of death who yet speak of it positively.

There is the well-known instance of Dietrich Bonhoeffer whispering his final message to a fellow prisoner in 1945 as he was being taken away to be executed: ‘This is the end, but for me the beginning’ – a message which reached his friend Bishop George Bell in London.

Etty Hillesum on her way to the death camp looked death in the face, no longer wasting energy on fear of death, or refusing to acknowledge its inevitability, full of life to the last.

Death and life are interwoven in the night chants and prayers of the *Carmina Gadelica*. Here are a people who thought entirely naturally about death. They felt themselves surrounded by the members of the Trinity, by saints and angels, by day and by night, ‘from the top of my face to the edge of my soles’, as one old woman put it.

Living with this assurance, the thought of death was a natural part of life. Going to bed each night carried a bed-blessing:

I lie in my bed tonight  
As I would lie in the grave,  
Thine arm beneath my neck,  
Thou son of Mary victorious.

Angels shall watch me  
And I lying in slumber,  
And angels shall guard me  
In the sleep of the grave.

For them it was difficult to think of sleep without thinking of death, and impossible to think of either except in terms of the continuing presence of the victorious Christ. Death is part of life, death is not feared:

I am lying down to-night as beseems  
In the fellowship of Christ, Son of the Virgin of ringlets.  
In the fellowship of the gracious Father of glory.  
In the fellowship of the Spirit of powerful aid.  
I am lying down to-night with God,  
And God to-night will lie down with me.

They address God with both intimacy and awe: they pray to Christ as shepherd and herdsman, someone who understands their way of life, but they also acclaim him as Paschal Son and Son of the tears, of the wounds, of the piercings.

They carried with them in life and in death the assurance that the will of God would not lead them where the love of God could not reach them. There is profound consolation here as life is ebbing away.

There is one blessing that was clearly used for someone close to death, which has a wonderful immediacy about it, as I found when I used it at the bedside of an old sister who was dying in a convent in Wales:

Be each saint in heaven,  
Each sainted woman in heaven,  
Each angel in heaven  
Stretching their arms for you,  
Smoothing the way for you,  
When you go thither  
Over the river hard to see;  
Oh when you go thither home  
Over the river hard to see.

*(These prayers come from the section 'Night Prayers', Esther de Waal, The Celtic Vision, pp. 99–109. Many are included in Esther de Waal, God Under my Roof, Oxford, SLG Press, new edition, 2020)*

Death was for St Benedict a natural thing, and he told his followers: 'Day by day remind yourself that you are going to die' (4.v.47). It reads better in the Latin: *mortem cotidie ante oculos suspectam habere*.

It remains a stark statement. I well remember the way in which it was expressed in a Trappist monastery in Snowmass in the United States. Behind the altar on the east wall of the chapel there hung a very simple wooden cross, which would stay there until it was taken down to mark the grave of the next brother to die.

So death was a very natural part of daily life. That simple cross has remained very powerfully in my mind, as all good images should.

It illustrates those words from the Rule. Chapter 4, from which this verse is taken, is often called 'The Tools of Good Works', and it is a compendium of short commandments, aphorisms, biblical quotations.

If read in isolation St Benedict's injunction might sound threatening, negative, far removed from the voice of love and energy that permeates the Prologue. But putting it into context brings a different connotation.

Earlier on he has told us that keeping any of these precepts will be impossible if we are going to be self-reliant. We must put our trust in God and admit our total dependence on him: 'Place your hope in God alone' (v. 41).

Verse 46, immediately preceding the admonition about death, says: 'Yearn for everlasting life with holy desire.' And then in the two verses that follow: 'Hour by hour keep careful watch over all you do, aware that God's gaze is upon you, wherever you may be.'

St Benedict is shaping our attitude, educating our approach. As the hour of death approaches we are to await it with trust and hope; hope and fear cannot coexist, our God is trustworthy. How much that promise of hope is a theme of the psalms! Here is the prayer with which Jim Cotter ends Psalm 90, bringing out that perspective:

Throughout comes this haunting refrain: 'Amidst the confusions of time, may we hear eternity's heartbeat.'

From dust we came, from dust we return. 'Be shaped from clay, be crumbled to earth.'

Creator of life, of death, so did you order our ways. A thousand years in your sight are as yesterday.

As a watch in the night comes quickly to an end, so the years pass before you, in a flicker of the eye.

Amidst the confusions of time, may we hear eternity's heartbeat.

*This is an edited extract from The White Stone: The art of letting go, by Esther de Waal (Canterbury Press, £12.99). Reproduced here by permission.*

## Baptisms and Weddings

**Initial Enquiries Evenings** for Baptisms and Weddings take place at the Parish Centre on the first Wednesday of the month from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. Our team is there to help you and give you all the information you need.

## Making a will

The Diocese is taking part in a pilot project offering **FREE** wills to anyone who would like to take up the offer.

Leaving a gift in your will to St Matthew's is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support our mission and ministry in our community. Making a will and keeping it updated is the only way to make sure your wishes are carried out after your death, giving you peace of mind that you can continue to support the family, friends and charities you love.

This autumn, the Church of England has partnered with **Farewill**, the *National Will Writing Firm of the Year 2020*, to offer an online will writing service, which you can do from the comfort of your home in less than 30 minutes. Farewill's specialist team are available to help you over the phone or live chat 7 days a week, 9am-7pm. There are a limited number of wills available on a first-come-first served basis. To take advantage of this offer please visit the Farewill website: <https://farewill.com/peterborough-diocese>

By participating in this will writing scheme, your details will not be shared with the Church of England.

If you use the Church of England will writing scheme, there is no obligation to leave a gift to the church in your Will, and your loved ones should always come first, but should you choose to remember St Matthew's, every gift, great or small, will make a real difference to our mission and ministry in this community. Thank you.

*Polly Matthews*

### St Matthew's Ladies Group

Please note the meetings are now on Monday afternoons from 2.00pm till 4.00pm in the Parish Centre, on the second and fourth Mondays of the month.

#### Meetings in November

8 November	Music and Quiz – <i>Roy Kinnersley</i>
22 November	Christmas Auction with mince pies and mulled wine

The full Autumn/Winter programme is on our website: Click on 'Community & Events', then 'St Matthew's Ladies Group' in the right-hand column.

**A Memorial Service for Richard Alcock  
will take place on Saturday 6 November at 2.00pm,  
the service to include the Burial of Ashes.**

This is intended to give an opportunity for Richard's wide circle of friends and former colleagues to pay their respects, having been prevented from doing so earlier by Covid restrictions.

A new piece of music has been commissioned in Richard's memory and it will receive its first performance at this service.



## **Olde England Public House**

**199 Kettering Road  
Northampton NN1 4BP  
01604 603799**



**NOW OPEN AGAIN  
(USE IT OR LOSE IT!)**

**Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 7.00pm - 10.00pm**

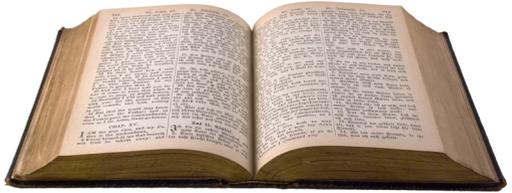
**Thursday & Friday: 5.00pm - 12.00am**

**Saturday: 3.00pm - 12.00am**

**Sunday: 3.00pm - 11.00pm**

# Weekday Scripture Readings for November

Our weekday scripture readings, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament, taken from the 'Additional Lectionary' which was constructed by the Church of England principally for use in Cathedrals at weekday Evensong.



Monday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Isaiah 65.17-end	Hebrews 11.32 - 12.2
Tuesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Isaiah 1.21-end	Matthew 2.1-15
Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Proverbs 3.27-end	Matthew 18.21-end
Thursday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Exodus 23.1-9	Matthew 19.1-15
Friday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Proverbs 3.13-18	Matthew 19.16-end
Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Deuteronomy 28.1-6	Matthew 20.1-16
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 40.21-end	Romans 11.25-end
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Ezekiel 34.20-end	John 10.1-18
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Leviticus 26.3-13	Titus 2.1-10
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Hosea 6.1-6	Matthew 9.9-13
Friday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Malachi 4	John 4.5-26
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Micah 6.6-8	Colossians 3.12-17
Monday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Micah 7.1-7	Matthew 10.24-39
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup>	Habakkuk 3.1-19a	1 Corinthians 4.9-16
Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Zechariah 8.1-13	Mark 13.3-8
Thursday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Zechariah 10.6-end	1 Peter 5.1-11
Friday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Micah 4.1-5	Luke 9.28-36
Saturday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Exodus 16.1-21	John 6.3-15
Monday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Jeremiah 30.1-3, 10-17	Romans 12.9-21
Tuesday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Jeremiah 30.18-24	John 10.22-30
Wednesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremiah 31.1-9	Matthew 15.21-31
Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremiah 31.10-17	Matthew 16.13-end
Friday	26 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremiah 31.31-37	Hebrews 10.11-18
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 51.17-52.2	Ephesians 5.1-20
Monday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Malachi 3.1-6	Matthew 3.1-6
Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup>	Zechariah 8.20-end	John 1.35-42

## **IAO Midlands Organ Day 2021**

*Richard Tapp, President 2020-21, Northampton & District Organists' Association*

On 22 September 1921, twenty-two Northampton organists met to form the Northampton & District Organists' Association. As such, it was particularly fitting that a century later, almost to the day, the Northampton Association hosted the IAO Midlands Organ Day, and the Association's Centenary Recital, at St Matthew's.

We were delighted to be able to assemble at St Matthew's for a fabulous day of learning, friendship and enjoyment as we studied a skill central to our role as organists – playing for the liturgy – and a celebrity organ recital celebrating the Association's centenary.

St Matthew's was chosen both for its superb four-manual J W Walker organ, dating from 1895 – arguably the finest parish church organ in England – and because the Association's first President, Charles King, was organist of the church. The Association's first business meeting had also been held at the church in November 1921.

### **The Artists**

The Organ Day was structured around masterclasses facilitated by outstanding performers, all with Northampton connections. Richard Pinel, Fellow and DoM at Jesus College, Cambridge, was joined by Jonathan Kingston, DoM at St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford and Choral Director at Stowe School, and Callum Alger, DoM at St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, and winner of the inaugural IAO/RCO Organ Playing Competition. Justin Miller, DoM at St Matthew's, acted as Artistic Director.

Our plans for Simon Johnson (formerly DoM at All Saints', Northampton, and now DoM at Westminster Cathedral) and Andrew Reid (formerly Organ Scholar at St Matthew's, DoM at Peterborough Cathedral, Director of the Royal School of Church Music and now Managing Director at Harrison & Harrison) to come were thwarted, but we were delighted instead to be joined by Martin Baker, fresh from his acclaimed performance at the Proms.

## **The Masterclasses**

Delegates formed an ad-hoc choir, whilst we were treated to impeccable accompaniment from other delegates, student members and friends. The day highlighted our primary purpose as church musicians to lead worship. Using three contrasting hymn tunes – REPTON, BLAENWERN and SERVANT KING, Jonathan Kingston led participants through techniques to paint the meaning of the words. He demonstrated how to give confidence to singers, to keep tempo, and to solo the melody. He talked through the use of the organ's tonal pallet, and demonstrated the contrasts between the gentler SERVANT KING and the fuller BLAENWERN tune.

Richard Pinel showed how the organ might emphasise the majesties of the Psalms – supporting singers through the complexities and mysteries of the texts, perhaps soloing out the tenor part, playing the alto line an octave higher, or holding chords between verses.

As the participants gained in confidence, Callum Alger completed the trio of teachers, bringing his expertise in performance and choir training. The masterclasses continued by looking at the accompaniment of Anglican chant, plainsong, the Mass, and concluding with Howell's *Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks*. The day's work was brought together in a Finale performance of the materials on which participants had worked through the masterclasses.

## **The Organ Manual Online Magazine**

One of the masterclass participants was Anna Hallett, who as well as playing, spoke about her work on the *Organ Manual*, and her new project, *The Organ Manual Online Magazine*. The first edition of the magazine had just been published and promised fascinating reading, including a guide to cathedral organ scholarships, Anne Marsden Thomas's guidance on skills, and a plea for organists in parish churches.

## **Open Consoles**

Delegates also had the opportunity to sample organs at four of the town's churches. As well as the lovely St Matthew's Walker, the West Gallery Organ at All Saints, dating from 1982 was box-fresh from an outstanding restoration by William Drake, and coincidentally Richard Pinel had given the Rededicatory Recital only the previous week. Delegates could also try the three-manual of St Michael and All Angels, dating from 1928, and the delightful two-manual and pedal instrument by August Gern at St Gregory the Great.

While of course St Matthew's, St Michael's and St Gregory's are within walking distance, All Saints is not, and transport was provided by a 1947 Northampton Corporation Transport Daimler CVG6 bus, ANH 154, now owned and lovingly maintained by Northampton Transport Heritage.



## PROGRAMME

**JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH** 1685-1750  
Toccatà in E BWV 566

**EDWARD ELGAR** 1857-1934  
Sonata for Organ in G major op 28  
I Allegro maestoso  
II Allegretto  
III Andante espressivo  
IV Presto (comodo)

**Callum Alger**

[INTERVAL]

**NORMAN COCKER** 1889-1953  
Tuba Tune

**JAN PIETERSZOOM SWEELINCK** 1562-1621  
Variations on *Mein junges Leben hat ein End*

**J S BACH**  
The Art of Fugue BWV 1080/9  
Contrapunctus IX a 4 alla Duodecima

**PIERRE COCHEREAU** 1924-1984  
Suite à la française sur des thèmes populaires (1970)  
Marche des rois

**MARTIN BAKER** b.1967  
Improvisation

**CHARLES-MARIE WIDOR** 1844-1937  
Symphonie V in F minor op 42 no 1  
I Allegro vivace

**Martin Baker**

## NDOA Centenary Recital

As St Matthew's played such a pivotal role in the history of the Northampton Association, it was appropriate that our Centenary Recital was planned to be given by two former organ scholars of St Matthew's, Callum Alger and Andrew Reid. We were not to know that circumstances would mean that Andrew was unable to be with us, but were enormously blessed that his place would be taken by Martin Baker, former Director of Music at Westminster Cathedral at such short notice.

The recital itself was, quite simply, a delight. Callum opened proceedings with a thoughtful performance of Bach's Toccata in E BWV 566, before bringing us Elgar's Sonata for Organ in G major, written in the same year that the organ was conceived, and, in Callum's words, 'fitting the organ like a glove.'

After the interval, Martin brought us a varied programme designed to showcase the organ, beginning with Cocker's *Tuba Tune* and Sweelinck's variations on *Mein junges Leben hat ein End*. Martin is renowned for his improvisations, and appropriately he brought us a spectacular improvisation on Charles King's hymn tune, NORTHAMPTON, demonstrating the organ to great effect. Bringing the programme to a close with the *Allegro vivace* from Widor's *Symphonie V*, Martin sent the audience out in the best possible style to begin the Association's second century.

## Making the day happen

The day was made possible only through the hard work of so many members and friends of the Northampton Association, and the generous sponsorship of organ builders Harrison & Harrison and digital organ specialists Church Organ World. Harrison & Harrison restored the organ of St Matthew's, working with Kenneth Tickell, in 2004 and continue to tune and maintain it to this day.

Most importantly, too, we were most grateful for the outstanding support and encouragement we received from everyone at St Matthew's for whom nothing was too much trouble, including especially Fr Nicholas, Justin, and of course Anita in the Parish Office.

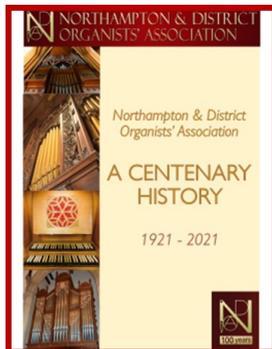
The team at the Northampton Association was delighted with the feedback received to the day, summed up by the delegate who told us that it was 'the best organ event I have ever attended.' We hope that it has set the Northampton Association on a successful path for its second century, building on the legacy established at St Matthew's by Charles King in 1921.

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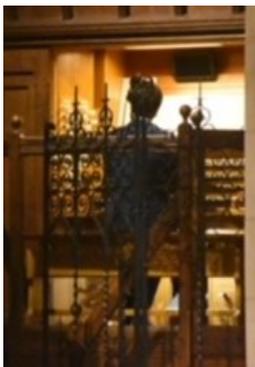
The Northampton Association welcomes everyone with an interest in the organ, whether as organists, those who enjoy listening to organ music or who simply love the instrument. You do not have to be able to play. Membership is only £10 per annum for individuals, or £15 per annum for families, churches, or businesses in the organ world. Details from

[www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/join](http://www.northamptonorganists.org.uk/join).

The Northampton Association has published a 40-page booklet in celebration of its centenary – *Northampton & District Organists' Association: A Centenary History*, available while stocks last at only £5 plus p&p through the Association's website at [www.northamptonorganists.org.uk](http://www.northamptonorganists.org.uk).



The Organ Manual and the Organ Manual Online Magazine can be found at [The Organ Manual – A place where all things organ come together \(wordpress.com\)](http://www.theorganmanual.com)



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**The Parish Church of St Matthew**

**Monday 1 November**

**ALL SAINTS'  
DAY**

**7.30pm Sung Parish Mass**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Tuesday 2 November**

**ALL SOULS'  
DAY**

**7.30pm Sung Requiem Mass**

The Parish Church of St Matthew Northampton

Come and join us for our monthly  
**All Age Worship**  
for the Parish Family

Sundays at 10.15am

**Third Sunday before Advent**  
**7 November**

*Jesus calls his disciples. God calls each of us  
And we all have an opportunity to answer that call*

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**12 December**

*'The Lord is near' is the message of John the Baptist  
and of the Advent season*

Little Bobby was spending the weekend with his grandmother. She decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful.

His grandmother remarked "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God painted this just for you?"

Bobby said, "Yes, God did it and he did it left-handed too."

This confused his grandmother a bit, and she asked him "What makes you say God did this with his left hand?"

"Well," said Bobby, "we learned at Sunday School last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand!"



## Ponder with Piero

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022

A retreat holiday with spiritual reflection on works of **Piero della Francesca**. Few have portrayed the mysteries of the Christian faith with more contemplative depth than this most enigmatic of Italian Renaissance artists.

Come and join us in this glorious region of Italy as we visit a number of his greatest works on 'The Piero Trail'. Talks will touch on artistic aspects of Piero's portrayal of events in the life of Christ, using them as a springboard for spiritual reflection.



**Canon Nicholas Gandy OGS** is a priest of The Oratory of the Good Shepherd – a dispersed Anglican religious community. With a background in medical research and teaching, he has spent thirty years in parish ministry within the Church of England. He is an experienced spiritual director, a lover of Italy, a Freeman of the City of London and an enthusiastic cook and drinker of wine.

At Umbrian Retreats, near Umbertide in Northern Umbria, Clive and Florence Morton have been hosting holiday retreats since 2010. Accommodation is provided in Casa Roberto, Sopra and Terra ([www.umbrianretreats.com](http://www.umbrianretreats.com)). All meals at Casa Roberto are included in the cost of **£700 per person** and there are no single supplements. Transport throughout the retreat, including travel from and back to Perugia Airport, is provided by people carrier. **Additional costs include travel to and from Perugia airport. Please also allow 200 Euros for light lunches, evening meals out and incidental expenses.**

# Ponder with Piero

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Please reserve space for:

Name(s)

---

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Address

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---

---

Telephone (home)

---

(mobile)

---

Email

---

Special requests

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**Enclosed is £200 deposit per person**

Please send your booking form to [umbrianretreats@gmail.com](mailto:umbrianretreats@gmail.com)  
and transfer £200 deposit per person to: Dr C N & Mrs F Morton  
at NatWest Bank – sort code 54-21-38 & account no. 29222915

OR

Send your form and a cheque payable to: Dr C N & Mrs F Morton,  
9 Riverview House, Viersen Platz, Peterborough PE1 1FX

## St Matthew's Residential Homes Singing Group



This group was formed over eighteen years ago, with the aim of entertaining the residents of the homes within our parish.

We usually visit four establishments each year: Oakwood Nursing Home (8 The Drive), St Matthew's Nursing Home (21-23 St Matthew's Parade), The Crescent Care Home (3 The Crescent), and Margaret's Rest Home (30-32 Kingsley Road). However, due to the Covid-19 Coronavirus, we are unable to function as we cannot enter their premises.

**In the meantime, please pray for the residents of these homes.**

Currently there are ten singers in the group (including some of our Methodist friends from across the road), but there are occasions when not all of them may be able to attend. Therefore we would welcome new recruits to join our happy band when the current restrictions are lifted.

If you would like further details, please contact Jonathan Starmer  
Telephone 01604 406009, or email [jonathan.starmer@yahoo.com](mailto:jonathan.starmer@yahoo.com)

## Next month's magazine

Contributions to our magazine are always appreciated so let us know what you / your group are up to! If you don't have the confidence to write something yourself, just let us have the details and we'll write it for you.

Please leave paper contributions in the 'P' (for 'Parker') pigeon hole in church or email files to: [magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)

**When attaching photographs to the email address please send no more than 7mb -worth per email, otherwise it jams the system! Thank you.**

**Deadline for the DECEMBER magazine is SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER**

*Editor:* Dorrie Parker

*Layout and production:* Gary Drinkwater

# Christmas Card Scheme 2021

*Dorrie Parker*

The St Matthew's Parish Christmas Card Scheme is up and running! Last month's magazine (still available on the website) carried an article fully explaining its origin and how it works.

If you sign up to our Parish Christmas Card Scheme, you're virtually giving a card to 'the congregation' and what's more, you get a personalised card from 'the congregation' to take home and display with cards from your other friends and family.

The Scheme runs this year from **Sunday 31 October** for four weeks, closing on Advent Sunday, 28 November. That is the deadline, as I start work producing the insert early the following day so that you will get your card in time. I shall be at the back of church after services on Sundays 31 October and 7 November handing out the 'joining up' forms – they give full details of the Scheme and what you need to do, and they will also be available thereafter in the office from Anita (mindful that the Parish Office is closed 1-5 November), or just ask me for one. Maybe you'll join us this year? I can show you examples of previous years' cards to explain it further.

If you would prefer to receive a form via email, then please contact me on [magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)



## November Wordsearch

Can you find the words listed in the grid? They may be written in any direction.

Answers next month...

DOGS

CATS

RABBITS

GUINEA PIGS

CHINCHILLAS

RATS

HAMSTERS

GERBILS

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WILD BIRDS

BUDGIES

PARROTS

8	7	2	9	3	6	1	5	4
9	6	4	8	1	5	7	3	2
5	3	1	7	4	2	9	8	6
1	5	9	2	8	4	6	7	3
2	4	7	1	6	3	8	9	5
6	8	3	5	7	9	2	4	1
3	1	8	4	2	7	5	6	9
4	2	5	6	9	8	3	1	7
7	9	6	3	5	1	4	2	8

SOLUTION TO SUDOKO ON PAGE 3

Link to  
Hope

JOIN US  
HELP US, HELP THEM

# FAMILY & ELDERLY SHOEBOX APPEAL

Romania • Moldova • Ukraine • Bulgaria

St Matthew's have supported the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal for many years. Initially we prepared boxes to send and then last year we gave cash donations for the Charity's staff to put boxes together on our behalf.

Each box costs £10 - if you would like to contribute one (or more) please place your money in a labelled envelope in the donation box or Parish Office letterbox by Sunday 7 November. If by cheque please make payable to Link to Hope.

## What do they do?

They send a Shoebox for a family – not just a child. They contain items for all family members and includes items such a shower gel/shampoo, family games, stationery items, gift for mum and dad as well as sweets, soft toys, hats, scarves etc

The annual Family Shoebox Appeal has been running since 1992 and has delivered smiles to thousands of people in Eastern Europe over the years. In fact, over 1,000,000 shoeboxes have been sent to hundreds of different locations!

The Shoeboxes of gifts are given to families who often have to make a choice between buying food or fuel at Christmas time – buying presents is not a priority. Many of these families do not have running water, heating or electricity. Some live in appalling conditions, and life for them is a real struggle to survive.

Due to the number of elderly people that are now being left alone because their families leave to work away, the charity launched the Elderly Shoebox Appeal. The boxes are similar however the children's games and education materials are replaced with a wind up torch, sensory items, candle and holder etc.



# 32<sup>nd</sup> St Matthew's Multi-Aged Unit

Mandy Ludlow

Harvest this year was again a little different to previous years; last year the girls collected tins for the Hope Food Club (a food bank run by The Hope Centre), so we did this again this year. As we are now meeting face to face it was a little easier. Each girl and leader took a card out of the blue bag and a card out of the red bag. In the blue bag the cards all had savoury items and in the red bag it was sweet items or toiletries. No one was to spend more than £2. Well, what a surprise we had when all the items were collected up.



Back before the summer holidays the girls had asked if they could have a football evening. We are so fortunate that one of our leaders, Yasmin, plays for a ladies football team and her partner is a football coach for the Cobblers youth. On our chosen Monday in September the weather was certainly on our side, as the sun shone with a warm breeze. Great fun was had by all the girls.



The Rangers eventually got to have their evening cooking on Buddy Burners; this was third time lucky, as previous occasions had to be cancelled due to bad



weather. What is a buddy burner? An empty tuna tin, with corrugated cardboard curled up inside, a wick inserted and finally melted wax poured into the tin, soaking into the cardboard. When lit it is amazing how much heat they give off. The girls cooked hot dogs followed by pancakes.

When we first returned meeting face to face it was outdoors and we undertook a Hedgehog Challenge badge, as we had a couple of clauses still to complete. We did these in conjunction with harvest – all the girls made bread and turned them into 'hedgehog rolls'. Using salt dough and craft matchsticks the Brownies made hedgehog ornaments.

All girls love a unicorn! A challenge badge was found and we have spent two evenings doing all things Unicorn – games and craft, everything glittery and shiny.

For many reasons we have a number of girls who are not currently able to meet face to face, therefore we have continued with fortnightly zoom meetings for some Brownies and Rangers. The Brownies made slime using sugar free jelly and cornflour, whilst the Rangers baked bubble gum cookies.



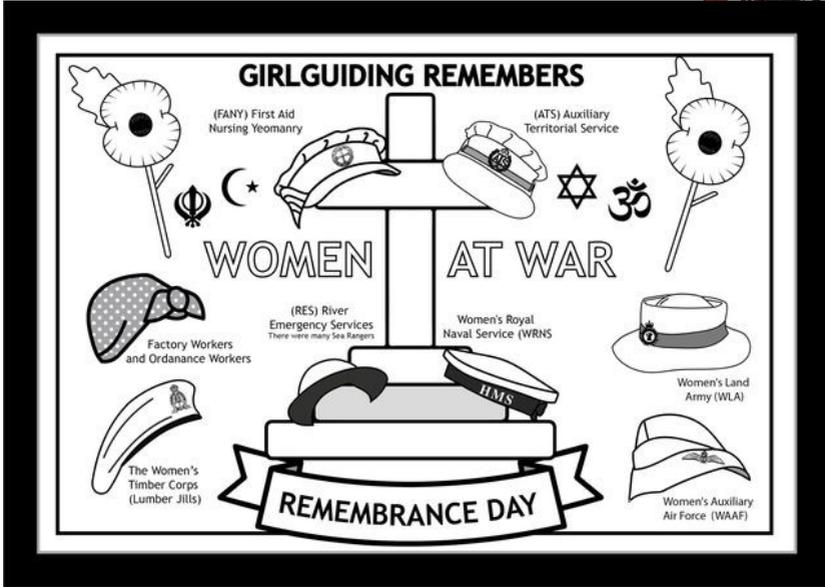
At the All Age Service in October Fr Nicholas asked us to provide refreshments. This was the first time in 20 months that Café Guides had been running. This time it was all very different – instead of our lovely china crockery, and vintage tea room look, we were more of a Costa Coffee and a takeaway service. We had a number of customers and hope to entice more to stay next month. Our refreshments are set up COVID-safe, and all leaders wear masks and gloves for serving drinks and cakes. Our cups are disposable, and all cake is pre-packaged.



If you do not feel confident at the moment to stay after the Service, come and say hello, grab a coffee and cake, and take them home and enjoy. Hot drink and cake £2. As previously, any monies raised will be split between the unit and the church.



Traditionally, we have sold poppies for the Royal British Legion – once again this year we will not be doing so, but we will be doing a display for Remembrance.



## Friends of St Matthew's Music 100+ Club

Congratulations to the lucky winner of £50 in our OCTOBER draw —

Number **42**, held by **Dave Wilson**



You too could win the **single prize of £50** in our monthly draw if you had a number! For just £3.00 a month you'd be in with a chance, whilst also helping pay for our Director of Music's salary.

For full details and a form, please email [jonathan.starmer@yahoo.com](mailto:jonathan.starmer@yahoo.com)

*Jonathan Starmer*

## Claire's Apple Cake

With autumn and harvest now with us, it is that time of the year when apples are plentiful and there seems to have been a good crop this year. This is a favourite recipe of 'Special Owl' aka Claire Catlin.

### *Ingredients*

- \* 12oz self raising flour
- \* 8oz margarine
- \* 6oz sugar
- \* 4oz sultanas
- \* 1lb cooking apples
- \* 3 eggs
- \* teaspoon mixed spice or to taste

### *Method*

- 1) Rub the margarine into the flour, stir in the sugar, sultanas and spice
- 2) Skin, core and dice up the cooking apples and mix into the dry ingredients
- 3) Beat the eggs together and stir into the dry ingredients, mix thoroughly
- 4) Put into an 8" cake tin or a two-pound loaf tin and dredge with demerara sugar
- 5) Bake for 1-1¼ hours at Gas 4 or 175° – until a skewer comes out clean

Sit down with a thick slice and a cup of tea... Bliss!

**smile.amazon.co.uk**

Do you use Amazon? Are you thinking about your Christmas shopping? If so, you can help St Matthew's Church raise donations for free.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of eligible purchases to St Matthew's.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same price, same service. All you need to do is use the link below

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Telephone : 01536 790707

email : [byland@btinternet.com](mailto:byland@btinternet.com)

## ***CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS***

*TO EVERYONE AT THE CHURCH OF*

### ***ST.MATTHEW, NORTHAMPTON***

*WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE 2021*

***`RIDE AND STRIDE`***,

*AND RAISED THE WONDERFUL SUM OF*

***£ 530.***

*SUCH SUMS ARE A GREAT HELP IN FURTHERING OUR WORK OF PROVIDING  
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.*

*Chairman : Gareth Lugar-Mawson*

*Secretary & Friends` Secretary : Ruth Fitch*

*Treasurer : Eddie Byland*

*Grants Secretary : Michael Moore*

## Annual advertising costs

for *St Matthew's Mail*



A5	Full page	£100.00 per annum
A6	Half page	£60.00 per annum
A7	Quarter page	£40.00 per annum
A8	Eighth of a page	£25.00 per annum

Spaces are available – please contact

Anita, Parish Administrator, at the Parish Office

## We can recycle...

Used **postage stamps** from your envelopes

Your redundant **spectacles** (not the cases though)

*There are receptacles in the bookstall area in  
which to put them*

**Thank you!**



## *Floodlighting of the Church*

If you would like to celebrate an anniversary or remember a loved one, St Matthew's can offer you the option of having the church floodlit at night.

The church would be floodlit all night, timed from dusk till dawn, at a cost of £20.00 per night. Please contact the Parish Office for further details.



st Matthew's



St Matthew's Parish Centre  
27 The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4RY

Thursdays in term time  
from 9.45am to 11.30am

- \* Baby only area with sensory toys
- \* Toys for Pre-School children to play in a safe environment, including craft and free play
- \* For Parents/Grandparents/Carers to have a chat and meet new friends



**Adult £1 \* Child 50p**

Hot drinks included

Booking is required to avoid disappointment

Contact the Parish Office on 01604 791251  
or email [minis@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](mailto:minis@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)

[www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](http://www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)



# Parish Giving Scheme

The Parish Giving Scheme exists to allow members of the St Matthew's community to support the life and work of the Parish, and the upkeep of our church, through regular giving. It provides our principal source of income and helps us meet our main financial commitments, including our contribution towards the Diocesan Common Fund (the 'Parish Share') and the costs of our employees.



THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST MATTHEW • NORTHAMPTON

The Scheme is the most tax efficient way of contributing to the church because contributions may be eligible for Gift Aid (raising your donation by 25% at no cost to either you or St Matthew's).

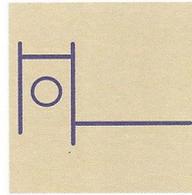
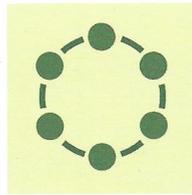
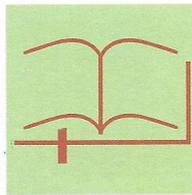
There are two methods of payment available: by a banker's direct debit or by weekly-numbered envelopes via the collection plate. The amount that you give is entirely confidential and is known only to the lay people who administer the Scheme.

If you are interested in learning more or in joining the Scheme, please speak to our Stewardship Recorder Polly Matthews. She can be contacted via the Parish Office or as below.

Polly Matthews

<[office@stmathews-northampton.org.uk](mailto:office@stmathews-northampton.org.uk)>

Tel. 01604 846074



PARISHGIVINGScheme

## Parish Office

27A The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4RY (*within the Parish Centre*)

Telephone: 01604 791251 Email: [office@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](mailto:office@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Anita Speake Office opening hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 9.30am till 12.30pm, 1.00pm till 4.00pm; Wednesdays CLOSED

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## Ministry Team

Parish Priest	The Revd Canon Nicholas Setterfield <a href="mailto:vicar@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">vicar@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>
Honorary Assistant Priest	The Revd Canon Nicholas Gandy OGS <a href="mailto:OGS@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">OGS@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>
Honorary Assistant Priest	The Revd Canon Peter Garlick

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## Parish Officers

Churchwarden	Gary Drinkwater <a href="mailto:churchwarden@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">churchwarden@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>
PCC Secretary	Donald Cran <a href="mailto:pcc-secretary@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">pcc-secretary@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>
PCC Treasurer	Donald Cran <a href="mailto:treasurer@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">treasurer@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>

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## St Matthew's Trust

David Waller  
[chairman@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](mailto:chairman@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)

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## Particular Responsibility

Safeguarding Officer	Sarah Oughton (Assistant: Ben Drouet) <a href="mailto:safeguarding@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">safeguarding@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>
Verge	Gary Drinkwater
Head Server	Seymour Franklin <a href="mailto:head-server@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">head-server@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>
Stewardship Recorder	Polly Matthews
Electoral Roll Officer	Seymour Franklin
Archives	Patrick Rawlinson
Website & Magazine Editor	Dorrie Parker <a href="mailto:magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>

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## Music Department

Director of Music	Justin Miller <a href="mailto:music@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">music@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>
Parish Organist	Jonathan Starmer
Friends of St Matthew's Music	Keith Hirst <a href="mailto:friends@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk">friends@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk</a>

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**Parish website**

**[www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk](http://www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk)**