



cheltenham+minster
st matthew's | church

Sunday 7th April

The Ten O'clock at St Matthew's

'I thirst' and 'It is finished!' John 19:28-37

Preacher: Richard Coombs

11am at Cheltenham Minster

'I thirst' and 'It is finished!' John 19:28-37

Preacher: Mike Milburn

6.30pm at St Matthew's

Radical Grace

Matthew 20:1-19

Preacher: Mani Sikotla

Sunday 14th April Palm Sunday

The Ten O'clock at St Matthew's *Please join us for breakfast before the service*

'The stones will cry out' Luke 19:28-44 Preacher: Richard Coombs

11am at Cheltenham Minster

'The stones will cry out' Luke 19:28-44 Preacher: Richard Coombs

6.30pm at St Matthew's

Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-17

Preacher: Patrick Wheaton

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, 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	NO Bright Lights Toddler Group
8th April	20.00	Church Prayer Meeting - St. Matthew's
Tuesday	10.30	Barnabas Group - St. Matthew's
9th April	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
10th April		
Thursday	09.30	Preschool Praise - St Matthew's
11th April	10.15	Bible Study with creche - St Matthew's
	10:30	CAMEO - St Matthew's
	19:15	Central Small Groups' Meal - St Matthew's
	19.30	Music Makers' Rehearsal - St. Matthew's
	19:30	Bell ringers' Practice - The Minster
	20:00	Central Small Groups - St Matthew's
	20.00	Christianity Explored
Friday	10.00	Friday Small Group - St Matthew's
12th April	11.15	Prayer for Cheltenham - The Minster
	19:45	Music group practice - St. Matthew's
		All singers and musicians welcome
Saturday	10.00	Preschoolers Easter Activity Morning - St. Matt's
13th April		
Sunday	14.30	Easter Craft Afternoon - St. Matthew's
14th April		

Our Church Prayer Meeting is this **Monday 8th April** in
St Matthew's at 8.00pm Everyone welcome.

April Bible Readings and Prayer Diary Please take a copy or access it
through the members' area of the website. Let's get praying!

From Richard

As some of you will already know, my mother, Susan Coombs, died peacefully and painlessly on Monday afternoon, well cared for in Penhurst Gardens Care Home in Chipping Norton. I was at her side. She had been diagnosed with terminal cancer just a few weeks earlier, so she was spared a long time of suffering for which we are incredibly grateful. As she told us a few days before she died, 'I may not be as demonstrative as the rest of you but my faith is rock solid!'

2 Corinthians 4:16-81 has meant so much to us in these days: 'Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.' We watched her waste away over the last two weeks but these are 'light and momentary troubles' in the light of the 'eternal weight of glory' that she is now enjoying with Jesus.

My mother was so thrilled that I had been appointed Rector of Cheltenham and very much enjoyed the Christmas Day service last year. She had the term card by her bed side and I know was praying for us. I am sorry that she wasn't able to get to know the church family better. Thank you so much for the kind messages that many of you have sent and for your understanding that I will be out of action for a bit.

Rusty Musicians are playing a short recital before the Ten O'clock today, their first public outing! This small group of instrumentalists meet fortnightly under the guidance of Roger Abbott. 'We'd welcome more members who would like to refresh musical skills from their past'. Speak with Roger or Ian Perry.

Barnabas Group next meets on **Tues 9th April** St Matthew's 10.30am, for a talk by Gordon and Ann Grüneberg entitled "Cathedrals, Cities and Curiosities". For more information contact David & Margaret Towers 01242 693121 or email dg.towers@yahoo.co.uk

Upcoming Events

- Mon 8th April Church Prayer Meeting** St. Matthew's 8.00pm
Sat 13th April Easter Activity Morning for Preschoolers St. Matt's 10.00
Sun 14th April Awesome Easter Craft Afternoon (Rec-Yr 6) St. Matt's 2.30
Thurs 18th April Maundy Thursday Communion Service The Minster 6pm
Church Family Meal with informal Communion St. Matt's 7.30pm
Fri 19th April 'Amazing love, what sacrifice' Good Friday service
with activities for children St. Matt's 10.00am
'An Hour at the Cross' The Minster 2.00pm
Thurs 23rd May Parents' Cheese and Wine Evening St. Matt's 8 –9.30pm

On **Maundy Thursday** evening, **18th April**, there will be a church family meal with informal communion and a short talk from Richard in St Matt's at 7.30pm. Tickets, £3, will be available on Sundays, or from reception weekday mornings. If you have any special dietary needs, please let us know when you buy your ticket. We also need some people to help serve drinks and clear up afterwards, but it's perfectly possible to do this and be part of the meal as well. If you could help in this way, please contact Sarah Collacott (01242 242245; 07732 570134 or sarahssewing@hotmail.co.uk).

The Cyclone If you've not yet given to Tearfund's Crisis Appeal and would like to do so please use the blue envelopes at the back of both churches and mark them 'Tearfund' or pay online (St Mary with St Matthews PCC, Sort Code: 40-17-10, Acc. No: 50649236) adding the reference: Tearfund Appeal. To Gift Aid this please fill in an envelope in church noting you've paid online. Thank you.

To see what Tearfund are doing and to pray go to www.tearfund.org/en/latest/cyclone_idai_appeal/

Church Office: 44 Clarence Street, Cheltenham GL50 3PL 01242 519520
office@stmstm.org.uk www.stmstm.org.uk  St Matts Cheltenham  @StMattsChelt
Deadline for inclusion in the following week's Notice Sheet is 9am on Tuesday