

ALL SAINTS NEWS

22nd September 2024
Trinity 17 Pr 20

Saint Matthew

On September 21st we celebrate St Matthew, one of Jesus' disciples and the patron saint of tax collectors, bankers and Civil Servants. Matthew's calling is recorded in his eponymous Gospel:

'As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as [Jesus] sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9: 9 – 13

Tax collectors were reviled by the Jews of Jesus' day because of their greed and collaboration with the Roman occupiers. They amassed personal wealth by demanding tax payments in excess of what Rome levied and keeping the difference. So while the account of the calling of Matthew is short and simple, it's hugely significant because it indicates that even those who were considered outcasts could be saved and were welcome to follow Jesus. And crucially, the action of Matthew in getting up, or rising up in some translations, stems from the word for resurrection. The implication being that by getting up and following Jesus, Matthew himself embarks on a new, transformed life.

Interestingly, in passages parallel to Matthew 9:9, in both Mark 2:14 and Luke 5:27, the tax collector is called Levi, the son of Alphaeus. It's thought Levi may have been the same person as Matthew and some scholars conclude that the tax-collector had two names, one in Greek (Matthew) and the other in Hebrew (Levi). Other scholars disagree and believe that Matthew and Levi were two different people. So no-one really knows!

After Jesus' Ascension the disciples – including Matthew - met in the Upper Room:

While [Jesus] was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

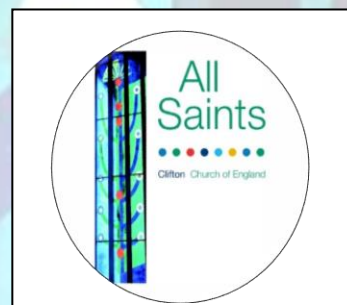
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Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philp and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. Acts1: 10 - 14



Following this time of prayer in the upper room, details concerning Matthew's ministry of preaching and teaching about Jesus are hazy.

Early Church Fathers such as Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria believed that Matthew preached in Judea, before going on to other countries. Ancient writers disagree about which other countries these might have been, though Ethiopia was probably one of them.

This fits with the tradition that whilst he was in Ethiopia Matthew converted the king's daughter, Ephigenia, who subsequently entered the Religious life. When Ephigenia's father was succeeded by King Hirtacus, he asked Matthew if he could persuade Ephigenia to marry him.

Matthew was appalled and refused the king's request, as the girl was a consecrated nun. The king was furious and ordered Matthew to be killed as he stood before an altar. Matthew is therefore a martyr and the liturgical colour on 21st September is red.

It's thought that relics of St Matthew were buried in the crypt of St Matthew's Cathedral in Salerno, southern Italy.

Who wrote Matthew's Gospel?

Well it may have been St Matthew the disciple of Jesus, though there again it could have been someone else! Some Biblical scholars believe that the disciple made notes during his lifetime, which were then compiled into the Gospel. Others consider the Gospel to have been written anonymously, drawing on Mark's Gospel – the earliest to be written – and other sources, now lost but known as Q and M.

Whoever wrote the Gospel was of a Jewish background and Greek speaking. He was an excellent teacher and because the Gospel begins with the genealogy of Jesus, St Matthew is represented by a winged man, or an angel.

In art, Matthew is depicted either as evangelist or disciple. In the first case he sits at his desk, writing his gospel with an angel in attendance; in the second he holds the instrument of his martyrdom, a sword, or spear, or dagger. As a former tax collector he may also be shown holding a money bag, or sorting coins.

Collect for St Matthew's Day

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches that we may follow in the way of your son Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

All Saints Church Pembroke Rd Clifton Bristol

**Sunday
October 6th
5 pm**

An orchestral
concert by
All Saints Players

Schumann
Konzertstück for Four Horns
and Orchestra

soloists

Claire Fraser-Tytler : Alison Harris
Paul Tomlinson : Dave Ransom

Mozart 'Magic Flute' Overture
Beethoven 1st Symphony

Admission free

Tea and cake available before the concert from 4 pm

allsaintsarts All Saints Church Pembroke Rd Clifton Bristol

organ recitals

**Wednesdays
in September**

at **1.10pm**

25th Simon Gibson
(Tewkesbury)



Sunday 29th September 2024

**Solemn Evensong for
St Michael and All Angels
6pm**



Threads through Revelation

a spectacular display of textile art
by Jacqui Parkinson

Victoria Methodist Church
4th September to 14th October
Mon/Weds/Fri 11am - 4pm
Tues/Thurs/Sat 11am - 6pm
ADMISSION FREE



1A Whiteladies Rd, BS8 1NU | vic-methodist-bristol.org.uk



The Funeral of
Christopher Trelawny Ross
will be held at 10.30am
on
Thursday 26th September 2024
at
All Saints, Clifton

|
The service will be followed by a reception in the Atrium

RIP

All Saints and the Education of Sudanese Students

Uganda has the largest refugee population in Africa. This includes about 39,000 Sudanese refugees who have arrived since the start of the war in Sudan. These refugees live in settlements or in Ugandan villages and towns. Some say that Uganda's open-door policy sets a good example for inclusivity and compassion, allowing refugees to move freely, work, and access public services.

Here at ASC, working with the Church in Gulu, Uganda, and the Diocese of Bristol, we agreed to see the complete education of a number of students. Initially we agreed to cover the fees for six children, there are now four still in education. These are Mary, Brenda, Simon and Jackaline.

Having committed to see these students through their full education we intend to do so. We probably have a further four years of support for Jackaline, the youngest of the group.



Out of so many thousands of refugees, why focus on six children?

We, supported with good evidence, believe that education is the key to change. Learning is more than gathering academic knowledge, it enables students to grow in understanding, learn the strength of cooperation, broaden outlook and build a foundation of social justice. This can change communities, locally and, potentially, nationally.

Six students amongst thousands – yet with significant potential benefit. This is our hope, this is our prayer.

Others frame such support in wider terms:

Why would you fund the education of Sudanese students in Uganda? Reasons are rooted in humanitarian, religious, and community-based motivations:

1. **Humanitarian Aid and Relief:** Sudan has experienced prolonged conflict, including civil wars and political instability, leading to displacement, economic hardship, and limited access to quality education. By funding education, the church can provide a stable and supportive environment for Sudanese students, helping them escape the cycle of poverty and conflict.
2. **Religious Mission and Outreach:** Many churches see education as a key part of their mission to spread their faith and values. By educating Sudanese students, the church can impart not only academic knowledge but also religious teachings and moral values. This can help build a community that shares the church's faith and values.
3. **Peacebuilding and Reconciliation:** Education is a powerful tool for promoting peace and reconciliation. By educating Sudanese students in Uganda, a church might aim to foster understanding and cooperation among different communities. This can be particularly important if the church is involved in peacebuilding efforts in conflict-affected areas.
4. **Support for Refugees and Displaced Persons:** Many Sudanese students in Uganda may be refugees or displaced persons due to conflicts in their home country. Churches often play a significant role in providing support to refugees, including education, as part of their broader commitment to social justice and care for vulnerable populations.

5. **Community Development:** By investing in the education of Sudanese students, the church contributes to the long-term development of both the Sudanese community and the host community in Uganda. Educated individuals are more likely to contribute positively to society, improve their economic conditions, and support the development of their communities.
6. **International Solidarity and Cooperation:** Churches with international connections may fund education programs as a way to express solidarity with Christians or other communities in Sudan. This support can strengthen ties between the church and communities in different countries, fostering a sense of global unity and shared responsibility.

The education of Sudanese students in Uganda may be seen as part of ASC's broader mission to provide humanitarian aid, promote religious values, support refugees, and contribute to peacebuilding and community development.

All Saints
Clifton Church of England

Parish Harvest Supper

Join us in the Randall Room for the
Parish Harvest Supper
Friday 4th October @ 07.30pm
Raffle, Quiz & Cash Bar
Tickets: £6 each
On sale in church from Sunday 15th October

Contact Janice: rjhopkins57@yahoo.co.uk OR All Saints Parish Office 0117 974 1355

Vegetarian/gluten free can be accommodated if requested in advance

All profits divided between the USPG Harvest Appeal and supporting the education of the ASC Sudanese Students



The All Saints Food Point is used by a wide variety of people from our community.

Please consider donating a few items regularly or some fresh fruit and vegetables, if you have any to spare.

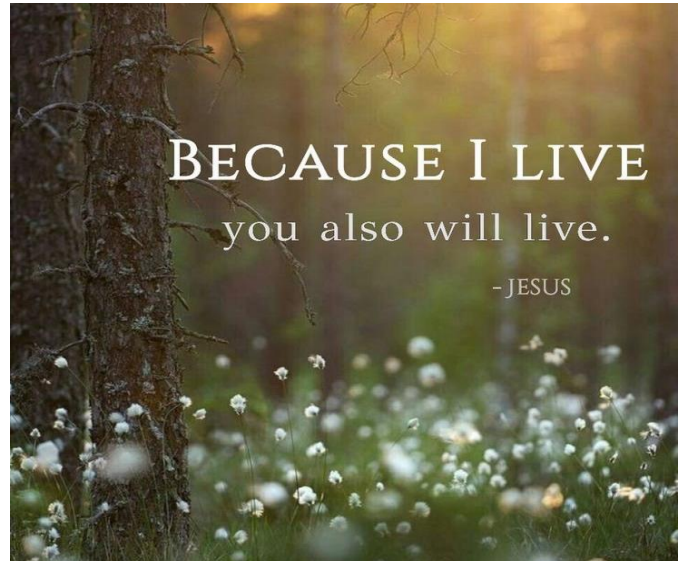
Thank you.

Prayers Requests

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

(John 14: 19).

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer.



Those of the parish and our hearts whom we remember in our prayers:

Sunday

Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Elisabeth Morgan Sathia Aruliah Sister Rosina Jean Detheridge Nicholas Parker Jack O'Sullivan and family Susie King Arthur Cleaver Sebastian Kloss Vyard Angel Wray

Monday

Sue Hilliar Hugh Farry

Tuesday.

Ryan Lindsey George Lympelopoulos Pam Parker

Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Diana Verity, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford

Thursday

Steve Cooper Barbera Freeman Remi Clarke

Friday

Charlotte Hopkins, Caroline Semon, Nicole Kaneza Nadine Benn John Badman

Saturday

The Departed

Myra York Raymond Clarke David Reed Maria Gingell Christopher Trelawny Ross Elizabeth McKie Cher Maximen

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Muriel Chant Julian Smith Rose Pulsford Jess Allam Madeline Dowling Molly Poole

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 23	Pray for women in business and at work. Sexism is still prevalent in the workplace and many roles subject to stereotyping. Pray for the work of woman priests in our church.
Tue 24	Pray for those who go hungry. Not just in third world countries, but the increasing numbers in Poland, Germany, United States and United Kingdom.
Wed 25	Mass 10.00am Lancelot Andrew 1626 Sergi of Radonezh 1392 Pray for growth in understanding and links between the Orthodox and Anglican traditions. Remember the editors, authors and academics and the readership of the Journal 'Sobornost' and all who foster links between the churches.
Thurs 26	Wilson Carlile 1942 Pray for and give thanks for the work of the Church Army. A mission-focused community of people who are transforming lives and communities through the work of evangelists, staff and supporters. We are committed to sharing the Christian faith through words and action in a variety of contexts across the British Isles.
Fri 27	Mass 10.00am Vincent de Paul 1660 Known as the 'Apostle of Charity', he was captured by Barbary pirates and sold several times as a slave (4 years). Pray for those who exist as slaves in our modern world.
Sat 28	Who is your neighbour? Pray for your literal neighbours, for those you sit close to in church and for the ability to respond to Jesus' teaching 'love your neighbour as yourself.
Sunday 29	Michael and All Angels As your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth Early Worship 9.00am Mass 10.30am

If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below
Parochial Church Council of All Saints
Account No. 65256747
sort code 08 92 99

Gift Aid forms are available from the office
office@allsaintsclifton.org

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :
 The Parish Safeguarding Officer - Caroline Davenport
c2davbristol@hotmail.com
 Janice Callow – office@allsaintsclifton.org mark for the attention of the Safeguarding Officer.