



 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Chester

St Matthew's, Stretton  
and  
St Cross, Appleton Thorn



**Sunday 17th January 2021**

## **Worship**



### **National Lockdown and Public Worship**

Government guidance and Church of England advice allow public worship to continue during the national lockdown, but churches must make their own decisions on the basis of what they feel able to provide. The Churchwardens and I are satisfied that we are able to offer the following:

- Sunday 9.30AM Holy Communion at St Cross
- 10.45AM Morning Worship online (Facebook)
- Thursday 10.30AM Holy Communion at St Matthew's

It is clear that we must continue to uphold the highest standards of COVID-preparedness. I would remind you that if you plan to attend a service in church you must inform a Churchwarden and give your contact details. If you turn up without having done so, we cannot guarantee that there will be a place for you.

St Cross: Sandra Bates 265294

St Matthews: Michele Gwillim 450881

Attendance at a service in church means that you agree to follow all guidance, advice and instructions given by those responsible for the safety and well-being of worshippers. This includes wearing a face-covering (fitted over mouth and nose); maintaining 2 metres distance between yourself and anyone not in your own household or bubble; washing hands regularly and using sanitizer on entering and leaving the building.

I need to emphasise that the Government guidance gives you permission to attend a church service. It is not permission to catch up with friends socially. Of course, we will want to acknowledge one another, but if you want to chat, please use the phone when you get home!

In particular, please don't congregate in or around the entrance to the church building. It can be quite unnerving for someone having to walk through a space where others are not allowing sufficient distance for them to pass comfortably.

I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to sustain the life of our church communities through these incredibly difficult times: wardens and PCC members, those who clean and look after our buildings, those who contribute to our online presence, those who give generously, and all who have respected the protocols and practices that we have had to follow.

Alan Jewell

### Calendar

Wednesday	20	7.30PM	Reflection	Facebook
Thursday	21	10.30AM	Holy Communion	St Matthew's
Friday	22	2.00PM	Praise & Play!	Facebook
Sunday	24	9.30AM	Holy Communion	St Cross
		10.45AM	Morning Worship	Facebook

For your prayers, please

### Funerals

Mavis Probert (88) Service at St Matthew's, 18 January

Gaina Bowen (89) Service at Walton Lea Crematorium, 22 January

Una Douglas (88) Service at Walton Lea Crematorium, 27 January

George Barnes (81) Details to be announced.

A reminder that, under COVID regulations, funerals may only be attended by a small number of family members.

Online services are streamed on the church Facebook pages. You can also join via Zoom. Please ask Alan for details.

<https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchstretton>

<https://www.facebook.com/StCrossAppletonThorn>

For all services in church, you must inform a churchwarden that you plan to attend and leave contact details for track and trace.

Details will be held for 21 days. Services at St Matthew's will normally be livestreamed as well, subject to technological and other considerations.

Details are presented in good faith, but subject to change.

## Reflections



At **7.30 PM on Wednesday** evening, **Reflections** continue on Facebook.

The live-streamed services are here:

[St Matthew's Facebook videos](#)

## Walking to Jerusalem by Easter

How many of you have rediscovered walking over the past year? Whether that be walking the dog, daily exercise during lockdown, or keep fit exercise. This is for those who do a short daily walk, or a 6-mile hike at the weekend, or just the occasional stroll.

Whilst we cannot collectively walk together, a virtual walk has been created for us, as a way of being together whilst apart. The idea is to collectively virtually walk to Jerusalem by Easter – a distance of 6,077 km or about 3,800 miles. There are just over 100 days until Easter Sunday (4<sup>th</sup> April). We are inviting people to join in and make this a community achievement.



The route is to start at the lychgate at St Matthew's Church, Stretton then walk to London, Bruges, Cologne, Marburg, Bamberg, Munich, Graz, Zagreb, Sarajevo,

Thessaloniki, Istanbul, Ephesus, Xanthos, Adana, Aleppo, Damascus, across the River Jordan (!) and finally to Jerusalem.

The church hopes to provide some weekly Reflections as we go.

To join you will need to download the free app World Walking, which has this symbol or on-line at [www.worldwalking.org](http://www.worldwalking.org)



To join the group, send a request to [walking@stmatthewschurchstretton.org.uk](mailto:walking@stmatthewschurchstretton.org.uk), with details of your connection with the church or the village, and we can then send you an invite to join the group.

Then whenever you go on a walk, log your distance (in km, miles or steps) in the app, and then add that distance to our group walk. We will send some instructions, and provide support. If you can not/don't want to use the app, you can still join in by letting us know the distance walked, and we can add your contribution to the walk.

There will be no regular commitment to walk, but you can follow our progress in the app. We will regularly give updates on the group's progress. All are welcome to join the St. Matthew's Easter Walk. We are now heading towards Antwerp.

If you have any questions please either e-mail to [walking@stmatthewschurchstretton.org.uk](mailto:walking@stmatthewschurchstretton.org.uk) or contact us. Stephen and Catherine Edwards

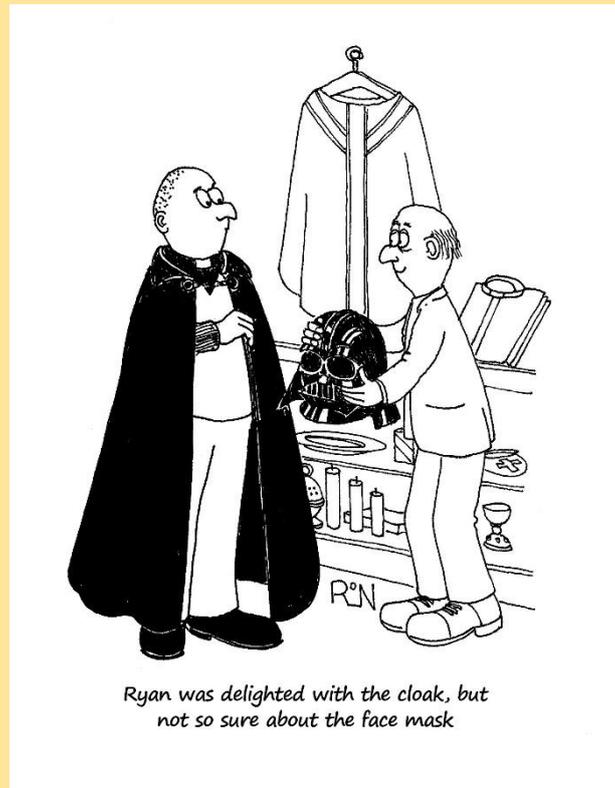
## Sudoku

		3						1
	1						7	5
		8	9	5			3	
4	5			6				
				3			1	2
	9			7	2	5		
7	3						8	
6						1		

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Courtesy of [parishpump.co.uk](http://parishpump.co.uk)

## Smile Lines



## Sudoku Solution

5	4	3	7	8	6	9	2	1
9	1	6	4	2	3	8	7	5
2	7	8	9	5	1	6	3	4
4	5	1	2	6	7	3	9	8
3	2	9	1	4	8	7	5	6
8	6	7	5	3	9	4	1	2
1	9	4	8	7	2	5	6	3
7	3	5	6	1	4	2	8	9
6	8	2	3	9	5	1	4	7



Photo by Alan Bruce

St Matthew's, Stretton



St Cross, Appleton Thorn

Laura Booth, Parish Secretary

St Matthew's, Stretton, and St Cross, Appleton Thorn

St Matthew's Parish Office, Stretton Road, Stretton, WARRINGTON. WA4 4NT  
(01925) 732800

St Matthew's Church, Stretton and St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn.

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