

ST MATTHEW'S PARISH CHURCH REDHILL
NEWSLETTER FOR SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2021



A CHANGED FORMAT IN CHANGING TIMES

Rev Judith Writes

Dear Friends,

I remember a close friend saying to me that try as they might they could not cry in the days leading up to their father's funeral. It wasn't that they didn't feel great sadness and grief – they did, but the feelings of pain and loss were so deep that to express them seemed impossible.

The moment of release was provided by dropping a tray of glasses at the reception after the funeral – looking at the broken and shattered pieces accompanied by feelings of exasperation and annoyance provide the catalyst for tears to flow - and the long, slow process of healing to begin.

In daily living, we all come across brokenness in our lives. Sometimes this involves a material object which we rely on or greatly love. We know we can buy a new one but will the replacement be the same?

Brokenness reminds us of the transitory nature of life and how imperfect it can be.

We also talk of broken relationships or broken trust – this kind of brokenness can take a very long time to rebuild, and may not be possible at all. However, if it does happen, we may be able to create a relationship that is new, different, and perhaps ultimately, more honest and truthful.

Leonard Cohen sings in his song, *Anthem*:

*Forget your perfect offering.
There's a crack in everything – that's how the
light gets in.*

In doing so, he reminds us that nothing is perfect in this material world; and that it is our very imperfections that allow God's mercy and grace to enter our lives.



The Japanese traditional art – *Kintsugi* 金継ぎ (golden joinery) - is the skill for repairing broken objects with gold. The cracks are seen as a unique part of the object's history, which add to its beauty.

Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, took bread. Having given thanks, he broke it and said,

This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me.

All creation rests in the hands of God, who engenders and sustains all life, and who experienced the extreme brokenness of death upon the cross. During and after brokenness, nothing is ever the same again. Yet, there is hope; there is the possibility of renewal as God grace works constantly in our lives to make all things new:

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

(Isaiah 43:19)

With love and prayers,

Judith

THIS WEEK AT ST MATTHEW'S

Today Sunday 10th October

8am Holy Communion Service

10am Parish Communion Service

Readings for Sunday 10 October Creationtide

Hosea 2: 18-23 Matthew 6: 25-34

Readings for Sunday 17 October

Hebrews 5: 1-10 Mark 10: 35-45

MONDAY - SATURDAY 8.30am Morning Prayer

MONDAY 11 Toddler Group 9.30am in the Parish Room

Numbers are limited to inquire about joining please contact:

toddlers@stmatthews-redhill.org.uk

Monday 11 Craft Group 9.30am in the Vestry

Monday 11 Finance and Standing Committee 8pm - zoom

TUESDAY 12 8pm Confirmation Group in church

WEDNESDAY 13 10am Holy Communion in church - now followed by coffee

THURSDAY 14 1.10pm Lunchtime Music with the Godfrey Searle Choir

FRIDAY 15 6pm Youth Group in the Parish Room

FOODBANK OPEN MON/WEDS/FRI 12NOON - 2PM

Next Sunday Trinity 20 8am Holy Communion, 10am Parish Communion,

On line services continue to be available each Sunday from 8am. There is both a Parish Communion Service and a Small Steps reflection for our younger members.

SERVING TEAM

As part of our gentle return to normal we are now reintroducing more servers into our worship. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join our team in this ministry. Training will be given.

For more information or to offer your services please speak to Scilla Wallis, Ellen Maden or Fr Andrew. We look forward to hearing from you.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE - Next month we hope to start offering coffee once again after the morning service - if you can help with this - then please sign the notice on the board in the north aisle.

Online Bible Study

It's not too late to join in with the online bible study "A Bookful of Stories". Last week we looked at the story of Creation, this week, on Tuesday 12th October at 8pm, we will look at the story of the Fall.

Each session stands alone, so you are welcome to join in even if you can only make one or two sessions. If you would like to join in please let Fr Mick know, either in person or via email, and he will send you the video that accompanies the session and the Zoom link to join in.

Electrical Work

If anyone needs electrical work doing, my future son-in-law, Tom Wilson, would be pleased to quote for you. He is NICEIC registered and his business is T R Wilson, Electrical Contractors - specialising in domestic electrical installations, maintenance, inspection and testing. His mobile no. is 07751720805
Celia Bullerwell

Edwardtide pilgrimage | Westminster Abbey

If you are interested in attending this pilgrimage please see the link below for details:

<https://www.westminster-abbey.org/abbey-events/special-services/2021/october/edwardtide-pilgrimage>

PASTORAL CARE AND PASTORAL SUPPORT - if you need any help at all please do contact any member of the Staff Team - we are always ready to do what we can to help.

DONATE TO THE LIFE OF ST. MATTHEW'S

If you would like to donate to the work and mission of St Matthew's you can donate online using [this link](#).

Our on line service is available from 8am each Sunday via the usual channels but we shall be changing the form and would welcome feedback.

If you don't have access to online resources, the church has set up this free phone resource. You will need to listen to the whole of the introduction before making your choice of what to listen to.

