



# Parish of St Matthew, Surbiton

In the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry

## 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019

### First Sunday of Advent

“ The Gospels and Christmas ....  
Matthew and the tradition”.



#### 9.15am Holy Communion

Readings Micah 5: 2-5 (page 933 )  
Matthew 1: 18-25 (page 965)  
Hymns MP 493, Longing for Light (sheet),  
A place at the table (sheet), 424.

#### 11.00am All Age Worship

##### - the Posada starts its journey

Reading Matthew 1: 18-25.  
Hymns MP 826,1221, Our God is a great big God,  
Your grace is enough, 493.

*At the 9.15am service the choir will sing the anthem "Come thou long -expected Jesus" by Henry G. Ley, and the organ voluntary is the chorale prelude 'Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her' by Pachelbel.*

### Collect

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin  
to the light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

### Diary for the Week

**more notices are on the church website at [www.stmatthewskt6.org](http://www.stmatthewskt6.org) and on the porch noticeboard.**

Sunday	1	4.00pm	Starlight Service for residents and families of the Royal Star & Garter
Monday	2	9.45am	Brunch Bunch ; Chapel
		8.00pm	Inspire House Group
Tuesday	3	<b>7.30pm - 9.30pm</b>	<b>Kingston &amp; Surbiton Election Hustings An evening to meet and question your prospective parliamentary candidates - see notice</b>
		8.00pm	Ruby House Group
Wednesday	4	8.00pm	Beta House Group
Thursday	5	10.00am	SMArties Embroidery Group
		7.00pm	Choir Practice
		8.00pm	Delta and Sigma House Groups
Friday	6	10.00am	St Matthew's Mum's Group Meeting - Creche
		12.30pm	Christmas Soup Lunch – in church – everyone welcome.
		6.00pm	Surbiton Rotary Christmas Collection – see notice
Saturday	7	6.30pm	AVM Christmas Fish & Chips Quiz Night- St John's Hall - see notice
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
		<b>11.00am</b>	<b>All Age Worship</b>
		5.00pm	Fuel Youth Group Meeting – North Room

**Let us worship God** . . . . In order to help everyone prepare for worship and for a trial until after Christmas, the organ will stop playing a couple of minutes before the start of the 9.15am service to keep a time of silence. Please try to be in the pew by then and use the time of quiet to settle, reflect and pray as we come before God to worship him.

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

Reverends Helen Hancock, Luke Wickings, David Nyirongo, Carolyn Lucas & their families.  
The THiS Team, Michael Kennett, Miles Stuart-William.

**Posada**- This Advent would you like to welcome Mary and Joseph and give them a home for the night? If you wish to take part in the Posada journey, please add your name to the sign up sheet at the back of church. We suggest that when you receive the Posada, you offer hospitality to whoever delivers it to your home, in the form of a meal, a snack or maybe a mince pie and a cup of tea?

**Tower & Spire** - an update - With the scaffolding beginning to come down just this week, it has been clear for a while that the completion date of mid-November would not be met. The contractors are now currently working to their proposed completion date of 31 January but there are no guarantees it will be finished by then. This is frustrating but there is little that we can do about it. We are particularly sorry that the toilets are still in an unfinished state and the Sitzler Room continues to be a building site. We are seeking to get these internal works completed as soon as possible and apologise for the inconvenience caused, especially to our Scramblers Group and the Choir.

**Rotary Club** - Following last year's success, we have again been invited by the Rotary Club to accompany Santa in his sleigh around local roads on **Friday 6th December from 6pm**. We will receive a percentage of the money which is collected for the Tower and Spire Appeal and it is a great opportunity to be out in the community. If you are happy to give up a couple of hours in the early evening then please get in touch with Helen asap.

## **KINGSTON & SURBITON ELECTION HUSTINGS**

*CHURCHES and CHARITIES ACROSS THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES*  
are pleased to host

**An evening to meet and question your prospective parliamentary candidates**  
**Tuesday 3 December 7.30pm to 9.30pm Surbiton Hill Methodist Church Surbiton**

To book in or register a question visit <https://kshustings2019.eventbrite.co.uk>

APHRA BRANDRETH, Conservative

ED DAVEY, Liberal Democrats

JAMES GILES, Independent

SCOTT HOLMAN, Brexit Party

SHARRON SUMNER, Green

LEANNE WERNER, Labour

**African Vision Malawi** - We would like to thank you for your generosity at the recent Harvest Service where £634 was received for feeding the orphan and vulnerable children in Malawi. Do please support us if you can on **7<sup>th</sup> December for our Christmas Fish and Quiz night** at St Johns Hall in Grove Lane, Kingston, KT1 2ST from 6:30pm; phone us for more details or visit our website; <http://www.africanvision.org.uk/event/christmas-fish-quiz-night/>

**YMCA Residents Christmas Bags 2019 - Male.** YMCA Surbiton would love you to provide a gift bag for one of their **male** residents with a variety of small items (suggested value £7).

- A pair of new socks
- Toiletries or soap
- Sweets or chocolates ( no nuts please)
- A notepad and pen or a book
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- A small gift eg. A mug, keyring or torch etc.

Add in a personalised greetings card – the messages mean so much at this time of year.

If you can help, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the church and take a flyer for full instructions. Thank you.

**Christmas Lunch on Jesus** - Last December Doxa Deo Community Church ran the **Christmas Lunch on Jesus** project which funded, packed and distributed 850 full Christmas hampers to families in need across South West London. Once again this year the project will run on **20 and 21 December** at Tolworth United Reformed Church. If you would like to be involved again in donating towards hampers or packing and distributing hampers you can find all the details at [www.christmaslunchonjesus.org.uk](http://www.christmaslunchonjesus.org.uk).

**Foodbank Focus .. December** - Christmas Treats ..tinned meat and fish, chocolate ..biscuits ..mince pies, Christmas puddings etc. Please ensure the Best Before dates are at least to the end of the year. Many thanks.

**KCAH** – Items needed please - Men's (new) underwear, ladies toiletries and pants, rucksacks, sleeping bags, deodorants, new socks, pot noodles & baby wipes etc. No toothbrushes or toothpaste for the moment please. Please place them in the box provided at the back of church. Thank you.

### **KCAH- Night Shelter Volunteers Needed**

Our Winter Night Shelter is now open and we hope to be open every night throughout the winter to offer shelter, warmth and community to those in our Borough sleeping rough. Last night we welcomed 20 guests who would otherwise have had no choice but to spend the night outside. And we know from experience that as the temperature drops and the word spread that we are open, the number of guests per night will increase.

To be able to run the shelter, we need lots more volunteers. To be able to run just one night, we need 19 people over four shifts (7.30pm-11.00pm, 11pm-2am, 2am-6am or 6am-8am). If you are at all able to give of your time, even just once, we would love to hear from you.

Please email [winternightshelter@kcah.org.uk](mailto:winternightshelter@kcah.org.uk) or call 0208 255 7400 and ask for Sophie.

You can also [sign up for a 2 hour volunteer training session here](#). We will hold a training session on **Tuesday 10 December 7.30pm-21.30pm**.

**KCAH Urgent Sleeping bag Appeal**. As our Night Shelter, where we use sleeping bags, is filling up and temperatures drop, we are in need of a lot more sleeping bags. (Must be in good condition and in its sleeve/bag). If you are able to donate a sleeping bag, please leave it at the back of church or drop it at our friends at Banquet Records or 7000 Jars of Beer in Kingston.

See poster on notice board. Thank you for your help and support, as always.

Kind regards, Camilla and the KCAH-team

**AwayWeekend 2020**- After the success of the AwayDay last weekend the Discipleship Team is excited to announce that the **2020 residential AwayWeekend** will be held on **16 - 18 October 2020** once again at the De Vere Horsley Hotel. More details to follow but please put the dates in your diaries now so you are free to come along.

**Woodbury Handbell Ringers** - Is anyone available and keen to join the Woodbury Handbell Ringers on occasional Monday afternoons - two before Christmas. Please let Helen know if you can by email or phone message.

**Christmas Cards** sold in aid of the Tower and Spire Appeal are now available to buy before and after both services.

**Pilot Project on Discipleship-** We have been contacted by the Archdeacon to take part in a pilot project on discipleship. If you are someone who struggles to make a regular commitment to a home group but would like to have some materials to study why not take a look here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/connecteddisciples> The aim is '*to encourage Christians to connect with good pre-existing online discipleship tools that spark conversation and reflection and draw people closer to God.*' If you do sign up, please do feedback to Helen any thoughts or comments to improve the site before it goes live more widely.

## **Raise money for St Matthew's at zero cost to you!** –

St Matthew's PCC is now registered with 'Give As You Live', an online fundraising platform which allows users to shop at over 4,300 online stores and raise free funds for the Church. Register at [www.giveasyoulive.com](http://www.giveasyoulive.com), search for 'St Matthew's PCC, Surbiton' and you can raise 1-10% of whatever you spend online for the Church at no cost to you. You can install a 'donation reminder' on your computer or smart phone so that you are asked if you would like to raise money when visiting a website. This initiative could be worth thousands of pounds a year to us, especially if Church members use it when booking holidays, taking out insurance or doing their Christmas shopping. Please speak to Jen Houghton or Julie Usher if you would like to know more.

**Weekday restricted access to church.** - There will be no access through the main church doors on weekdays. If you need to get in during that time, please speak, in advance, to Helen or Simon.

**5ps Collection for the Organ Fund.** – The model of St Matthew's Church piggy bank which can be found at the back of church is for your odd 5p's to help support the fund. Thanks for your contributions.

*For more information about our church and events visit our website at  
[www.stmatthewskt6.org](http://www.stmatthewskt6.org) - email address: [admin@stmatthewskt6.org](mailto:admin@stmatthewskt6.org)  
Facebook [StMatthewsChurchSurbiton](https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsChurchSurbiton) [www.stmatthewskt6.org](http://www.stmatthewskt6.org)  
Parish Office is open 9 -12.30pm Mon, Tues & Thurs.( TERM TIME ONLY) Tel.no. 020 8390 5121.*

## **Motto Verse 2019**

***“Unless the Lord builds the house,  
those who build it labour in vain.” Psalm 127.1***