

Sunday 26th November

The Ten O'clock at St Matthew's

Supporting Christian Leaders 1 Peter 5

Preacher: Gareth Griffith

11am at Cheltenham Minster

Feast of Christ the King

Matthew 25: 31-46

Preacher: Clare Dyson

Ephesians 1: 15-23

6.30pm at St Matthew's

Jesus is Coming...

2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

Preacher: Jayne Seward

How Should I Pray?

Sunday 3rd December

The Ten O'clock at St Matthew's

Hope for All God's People

Isaiah 42: 1-7

Preacher: Diane Bruckland

11am at Cheltenham Minster

The Promised King

Isaiah 42:1-9

Preacher: Robert Sutton

Matthew 21:1-11

6.30pm at St Matthew's

Jesus is Coming...

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Preacher: Patrick Wheaton

What Should I Look For?

Christ the King

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. Amen.

This Week

Everyone is invited to join us for Daily Prayers in the Minster at **9am** and **12.30pm**. Minster opening times: **11-3pm** on weekdays and **11-6pm** on Friday with Minster Books from **2pm**, and on **Saturdays** from **10-2pm**.

Monday	10:00	Bright Lights Toddler Group - St Matthew's
27th November	12:15	Staff Meeting - St Matthew's
Tuesday	10:00	U3A - St Matthew's
28th November	17:30	Slimming World - St Matthew's
	19:30	Mahabba Prayer Group - St Matthew's
	19:30	Advent Course - St Matthew's
	19:30	Minster Bells Quarter Peal
Wednesday	12:30	Midweek Communion - Cheltenham Minster
29th November	15:00	Advent Course - Cheltenham Minster
	19:30	Youth Small Group - St Matthew's
	19:45	Leckhampton Small Group - St Matthew's
	20:30	Football Practice - Balcarras
Thursday	10:00	Christmas Tree Decoration - St Matthew's
30th November	10:00	Bible Study with Creche - St Matthew's
	10:30	CAMEO - St Matthew's
	19:15	Central Small Groups Meal - St Matthew's
	19:30	Minster Music Makers - St Matthew's
	19:30	Bellringer's Practice - Cheltenham Minster
	20:00	Central Small Groups - St Matthew's
Friday	10:00	Friday Small Group - St Matthew's
1st December	19:00	Ignite - St Matthew's
	19:30	Christmas Choir & Music Group (all welcome) - St Matthew's
Sunday	14:30	Sunday Club Craft Afternoon - St Matthew's
3rd December	16:00	Christmas Joy and Pain - Cheltenham Minster

Christmas Joy and Pain

The Christmas season can be a difficult time. For a wide variety of reasons not everyone feels like celebrating. Our service in The Minster at **4pm** on **3rd December** offers a time for reflection and prayer as we come before God with our heavy hearts and ask for his peace and comfort. Please take one of our Christmas Joy and Pain cards to anyone you know who might find this service helpful.

Upcoming Events

Today (Sunday 26th November) - Traidcraft Stall at St Matthew's after the **10am** service.

Sunday 3rd December - Sunday Club Craft Afternoon - **2.30pm** at St Matthew's. See Jayne Seward to book your place. Friends welcome.

Sunday 3rd December - Christmas Joy and Pain. **4pm** at the Minster.

Thursday 7th December - 4Front Theatre performing their 'pantotivity', **7pm** at St Luke's. A 1 hour lighthearted retelling of the Christmas story suitable for all ages. Tickets are FREE. Contact: Patrick Wheaton - 07557 105634 or patrick@stLuke's-church.org.uk

Saturday 9th December - 8th Annual Commissioning of Cheltenham Street Pastors, with an address by Bishop Rachel. **4pm** at Holy Apostles Church, followed by tea and cakes. All welcome.

Saturday 9th December - Christmas Concert in aid of Samara's Aid Appeal. **7.30pm** at St Andrew's Churchdown. In the interval you will hear about how containers are being turned into a mobile hospital in Syria - much needed support for the re-building of a war torn country. Tickets £5, to include mulled wine and mince pie. Tickets, Ceri Settatree: 01242 701166 or ceri.settatree@blueyonder.co.uk

Sunday 10th December - Town Carol Service at **4pm**. A traditional Carol Service at Cheltenham Minster followed by refreshments; preacher Honorary Bishop Bob Evens.

Friday 15th December - Youth Christmas Party. Years 7-13 - bouncy castles, food and more. **7pm** at St Matthew's.

Saturday 16th December - Waitrose Carol Singing. **12 noon** at Waitrose.

Saturday 16th December - Minster Merriment - **10am til 3pm**, children's activities, mince pies, hog roast and carols and more. All welcome.

Christmas Tree Decoration

This **Thursday (30th November)** we will be erecting and decorating the Christmas Tree at St Matthew's from **10am** onwards. We welcome as many people as possible to help (particularly with getting the tree upright and stable!) There are rumours of free pizza for all helpers afterwards. We hope to finish around midday, but that depends on the number of helpers.

Experience Christmas

Throughout Advent and the first week of Christmas there will be six interactive and stimulating prayer stations in The Minster. The stations focus on thinking about how we prepare for Jesus, the angels visit to Mary, how Jesus' birth is foretold, Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem, the angels appearance to the shepherds and the God's gift of Jesus to the world. At each station a part of the nativity story is told, there is a suggested way to reflect and a chance to respond. It is suitable for all ages, those of faith and those with none.

Parish Mailing

Our annual "Parish Mailing" is now ready for distribution around our churches using our new style Christmas Card, which includes details of our principal Christmas Events. Please take a pack of cards, from the Reception Desk at St Matthew's, to distribute to the assigned street. Please take the opportunity to pray for the residents of the street where you are delivering. To be effective the delivery should be completed by the early evening of **Saturday 2nd December**.

Prayer

The Prayer Working Group would like to thank you for praying for our Benefice vacancy. Your considerable support for the recent 24 hours of prayer was very much appreciated and we would urge you to continue to pray. The words of the Benefice Vacancy Prayer sum it up so well:

God our Father, help us to put our trust in you to send your chosen person to lead us on to where you would have us be. Amen

So in the meantime please keep praying!

PCC update note?

Church Office: 44 Clarence Street, Cheltenham GL50 3PL 01242 519520
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Deadline for inclusion in the following week's Notice Sheet is 9am on Tuesday