



cheltenham+minster
st matthew's | church

Sunday 10th February

The Ten O'clock at St Matthew's

Christian Friendship: 1Thess. 2:17-3:13 Preacher: Diane Bruckland
longing to share

11am at Cheltenham Minster

Give us today our daily bread Psalm 111:1-5 Preacher: Mike Milburn
Matthew 6:25-34

6.30pm at St Matthew's

Sent for mission Matthew 28: 16-20 Preacher: Richard Coombs

Sunday 17th February

The Ten O'clock at St Matthew's

Christian Holiness: 1Thess. 4:1-12 Preacher: Rod Pellereau
living it out

11am at Cheltenham Minster

Forgive us our sins Psalm 103:8-18 Preacher: Richard Coombs
Matthew 18:21-35

6.30pm at St Matthew's

Living as mission Matthew 5:1-16 Preacher: Patrick Wheaton

Fourth Sunday before Lent

Lord of the hosts of heaven, our salvation and our strength, without you we are
lost: guard us from all that harms or hurts and raise us when we fall;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

This Week

Everyone is invited to join us for Daily Prayers in the Minster at **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
11th Feb	20.00	Church Prayer Meeting - St. Matthew's
Tuesday	10.30	Barnabas Group - St. Matthew's
12th Feb	10.30	Prayer for Street Pastors - St. Matthew's
	12.30	Staff Bible study and meeting - Rectory
	19.45	Buildings and Fabrics Cttee - St. Matthew's
Wednesday	12:30	Midweek Communion - The Minster
13th Feb	13.30	Prayer Working Group - St. Matthew's
	19:30	Youth Small Group (Yrs 10-13) Annie & Simon's
Thursday	09.30	Preschool Praise - St. Matthew's
14th Feb	10.15	Bible Study with Crèche - St. Matthew's
	10:30	CAMEO - St Matthew's
	14.15	Prayer for Teachers - 16 Cleevemont
	19:15	Central Small Groups' Meal - St Matthew's
	19:30	Bell ringers' Practice - The Minster
	20:00	Central Small Groups - St Matthew's
	20.00	Uncover Group - Scandinavian Coffee Pod
Friday	19:00	Ignite (Yrs 7-9) - St Matthew's
15th Feb	19:45	Music group practice - St. Matthew's
		All singers and musicians welcome
	20:00	Friday Fun Club (Yrs 10-13) - St Matthew's

Our next **Church Prayer Meeting** is **Tomorrow Monday 11th Feb at 8pm** at St Matthew's focussing on our vision for the future and our Children and Youthwork. Everyone welcome.

Revive Youth Day Sat 23rd Feb, 10am-8.30pm St Andrews Churchdown.

This is a day event run by youth (inc. one from St Matts), for all youth across Gloucestershire. There are guest speakers, worship, seminars, activities, inflatables, football and time to hang out together as a youth group and with other young people from the area. Contact Annie for more details

From Richard

Friends,

We live in a society that appears obsessed with sex but is really longing for friendship. Why is the long running TV series *Friends* still on one of the *Freeview* channels every day of the week even though they stopped making the series 15 years ago? Because we all long for a friend who will say, in the words of the theme tune, 'I'll be there for you. When the rain starts to pour, I'll be there for you.'

In his first letter to the Thessalonian Christians we, at The Ten O'clock, have been seeing Paul expressing his deep personal friendship with Christians that he loves dearly. Last week we saw he was like a mother and a father to them, he called them his 'dear children', he shared with them not only the gospel but his life as well because they had become so dear to him. This week we will see his anguish when he was torn away from them and his anxiety to hear news from them.

How good a friend are you? Proverbs 18:24 says 'A person of many companions comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.' We may have hundreds of e-mail contacts, Facebook friends and Instagram followers, we may be Tweeting to thousands or have a Snapchat streak of over 100 days, but do we have one or two close friends with whom we can share our lives; who will be there for us when the rain starts to fall? They will only be there for us if we are there for them. If you have a good friend, work on maintaining that friendship, if you don't, pray that God will lead you to someone who you can befriend who will also be a brilliant friend to you. And if you want to know what true friendship looks like, look at Jesus who is the true 'friend who sticks closer than a brother'.

If you need to contact Richard for any reason, his e-mail address is richardcoombs@stmstm.org.uk and phone number, 01242 703154

Christmas Appeal for The Rock Thank you to everyone who has supported this both financially and in prayer. The current total including the Gift Aid stands at £6,800. Please pray that this will indeed help to spread the news of Jesus to the young people of our town.

Upcoming Events

- Mon 11th Feb** Church Prayer Meeting St. Matthew's 8.00pm
Tues 12th Feb Barnabas Group St. Matthew's 10.30am
Sat 23rd Feb Revive Youth Event St. Andrew's Churchdown 10.00- 8.30pm
Fri 1st March World Day of Prayer Service The Minster 10.30am
Sun 7th April Church Annual Meeting after the Morning Services

Coffee time It's great to have time to chat after the 10.00 service over drinks and cakes so thank you to the many folk who help with this. If you'd like to join them and help once every alternate month then Frances Hebditch would love to hear from you or email office@stmstm.org.uk

Barnabas Group next meets on **Tuesday 12th February** in St Matthew's at 10.30am. Richard Coombs will give a talk entitled "From McVities to the Minster and St Matts". For more information contact David & Margaret Towers 01242 693121 or email dg.towers@yahoo.co.uk

Mission Funding Available The church gives 10% of our general income to Christian work in Cheltenham or further afield. Every year we always leave an unallocated amount so we can respond promptly to new opportunities as they arise. I would like to establish a new way of using this so that we are a church which not only *supports* mission but *does* mission. I'd love to hear from anyone who has an idea for a mission activity that they would like to take part in, or a mission trip that they would like to make, which would only be possible with some financial support. This could be related to one of our current mission partners or a one-off event. Do please prayerfully consider what you would like to suggest and respond to Ian Davies at iandavies@pobox.com. My intention is to respond quickly, consulting as appropriate - Richard Coombs.

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Deadline for inclusion in the following week's Notice Sheet is 9am on Tuesday