

Parish Contacts

St Matthias' Church, Rushgrove Avenue NW9 6QY

stmatthiasnw9.org

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Priest in Charge:

Fr Matthew Duckett SMMS (Weekly rest day: Monday)

The Vicarage, 48 Rushgrove Avenue, Colindale NW9 6QY

020 8200 3770/07729 154529/matthew_duckett@yahoo.co.uk

Churchwardens:

Eleanor Arthur

Robert Wilson

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Frances Poulastides

Intercessions

For the sick and those in need who have asked for our prayers.

For the recently departed:

Selina Nimako, Motunde Awolowo.

Anniversaries of death: Doreen Smith, Hilda Thorpe, Michael Shields (priest, Vicar of this Parish), Robin Price, Pauline West, Vi Coster, Isaac Robinson, Lola Billitt, Alfred Boyles, Daisy Warrington.

To preserve privacy, the names of the sick and those in need, and sometimes of the recently departed, are omitted from the version of the news sheet published online. They are all, however, prayed for at the service in Church.

11am Parish Mass Hymns:

Entrance	580	Rejoice, the Lord is King
Offertory	633	The advent of our King
Communion	128	Come, thou long-expected Jesus
Recessional	265	Hark, the glad sound!
Mass setting:	953	A Simple Mass (Andrew Moore)

Parish Notices

Carol Service at St Matthias

Our traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, with the St Matthias Singers under the direction of Konstantin Gensitskiy, will be held next week, Sunday 21st December at 6pm. Mark the date in your diaries!

Pizza and Theology Evening

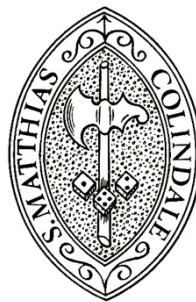
The "Pizza and Theology" evening last week seems to have gone down well (at least, the pizza did), so another evening will be organised in January on an Epiphany-related theme.

Thank you! (1)

Fr Matthew writes: Thank you, everyone, for the very kind card, cake and gift to celebrate the seventh anniversary of my licensing as your Parish Priest. I am told that, in the past, parish clergy here were noted for a "seven year itch", often moving on at that point, so I am glad to be safely past that milestone! And thank you, everyone, for continuing to be the faithful people of God in this place, making God's love known in our community.

Thank you! (2)

Fr Matthew also writes: And thank you to everyone who has helped to post around 3,000 Christmas cards through the letterboxes of the parish, in time for our special Christmas services starting next week.



The Parish of Colindale

Saint Matthias

The Third Sunday of Advent 14th December 2025



Mass Times and Readings for Morning and Evening Prayer

Readings and psalms for Morning and Evening Prayer are given for use with Common Worship Daily Prayer or the Book of Common Prayer. MP = Morning Prayer; EP = Evening Prayer. For a shorter version of the Office, use one psalm and one reading. For the same services online see tinyurl.com/jusdp. (* = a long Psalm, part of which may be omitted. Where there is a choice of two sets of Psalms, the first is for the season, the second follows the ordinary cycle.)

Sunday 14th December 10.15am Eucharistic Adoration Third Sunday of Advent 11am Parish Mass

MP: Psalm 68.1-19; Zephaniah 3.14-end; Philippians 4.4-7
EP: Psalms 12 [14]; Isaiah 5.8-end; Acts 13.13-41

Mon 15th December No Services

MP: Psalm 40 (or) 44; Isaiah 38. 1-8, 21-22; Matthew 16.13-end
EP: Psalms 25, 26 (or) 47, 49; Isaiah 49.14-25; 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Tues 16th December 12.30pm Mass

MP: Psalms 70, 74 (or) 48, 52; Isaiah 38. 9-20; Matthew 17.1-13
EP: Psalms 50, 54 (or) 50; Isaiah 50; 1 Thessalonians 5.12-end

Weds 17th December 10am Mass (Morning Prayer at 9.30) O Sapientia*

MP: Psalms 75, 96 (or) 119.57-80; Isaiah 39; Matthew 17.14-21
EP: Psalms 25, 82 (or) 59, 60, (67); Isaiah 51.1-8; 2 Thessalonians 1

Thurs 18th December 9am Mass (Morning Prayer at 8.30) O Adonai*

MP: Pss 76, 97 (or) 56, 57, (63*); Zephaniah 1.1-2.3; Matthew 17.22-27
EP: Psalm 44 (or) 61, 62, 64; Isaiah 51.9-16; 2 Thessalonians 2

Fri 19th December 9am Mass (Morning Prayer at 8.30) O Radix Jesse*

MP: Psalms 144, 146; Zephaniah 3.1-13; Matthew 18.1-20
EP: Psalms 10, 57; Isaiah 51.17-end; 2 Thessalonians 3

Sat 20th December 10am Mass (Morning Prayer at 9.30) O Clavis David*; Advent Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

MP: Psalms 46, 95; Zephaniah 3.14-end; Matthew 18.21-end
EP: Psalms 4, 9; Isaiah 52.1-12; Jude

Sunday 21st December 10.15am Eucharistic Adoration Fourth Sunday of Advent 11am Parish Mass O Oriens* 6pm Carol Service

MP: Psalm 144; Micah 5.2-5a; Luke 1.26-38
EP: Psalms 113 [126]; 1 Samuel 1.1-20; Revelation 22.6-21

* These are the traditional "O Antiphons", taken from texts of Scripture and used at Evening Prayer in the days running up to the celebration of Christmas. For the English texts and explanation, see: tinyurl.com/yxybyedu

First Reading (Isaiah 35.1-10)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalms 146.4-9 Response:

**Happy are they
who have the God of Jacob for their help.**

Happy are they
who have the God of Jacob for their help!
Whose hope is in the Lord their God;
Who made heaven and earth, the seas,
and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;
Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger. **R**

The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked. **R**

Continued →

The Lord shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Alleluia! **R**

Second Reading (James 5.7-10)

A reading from the Letter of Saint James.

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
If you are willing to accept it,
John is the Elijah who is to come.
Let anyone with ears listen!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel (Matthew 11.2-11)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

'Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ