

**“TO BE A COMMUNITY OF
 WORSHIP, GROWING OUR FAITH
 IN CHRIST, BUILDING LOVING
 RELATIONSHIPS WITH ONE
 ANOTHER AND REACHING OUT
 WITH GOD’S LOVE.”**

19th January

We warmly welcome you to our
 service today, especially
 if you are new or visiting.
 Please do stay for a drink
 and chat after the service.



#topstories

#frontlines

#change

#futuredates

the collect

BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Eternal Lord,
 our beginning and our end:
 bring us with the whole creation
 to your glory, hidden through
 past ages
 and made known
 in Jesus Christ our Lord.

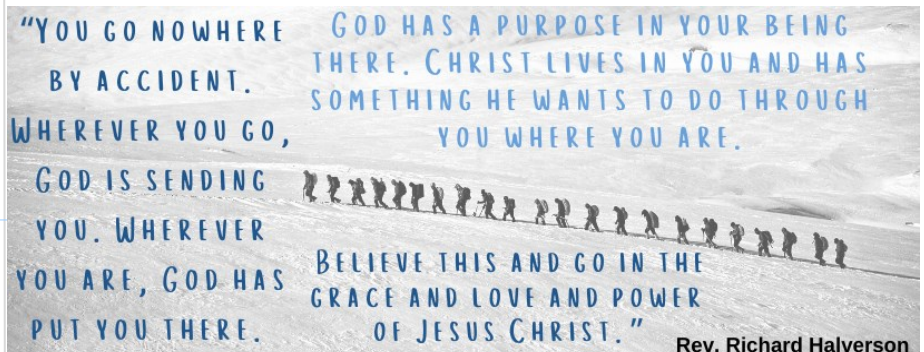
We welcome
 Bishop Martin to
 today’s service which
 includes an
 *opportunity of
 anointing with oil.

A large copy of the
 newsletter can be
 available-please
 communicate to Tami
 in the office. Via phone
 or email no later than
 12pm Thursday’s in
 order to print.
 Many thanks.

themethisweek:

Moving Forward

thoughtoftheweek



YOU GO NOWHERE BY ACCIDENT

“You go nowhere by accident. Wherever you go, God is
 sending you. Wherever you are, God has put you there.
 God has a purpose in your being there. Christ lives in you
 and has something he wants to do through you where you
 are. Believe this and go in the grace and love and power of
 Jesus Christ.”

If we were to live these words out with intentionality in
 our ‘frontlines’, what might God do? How would the
 world be different?

“In every community, there is work to be done.
 In every nation, there are wounds to heal.
 In every heart, there is the power to do it.”

-Marianne Williamson

Sunday January 26th – ‘Frontline Sundays’ series to relaunch ‘frontline vision’ (linked to St Matthew’s Learning Community and church plans)

Wednesday January 29th - 7:45-9pm in The Fletcher Centre we will be meeting to pray and wait on God as we look ahead as a church.

Please put **Sunday 8th March** in your diaries. We will be having a shared lunch after church that day where we will talk and share about our church plans. In particular we will discuss potential new missional groups which were suggested in our recent questionnaires. Do stay as we look forward as a church.



Messy Church At **St Matthew's Church Ipswich**
IN THE PARISH OF ST MATTHEW, TRIANGLE AND ALL SAINTS

26TH JANUARY 2020
IN THE CHURCH
4-5:30PM

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
[HTTPS://STMATTHEWSIPSWICH.CHURCHSUITE.CO.UK/EVENTS/XCEJG1NY](https://stmatthewsipswich.churchsuite.co.uk/events/xcejg1ny)

- Snacks
- Crafts
- Games
- Fun

FREE



St Matt's & St Nics Men's Evening

Friday January 24th
St Matthew's Church: 7.30 pm (Tickets only) £5

“One of the best-labour-saving inventions of today – is tomorrow”.

So men, come and find out how to procrastinate and never end up doing anything.

Bit of a fun evening, a TED Talk (by Mark

Urban) and discussion.

Cheese, wine, beer, and bread only if we can be bothered to go and get it!



*There will be opportunity during **today's** service to receive anointing with oil, seeking God as we continue to serve Him here at St Matthews.

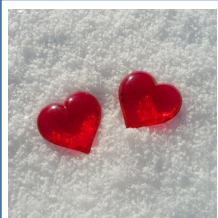
Please do come to the High Altar after you have received communion. If you would like someone to come to you please let one of the sides people know. If you wish for further prayer there will be

people available in St Katherine's Chapel after the service.

Volunteer opportunity

Are you looking for more opportunities to get involved and get connected at St Matt's? Our Youth Groups, Build (Years 6-8) and Roots (Years 9-13), are recruiting volunteers from Easter onwards. (You will have to be DBS checked & do the safeguarding courses) Being part of the team gives you the opportunity to invest in young people, helping them to build friendships and grow in their faith, all the while facilitating an environment that makes them want to come back again week after week. If you would like to find out more, contact our Youth Worker, Becks, via the email address below and arrange your next step. You'd be amazed at the difference you could make!

youth.worker@smast.org.uk



Many congratulations to Mike Carter and Claire Ruddock who recently got engaged. God bless them both as they prepare for their wedding day.



Recently when I was praying for the church God reminded me about Gideon. It's a great story which can be found in Judges 6 and 7. In brief, the Israelites were constantly being invaded by the Midianites and Gideon was terrified and thought God had abandoned them. Then God told him he wanted him to defeat the Midianites. Gideon protested that he came from the weakest clan and was the least in his family. Eventually he gave in and assembled an army of 32 thousand men. God said that was too many and gave him tests to whittle it down to 300!! This sounds crazy, but God's instructions often do. Gideon obeyed and God gave him an extremely unusual - and again crazy - strategy, and the Midianites were defeated.

The reason God so drastically reduced the army is given in Judges 7:2. If they had kept the large army they would boast they had won in their own strength, which echoes Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 4:7. "We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all surpassing power is from God and not from us." And again in 2 Corinthians 12:9 "My grace is sufficient for you for my power is made perfect in weakness." This brought to mind a song we used to sing - "Rejoice, Rejoice Christ is in you" (Songs of Fellowship 461). The whole song is worth reading, but the lines which stand out for me are -

"Where things impossible by faith are made possible" and

"He turns our weaknesses into His opportunities so that the glory goes to Him"

Chris

Fresh expressions Training

Mondays 7-9 @ St Nics

Jan 20 ,27 Feb 3 & 10



What to expect:

What a Fresh Expression is?

What might the journey of a Fresh Expression look like?

How do we go about starting Fresh Expressions?

The course is for everyone interested in Fresh Expressions. Alicia, Andy and Bob (Pioneer Developers at Inspiring Ipswich) have a vision of seeing 20 new Fresh Expressions of Church in Ipswich in 5 years time. They are here to provide support and guidance for others who want to be a part of that vision.

REGULAR DATES

- Men's Breakfast **8am** @ The Cricketers: **3rd Saturday** of each month.
- Only Girls Allowed: **2nd Monday** of each month, various locations. Normally **7:30pm**
- Craft & Fellowship: Every **1st Tuesday** of each month **12:30-3pm** in Church.
- Seniors: Mondays **1:30-4**
- Little Treasures: Every Fri **9-11am** in church, parent/carer baby & toddler group during term time.
- Table-top-sale: monthly **10-12pm (next one: 25/01/20)**

Extra promotion of certain events will be added as when, especially if the times or locations change.

PRAYERCHAIN

For urgent and immediate prayer,
Please contact our 'prayer chain'
Marian 404051 between 8_{am} and
10_{pm} or the **Parish Office** 251630
9_{am}-4_{pm} & **Ruth 424121**: between
10_{pm} and 8_{am}

LONGTERMPRAYER

Russell, Jackie Haste, Irene
R, Eileen B, Michael O, Kay,
Molly C, Harrison, Michael
G, Lorna, Pauline, Jenny,
Daisy M & Glen.

PRAYERTEAM

There is an opportunity
for prayer, in
St Katherine's Chapel
after each service. God is
at work in our lives and
longs for us to come to
him in prayer.

COMMUNICATEWITHUS



ChurchSuite

@stmatthewsipswich

@stmatthewsipswich

www.stmatthewsipswich.org.uk/

Tel: 01473 251630

Email: parishoffice@smast.org.uk

Parish Office: 2 Crescent Road IP1 2EX

Parish office opening times:

Jackie: Mon & Fri 9-4

Tami: Tues, Weds & Thurs 9-4

Lunch 1pm-2pm

(no lunch on Tuesday's-9-3)

*Items for the newsletter to be
submitted by Wednesdays please.*