

St Matthew's **MAIL**

**Suggested
Donation**

£1.00

News from the Parish of Kingsley, Northampton

DECEMBER 2024



www.stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Services at the Parish Church of St Matthew

Sundays

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

10.15am	Laying on of hands and Sacrament of Anointing is 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

Monday 7.00pm Mass (on Bank Holidays at 9.30am)
(Healing Mass and Devotions on the first Monday in the month)

Tuesday Currently suspended

Wednesday 9.30am Mass

Thursday 9.30am Mass

Friday 12 noon Mass

Saturday 9.30am Mass

(Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham followed by a Cell Meeting on the second Saturday of 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 and on website)

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 December

Date	Observance	Intention
1	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
2	Feria	The healing ministry
3	Saint Francis Xavier, Pr	
4	Feria	
5	Feria	
6	Saint Nicholas, B	
7	Saint Ambrose, B and Dr	
8	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
9	Conception of the BVM	
10	Feria	
11	Feria	
12	Feria	
13	Saint Lucy, V and M	
14	Saint John of the Cross, Pr and Dr	Shrine and Cell of OLW
15	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
16	Feria	
17	Feria	
18	Monthly Requiem	The Faithful Departed
19	Feria	
20	Feria	
21	Feria	
22	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
23	Feria O Emmanuel	
24	Feria [in the morning]	
	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	
	Christmas Eve	
25	CHRISTMAS DAY	
26	Saint Stephen, First Martyr	
27	Saint John, Ap and Ev	
28	Holy Innocents, Ms	
29	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS	
30	In the Octave of Christmas	
31	In the Octave of Christmas	

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

December's Pastoral Letter from the Vicar

God has not forgotten his people

None of us like to be forgotten. Yet all of us have had some experience of what it's like, even if it was only on an occasion. It may be that we weren't invited to some event, or our contribution to some work wasn't recognised, or our birthday was forgotten. Here we're talking just about being omitted or passed over. But even that can be very painful, for it means to be ignored, to be treated as if you were of no significance.

There is another kind of forgetting. When people forget all about us, this is a far deeper and more painful thing. We feel that we don't matter anymore. That no one cares about us. It's as if we didn't exist. We feel we've been not just forgotten but abandoned. It's worse if we are victims of false promises: "I'll be in touch, I'll write, I'll call again," and so on.

Once there was a wonderful priest (they do exist!) who was admired and loved by his fellow priests and by the parishioners of the parishes he had served. However, this fine priest developed a serious medical condition which forced him to retire from activity ministry and enter a nursing home. He spent the rest of his life there, confined to a wheelchair.

At first he had a stream of visitors. But as the years went by, the stream was reduced to a trickle, and in time even that dried up. Now he was on his own. Not a card, letter, or phone-call. Absolutely nothing. Just a great silence, and a great emptiness. He found it very painful, especially in view of the fact that he had given so much to others.

Then one day he received a visit from a priest who had been a classmate of his. He was delighted to see him, and they talked for a long time. But then at a certain point, he turned to his visitor and said, "Do you think anyone remembers me?" I don't know what reply the visitor gave him. What reply could he give?

No, it's not nice to be forgotten. It is extremely painful. We may feel like that about God too. Something bad may have happened to us, so we think, "God has forgotten me." This leads to the feeling that God doesn't care about us, that he doesn't love us anymore.

That's how God's people often felt at the time of the prophets. Two centuries before Christ their kingdom had fallen. The holy city, Jerusalem,

had been destroyed. The beautiful temple had been reduced to rubble. Their sons and daughters had been taken into exile. So they asked themselves, "Where is God? What has become of his promises?" And they concluded that God had forgotten them.

But the prophet assured them that God had not forgotten them. He told them that their sorrows would soon end. God would bring their sons and daughters back from exile. He would level out a highway to facilitate their return. And there would be a great restoration. So the people took heart. The exiles did indeed come back. However, God's promise was not completely fulfilled until the coming of Jesus.

And we too can take heart. Even though we may forget God, God does not forget us. Advent reminds us of the wonderful promises God made to us, and shows how they are fulfilled in Jesus. The great sign we have that God loves us in the fact that he sent his Son to us. John the Baptist was the one who announced the good news of his coming.

No, God has not forgotten us. God remembers us. Even if everyone else were to forget us, God will not forget us. It's lovely to be remembered, even if only in a small way. It's a sign that someone cares about us. God cares about us. We matter to him, because we are his precious daughters and sons.

Since we like to be remembered by others, we have a duty also to remember others, especially those who have been good to us, and who have sacrificed themselves for us. Christmas is a great time for remembering people. One small way we can do it is through a simple card with a few words that come from the heart.

Your sincere friend and parish priest,

F. Nicholas

Sorry
WE'RE CLOSED

Please be aware the Parish Office is **closed** from the afternoon of Friday 27 December until the morning of Thursday 2 January

‘Welcome Mary and Joseph to your home this Christmas’

Dear Friends

When I was in parish ministry, I was delighted to learn about the tradition of the Posada which one village had been running for a number of years. Posada means ‘inn’ in Spanish and, in Mexico and parts of the United States, an activity has developed when small versions of Mary and Joseph travel around different households in the community and stay there for one night. On Christmas Day, they are brought into church and placed in the crib where they are joined by the baby Jesus. In the small village where I ministered, this had become a beloved tradition and many people joined in.



‘Welcome Mary and Joseph to your home this Christmas’ is the invitation that is offered to the community and in doing this, people are encouraged to make room for Jesus in a new and creative way.

I wonder what it would be like for you to make room in your home for Jesus this Advent and Christmas – maybe it would be slowing down and taking time to speak to him; perhaps it is thinking about those in need in your neighbourhood and finding ways to serve them; you might want to find time to read afresh the words of the prophets in the Old Testament who look ahead to the day that the Messiah will come and live among God’s people. Whatever it might look like to you, can I encourage you to invite Jesus into your home, into your heart and into your lives.

‘The word became flesh and dwelt among us’

With Christmas blessings

+Debbie

+Debbie

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

Email: communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

The Posada at St Matthew's

Gary Drinkwater



The Parish Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham decided some time ago to reintroduce the Posada to St Matthew's after a few years' break. As Bishop Debbie's letter says on the previous page, the Posada commemorates Mary and Joseph's search for shelter as they journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of Christ. This will be symbolized by small figures of Mary and Joseph moving around the parish during Advent. We are grateful to the two members of the Cell who purchased the figures for this.

For the first fifteen days, these will be seen in different areas of the parish daily on Facebook, and then our website in a montage. Over the last nine days, which is the traditional time, they will move from house to house, arriving at St Matthew's on Christmas Day. If you wish to host the figures overnight, please signify your interest by signing the sheet at the back of church or speak to Heidi or the Churchwardens.



In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while [a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

Luke Chapter two Verses 1—5

The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Sunday
1 December
THE ADVENT
PROCESSION**

at 4.00pm



The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Sunday
22 December
A Festival of
NINE LESSONS
AND CAROLS**

at 4.00pm



The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Tuesday
24 December
CHRISTMAS
EVE**

**11.30pm
Midnight Mass**



The Parish Church of St Matthew

**Wednesday
25 December
CHRISTMAS
DAY**

**10.15am
Procession
and Parish Mass**



St Matthew's Church

Christmas Fayre



**Friday
6 December**

**Doors open at 7.00pm
Lots of fun till 9.00pm**

in the Church (Kettering Rd/Collingwood Road corner)

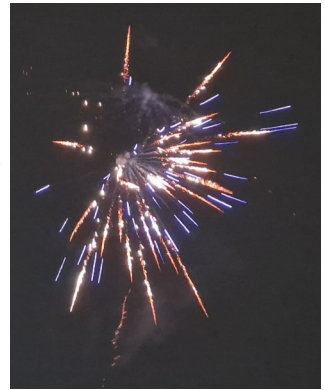
Adults £1 / Children FREE

- ❄ Northampton School for Boys Band ❄
- ❄ Santa's Grotto ❄ Carol Singing ❄
- ❄ Christmas Food & Drinks ❄
- ❄ Tombolas ❄ Raffles ❄ Games & Stalls ❄

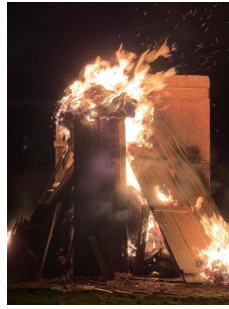
Bonfire Night Party

Jonathan Stuart

Tom Moore and his team delivered a thrilling and enjoyable bonfire and firework display on Saturday 9 November. It was clear everything had been meticulously planned. Turf removed and a firepit dug in the church lawn, and a safety barrier around the area. The impressive bonfire was topped with a guy who looked suspiciously like Tom himself, and the towering flames caused the crowd to wonder if the burnt-out house across the street might have been a victim of a previous bonfire night. Spectacular fireworks soared into the sky, bursting into showers of brilliant colours, and the younger members of the audience were treated to sparklers to wave.



After the fireworks, we moved to the Parish Centre for delicious hot dogs, freshly prepared by the catering team led by Heidi Moore. Many thanks to all whose hard work made the event such a success.



Photography by Adam Setterfield and Jonathan Stuart

Coin Club Inaugural Meeting

Ian Rivett



On 21 September 2009, we were proud to welcome Ian Rank-Broadley to St Matthew's Church where he unveiled his sculpture of St. Matthew. He is also well known for his portrait of Her Late Majesty the Queen on the obverse of all UK coinage from 1998 to 2015.

On 27 December 2024 we will be gathering in the Parish Centre for the inaugural meeting of our Coin Club which is open to coin collectors from beginners to the more seasoned collector.

The meeting starts at 7pm and will run until 9pm. There will be presentations and short videos as well as sales stands and opportunities to swap coins with other collectors.

Should the evening prove to be a success then we propose to hold a regular monthly meeting, probably on a Tuesday evening going forward.

Laughter Lines



I bought my wife a fridge for Christmas. I can't wait to see her face light up when she opens it.

My girlfriend wasn't happy with the present I bought her last Christmas. She wanted something with diamonds; I got her a pack of cards.

I went shopping the other day for a Christmas present and bought a barge pole. Thought I'd push the boat out.

Can you remember that awkward moment when you were about five years old and realised that Santa Claus was using the same wrapping paper as your parents?

Weekday Scripture Readings for December

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	2nd	Malachi 3.1-6	Matthew 3.1-6
Tuesday	3rd	Zephaniah 3.14-end	1 Thessalonians 4.13-end
Wednesday	4th	Isaiah 65.17-66.2	Matthew 24.1-14
Thursday	5th	Micah 5.2-5a	John 3.16-21
Friday	6th	Isaiah 66.18-end	Luke 13.22-30
Saturday	7th	Micah 7.8-15	Romans 15.30 – 16.7,25-end
Monday	9th	Jeremiah 7.1-11	Philippians 4.4-9
Tuesday	10th	Daniel 7.9-14	Matthew 24.15-28
Wednesday	11th	Amos 9.11-end	Romans 13.8-14
Thursday	12th	Jeremiah 23.5-8	Mark 11.1-11
Friday	13th	Jeremiah 33.14-22	Luke 21.25-36
Saturday	14th	Zechariah 14.4-11	Revelation 22.1-7
Monday	16th	Isaiah 40.1-11	Matthew 3.1-12
Tuesday	17th	Proverbs 8.22-31	1 Corinthians 2.1-13
Wednesday	18th	Exodus 3.1-6	Acts 7.20-36
Thursday	19th	Isaiah 11.1-9	Romans 15.7-13
Friday	20th	Isaiah 22.21-23	Revelation 3.7-13
Saturday	21st	Numbers 24.15b-19	Revelation 22.10-21
Monday	23rd	Isaiah 7.10-15	Matthew 1.18-23
Tuesday	24th	Zechariah 2	Revelation 1.1-8
Wednesday	25th	Isaiah 65.17-25	Philippians 2.5-11
Thursday	26th	Genesis 4.1-10	Matthew 23.34-end
Friday	27th	Isaiah 6.1-8	1 John 5.1-12
Saturday	28th	Isaiah 49.14-25	Mark 10.13-16
Monday	30th	Isaiah 9.2-7	John 8.12-20
Tuesday	31st	Jeremiah 23.1-6	Colossians 2.8-15

32nd St Matthew's Multi-Aged Girlguiding

Mandy Ludlow

The autumn term is flying by and we have already had half term and girls are now completing their Take Action Theme. Following on from the Guides making apple crumble as part of their Conscientious Consumer, the girls discussed what this meant to them and then made a poster and designed an outfit. All girls came up with something different and there were some very grown up ideas. A request that they made was to make bracelets in their Patrol colours; consequently Mark came and ran two sessions where the girls used paracord and knotting techniques. As we were away for one of the weeks, Alice one of our new Rangers ran the session and did a great job.

Rainbows have been cooking! Using ready rolled pastry the girls enjoyed an evening making jam tarts. They learnt about keeping safe in the kitchen, washing their hands before cooking and listening to instructions about not touching hot things. At the end of the evening all the Rainbows took home a package of jam tarts to enjoy with their family. In the later weeks they have been working on tying their shoelaces and making a bag out of a recycled tee shirt.

Recycling has also featured for the Brownies; all the girls were asked to bring in a bag of recycling, empty cans, cardboard boxes etc, and they then went on to make recycled monsters and robots. As they had done as much of their Take Action theme as we were doing this term, attention was turned to Christmas activities. It seems early to start, however a lot of painting is involved in some of the crafts and therefore starting early means they can dry properly before being assembled to take home. So far they have painted pegs for Rudolph and pine cones to make trees. Christmas jumpers are also being designed.

We are continuing with our Reversed Advent Calendar and already three car loads have been taken to the Hope Food Club. This will continue until the first week of December – are you able to help us with this? There is a basket at the back of Church for donations.

I am sure you will have seen the article in the pewsheets and possibly visited Café Guides after the last All Age Service in November, or perhaps seen our advert. What is the Winter Warmer? A parent plus a leader asked me if there was a lunch club or similar run by the Church etc, and as a result of this conversation the Winter Warmer was born. Having acquired a baked potato machine in the summer it seems silly not to use it, so we are doing a jacket potato, with a hot topping (a casserole or similar), accompanied by a

piece of cake and a tea or coffee. There are a number of people who attend the Service who live on their own and we thought this was a nice way that they could have a hot home-cooked lunch in a warm place, amongst friends and other people, rather than perhaps a 'prick and ping' microwave meal for one eaten off a tray, alone, wondering if the heating should be put on but worrying about the bill. Come and see us – as our advert says: stay for 10 minutes or stay an hour, we are 'open' as long as you want us to be. Be brave, give it a try.

Finally, it would be remiss of me if I did not mention the passing of our good friend, Mary Wallis. Mary was referred to as "Miss Mary" by the children; for many years she would come in and see us most weeks before she attended the Monday evening Mass, to talk to the girls, and look at what they were doing. Mary was a good sport too – always up for a challenge. She was a judge when the Guides did a 'Ready, Steady, Cook' evening, and tasted chocolate logs at a chocolate log competition run across all sections from Rainbows to Leaders. When Café Guides ran the Feast Before Fasting and Harvest Suppers, she was there and partnered John Folwell, in the dancing. Mary ran in the pancake race we had one year when Shrove Tuesday did not coincide with half term.



At the end of many Guiding events we sing a song, Go Well and Safely, followed by saying goodnight Guides

*Go well and safely,
go well and safely,
go well and safely,
the Lord be ever with you.*

*Stay well and safely,
stay well and safely,
stay well and safely,
the Lord be ever with you.*

*Live well and safely,
live well and safely,
live well and safely,
the Lord be ever with you.*



All that remains to say is – Go well and safely, may the Lord be ever with you. Goodnight Miss Mary.



1 LONG LIFE MILK	2 TINNED SOUP	3 CORNED BEEF	4 TINNED VEG	5 LONG LIFE JUICE	6 RICE PUDDING
7 TOOTHPASTE	8 PASTA	9 HOT CHOCOLATE	10 CHRISTMAS PUDDING	11 MINCE PIES	12 CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

ST JAMES THREE PILLARS
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS



Café Guides Recipe for December

Streamline the usually long process of making Christmas dinner, free up oven space for your roast potatoes and other side dishes. Ideal if you are attending Church on Christmas morning or visiting relatives.

Turkey for Two!

Serves 2

Ingredients

- 2 turkey breasts, skinless
- 1 medium carrot, chopped
- 1 onion, peeled and quartered
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 sprig of rosemary
- Few sprigs of thyme
- 125ml white wine (optional)

Roast potatoes, carrots and greens (or your chosen vegetables) to serve

Method

1. Season the turkey all over and out in the slow cooker with all the remaining ingredients, along with 1 litre of water. Set your slow cooker to low and cook for 3-4 hours until no pink meat remains, or a meat thermometer reads 75C at the thickest part of the breast.
2. Remove the turkey from the slow cooker, cover with foil and leave to rest whilst you make the gravy using the stock that remains.
3. Serve the turkey with the gravy, roast potatoes and your favourite winter vegetables.

*Using the slow cooker helps to keep the breast meat succulent, but you can also use a turkey crown, if you prefer, but you will need to cook on high for 3-5 hours, depending on the size of the turkey, again the turkey will be cooked when no pink meat remains, or a meat thermometer reads 75C at the thickest part of the breast.





Cold Hands, Warm Food



Café Guide's Winter Warmer — Jacket potato with a hot topping, December choices — Christmas Beef or Chicken and Mushroom Casserole, slice of cake and a hot drink £5.00



Stay for 10 minutes, stay for an hour, come and meet someone new, say hello to a neighbour, or chat with someone you have not seen for ages

Sunday 1st December 2024

*In the Parish Centre — 11.15pm
(after the All Age Mass)*



Café Guides Bonus Recipe for Christmas!



Amaretto Mincemeat and Mince Pies

Ingredients

For the mincemeat

- 1 Bramley apple, peeled, cored and finely chopped
- 3 clementines, zested and juiced
- 1 lemon, zested and juiced
- 240gms mixed dried fruit
- 110gms fresh or frozen cranberries
- 75gms dried cranberries
- 175gms light brown sugar
- 110g suet
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- ½ tsp mixed spice
- 120ml amaretto liqueur
- 30g flaked almonds, roughly chopped

Method

1. Into a large saucepan add apple, clementine zest and juice, lemon zest and juice, mixed fruit, fresh (or frozen, whatever you are using) cranberries, dried cranberries, sugar, suet and spices and give it a good stir.
2. Gently heat over a low heat for 20 minutes, stirring frequently, until the fresh cranberries have burst, and the dried fruit has softened. Remove from the heat and stir in the amaretto and almonds.
3. Spoon the filling into sterilised clip top jars and refrigerate for 3-4 weeks.

Amaretto-infused Mince Pies

Ingredients

For the shortcrust pastry

- 440g plain flour
- 80g icing sugar
- ½ tsp salt
- 220g unsalted butter, cold and cubed
- 2 eggs lightly beaten
- 2tbsp beaten egg or milk
- 30-60ml ice-cold water

Method

1. To make the shortcrust pastry, add the flour, icing sugar and salt to a mixing bowl, then add the butter and rub between your fingers until it resembled large breadcrumbs. Pour in the beaten eggs and stir together. Add in the cold water and bring the dough together with your hands.
2. Turn the dough onto a lightly-floured surface and knead a couple of times until it comes together, wrap in cling film and refrigerate for at least an hour.
3. To assemble the mince pies, preheat the oven to gas mark 4 /180°C /160°C Fan oven. Roll the dough to the thickness of a £1 coin. Using a 9cm pastry cutter, cut out 12 rounds. Place the pastry rounds into a greased tart/cupcake tin and press in. Re-roll any pastry trimmings and cut out a small star shape for the top of each mince pie.
4. Spoon 2tsp of amaretto mincemeat into each pastry case. Press the pastry stars on top. Brush the pastry tops with egg wash or milk and bake for 25-30 minutes until gold and crisp.
5. Remove from the oven and lift out onto a wire rack to cool. Dust with icing sugar, then serve.



On the Bookshelf

Dorrie Parker

Some weeks ago, a friend handed me a book she had just finished, saying she had been a bit dubious about reading this one, but she was incredibly moved by it and was glad she had and could highly recommend it. It's not a new book, it was published in 2015, and it's the story of a survivor of the 1945 atomic bomb on Nagasaki.

On a trip to Japan some years ago I took the opportunity to visit Hiroshima, and at the Peace Memorial Park had followed the story and seen the relics from the bomb dropped there. So I thought I would be up to the job...

In 1945 the United States detonated two atomic bombs, the first over Hiroshima on 6 August, followed by another over Nagasaki on 9 August. The two bombs killed between 150,000 and 246,000 people, most of whom were civilians, and remain the only use of nuclear weapons in armed conflict. Japan surrendered to the Allies on August 15, six days after the bombing of Nagasaki, and their government signed the instrument of surrender on 2 September, effectively ending the war.

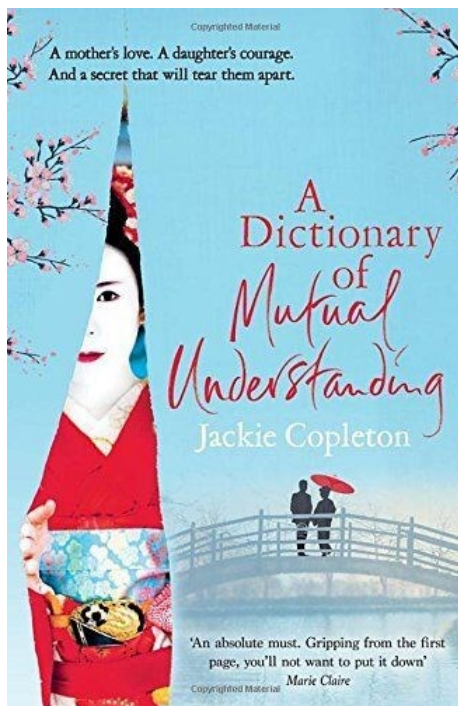
A Dictionary of Mutual Understanding is the debut novel by **Jackie Copleton**, who lived in Nagasaki and Sapporo for three years, where she taught English, before returning to her native Scotland and becoming a journalist. The main character in the story, Amaterasu, now an old woman and living in America, is forced to face her past when a horribly disfigured man claiming to be her grandson turns up on her doorstep. He brings a box of letters as proof, written by a man she has spent her life trying to forget.

Amaterasu's 7-year-old grandson Hideo had stayed overnight so his mother Yuko could work an early shift at the hospital. So on 9 August Amaterasu got him up, gave him breakfast and had delivered him to his school before next making her way to the Roman Catholic Cathedral to meet up with Yuko, her daughter. But she was delayed by a neighbour and a whim to pop into a shop, and then the bomb changed her life forever.

The chapter describing the dropping of the bomb at 11:01am is harrowing to read. She being late saved her life; Kenzo her husband also survived, but having searched and searched for their daughter and grandson they had to finally accept they were gone and in time emigrated to America. Yuko's husband had died fighting in the war.

So the story weaves between the past and the present, and Amaterasu struggles with the possibility of whether this supposed grandson's story is to be believed. Her only way is by being forced to relive painful memories of her daughter's love for the man who wrote the letters and by reading her daughter's diaries too, untouched since she discovered them after the bomb. And she must also relive memories of her own shameful past.

Each chapter in the book is headed by a short paragraph describing concepts in Japanese culture, highlighting the events in the chapter. I found it gripping, often surprised by how events developed, and I warmly recommend it too.



The Parish Church of St Matthew

Advent Sunday 1 December

10.15am

All Age Mass
for the Parish Family



The Parish Church of St Matthew

Crib Service & Christingle

Christmas Eve
at 4.00pm



Winter fuel allowance scam

Northamptonshire Police are warning people of a reported scam which involves winter fuel allowance payments.

Officers received a report from a member of the public in The Headlands, Northampton, which involved a cold caller knocking on the door of an elderly person in the area.

When they answered, the cold caller told the occupant that they from "Survey Solutions" on behalf of "Northants Council" who were supporting those who have had their winter fuel allowance stopped.

The scammer produced a card machine attached to a mobile and asked the victim for his debit card details so they could receive the winter fuel payment directly into his bank.

Luckily, they were suspicious and declined.

We're issuing this warning to encourage people who have been approached in similar circumstances to come forward, as well as to try and prevent anyone from falling victim to this scam.

You can help protect older neighbours and relatives against this type of crime with this advice:

There's no need to open the door to unexpected callers – it's OK to send them away

Find other ways to speak to callers – through a window or even the letterbox

Don't bother to check ID cards – they will be fake if the caller is not who they say they are

Display a 'No Cold Calling Home' sticker

Set up passwords with utility companies so you know if they are genuine when they call

Keep the outside of your property well maintained

Don't keep large amounts of cash at home

Use a lifeline pendant alarm to call for assistance

IF YOU'RE NOT SURE, DON'T OPEN THE DOOR

If you would like a free 'No Cold Calling Home' sticker, please email crimeprevention@northants.police.uk.

For more information, please visit [Take Five - To Stop Fraud | Take Five is a national campaign offering straightforward and impartial advice to help everyone protect themselves against fraud. \(takefive-stopfraud.org.uk\) and Stop! Think Fraud - How to stay safe from scams \(stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk\).](http://Take Five - To Stop Fraud | Take Five is a national campaign offering straightforward and impartial advice to help everyone protect themselves against fraud. (takefive-stopfraud.org.uk) and Stop! Think Fraud - How to stay safe from scams (stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk).)

Thank you for taking the time to read this message and please do share it with anyone you feel may benefit from the advice.



Northamptonshire Police Corporate Communications Team

Friends of St Matthew's Music 100+ Club

Congratulations to the lucky winner of £50 in our NOVEMBER draw —
Number **58**, held by **Ben Drouet**



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

Jonathan Starmer

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

Resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury - Bishop's Statement

Following the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop Debbie has made the following statement.

'The Makin Report makes for harrowing reading and leaves me with a feeling of deep sadness and shame for the way in which victims of such horrific abuse have been let down by our Church. I am deeply grateful to those who have been brave enough to speak up and to share their stories and wish to assure them of my prayers.

In resigning, the Archbishop of Canterbury is demonstrating his personal and institutional responsibility for the safeguarding failures and I admire him for doing so. I am thankful for his ministry and recognise the efforts he has made to ensure that the Church of England continues to develop its work in safeguarding practice. I am committed to continuing this work in the Diocese of Peterborough to ensure that the Church is as safe a place as it can be.'

Following the publication independent review by Keith Makin into the Church of England's handling of allegations of serious abuse by the late John Smyth, the Archbishop of Canterbury said:

'Having sought the gracious permission of His Majesty The King, I have decided to resign as Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Makin Review has exposed the long-maintained conspiracy of silence about the heinous abuses of John Smyth.

When I was informed in 2013 and told that police had been notified, I believed wrongly that an appropriate resolution would follow.

It is very clear that I must take personal and institutional responsibility for the long and retraumatising period between 2013 and 2024.

It is my duty to honour my Constitutional and church responsibilities, so exact timings will be decided once a review of necessary obligations has been completed, including those in England and in the Anglican Communion.

I hope this decision makes clear how seriously the Church of England understands the need for change and our profound commitment to creating a safer church. As I step down I do so in sorrow with all victims and survivors of abuse.

The last few days have renewed my long felt and profound sense of shame at the historic safeguarding failures of the Church of England. For nearly twelve years I have struggled to introduce improvements. It is for others to judge what has been done.

In the meantime, I will follow through on my commitment to meet victims. I will delegate all my other current responsibilities for safeguarding until the necessary risk assessment process is complete.

I ask everyone to keep my wife Caroline and my children in their prayers. They have been my most important support throughout my ministry, and I am eternally grateful for their sacrifice. Caroline led the spouses' programme during the Lambeth Conference and has travelled tirelessly in areas of conflict supporting the most vulnerable, the women, and those who care for them locally.

I believe that stepping aside is in the best interests of the Church of England, which I dearly love and which I have been honoured to serve. I pray that this decision points us back towards the love that Jesus Christ has for every one of us.

For above all else, my deepest commitment is to the person of Jesus Christ, my saviour and my God; the bearer of the sins and burdens of the world, and the hope of every person."

If you have been affected by the Makin Review and would like confidential, independent, support, please contact the Safe Spaces helpline.

If you would like to report a safeguarding concern, please email the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

Victoria Kellett

Office: 01733 887040

Mobile: 07484 424378

victoria.kellett@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

The Parish Church of St Matthew

Wednesday 1 January

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

10.15am The Parish Mass



Olde England Public House

199 Kettering Road
Northampton NN1 4BP
01604 619285



NEW OPENING TIMES

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 5.00pm – 11.00pm
Wednesday: 5.00pm – 11.00pm
Thursday: 5.00pm – 12.00am
Friday: 4.00pm – 12.00am
Saturday: 3.00pm – 12.00am
Sunday: 3.00pm – 11.00pm

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

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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

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 January magazine is SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER

Editor: Dorrie Parker

Layout and production: Gary Drinkwater



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*PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN BLOCK CAPITALS AND RETURN TO **DORRIE PARKER,**
St Matthew's Parish Office, 27A The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4RY*

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Please tick box(es) as applicable:

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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

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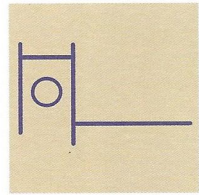
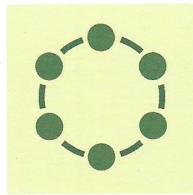
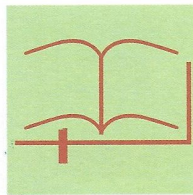
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If you are interested in learning more or in joining the Scheme, please speak to our Stewardship Recorder Polly Matthews. She can be contacted via the Parish Office or as below.

Polly Matthews

<office@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk>

Tel. 01604 846074



TM

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Parish Office

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

Telephone: 01604 791251 Email: 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

Ministry Team

Parish Priest	The Revd Canon Nicholas Setterfield vicar@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Assistant Priest	The Revd Canon Nicholas Gandy OGS OGS@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Honorary Assistant Priest	The Revd Canon Peter Garlick

Parish Officers

Churchwardens	Gary Drinkwater churchwarden@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk Dave Wilson churchwarden@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
PCC Secretary	Sarah Oughton pcc-secretary@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
PCC Treasurer	Donald Cran treasurer@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Stewardship Recorder	Polly Matthews

St Matthew's Trust

Ben Drouet
chairman@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Particular Responsibility

Safeguarding Officer	Sarah Oughton (Assistant: Ben Drouet) safeguarding@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Verger	Gary Drinkwater
Head Server	Nick Everitt head-server@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Sacristan	Seymour Franklin sacristan@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Electoral Roll Officer	Seymour Franklin
Archives	Patrick Rawlinson
Website & Magazine Editor	Dorrie Parker magazine@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Music Department

Director of Music	Tom Moore music@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
Parish Organist	Jonathan Stamer
Friends of St Matthew's Music	Steve Stringfellow friends@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk

Walsingham Cell

Cell Secretary	Dave Wilson walsingham@stmatthews-northampton.org.uk
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