Welcome to St Matthew's Perry Beeches

Parish Mass

Sunday 29th November 2026 (Advent Sunday)

TODAY'S HYMNS:

Introit:	**45**
O come, O come, Emmanuel	
Gradual:	**30**
Come thou long expected Jesus	
Offertory	**27**
Colours of day	
Communion:	**37**
Hark what a sound	
Recessional:	**39**
Hills of the north rejoice	

The Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

A reading from Isaiah 64.1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence — as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Psalm 80

Show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved
Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.
Show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved
O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
Show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved

You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
You have made us the derision of our neighbours,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved
Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
Show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved

A reading from 1 Corinthians 1.3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark 13.24-37

'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Post communion prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please do stay for refreshments in the Lounge and Family Room after the service.

If you could offer someone a lift to church, please let us know.

You can continue to make contributions to the food bank by putting any goods in the basket by the door.

Please put your request for prayers during the intercessions on the sheet on the table.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of flowers, please place any donations in the pot on the table

Thank you to Fr Sam Rigby and Fr Douglas Machiridza for taking our services this week while Fr George is on annual leave. Fr George will be back to work on Tuesday 1st December.

Next Saturday (5th December) is the St Matthew's Christmas Fair, do come along for what should be a wonderful event as we begin the countdown to Christmas.

On Sunday 6th December there will be a 'Blue Christmas' service, in partnership with Lilies Funeral Directors, in church at 4.30pm. This is an opportunity to remember those who have died and will provide a space for those who find Christmas difficult. Refreshments in the hall afterwards.

The Sick and Those in Need:

Please contact Margaret Cox if you would like to add anyone to our prayer list.

Sat:	Barbara Linley, Andrew & Gail Walker, John Hope, Barbara Hayward
Mon:	Fr Barry Smart, Revd Frank and Margaret Finch, Bali Dhugga, John Duncombe, Pam Millard
Tue:	Jayne Middleton, Loretta Charles, Bernadette O'Sullivan, Lorna Wild, Barrie Greenwood, Rachel & Fay
Wed:	Shirley Woodley, Eileen Eveson, Jean Hayes, Irene Roberts
Thu:	Dai & Lal Gravell, Shirley and Ray Hollins, Mark Hawkins Ann Edwards, Roger Furnell, Helene Haig
Fri:	David & Anne Gadd, Barbara Dring, Sue & Tony Kyte, Henry Cole

This week at St Matthew's:

Morning Prayer: Thursday and Friday, 9.15am (Chapel)
Mass: Wednesday, 7pm; Thursday & Friday, 10am (Chapel)
Phone-in service: Tuesday, 7.30pm (call 0333 011 0616; code is 1499488#)

Bereavement & Friendship Group: Monday, 1.30-3.30pm
Community Café: Friday, 11am-1pm

SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER

10am: PARISH MASS (Advent II)
4.30pm: Blue Christmas Memorial Service (in partnership with Lilies Funeral Directors)

Other dates for the diary
Saturday 5th, 11am-2pm: St Matthew's Christmas Fair

Vicar: Father George Reeves
Email: vicar@stmatthewsperrybeeches.org.uk **Phone:** 07507 312040

Thank you for worshipping with us at St Matthew's today. If you are new to church, or if you would like a meeting with the Vicar, please complete the form below and leave it on the table by the main entrance.

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Please tick any that apply:

- I am new to church and would like to find out more
- I would like a meeting with the Vicar
- I would like to join the church email list

It costs around £250 a day to keep St Matthew's open, and we rely entirely on the generosity of our congregation and visitors.

You can support the ministry and mission of St Matthew's by making a cash donation, or by using the contactless card reader on the table by the front door.

Thank you!