|  |
| --- |
| **St. Mary’s, Waterloo Park** |
| [www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk](http://www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk)  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **21st September****Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist** |  *Welcome!* |
| **Sunday and Weekday Service** |  |

**The Collect**

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.

**Hymns**

352 In Christ alone

581 O when the Saints go marching in

15 All heaven declares

73 Bind us together Lord

**First Reading,** *Proverbs 3.13-18*

Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding, for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

**Second Reading,** *2 Corinthians 4.1-6*

Therefore, since it is by God’s mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God’s word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness’, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Gospel,** *Matthew 9.9-13*

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 he 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.’

**Benedicite**

Bless the Lord frost and cold:

bless the Lord you ice and snow;

bless the Lord lightnings and clouds:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

O let the earth bless the Lord:

bless the Lord you mountains and hills;

bless the Lord all that grows in the ground:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord you springs:

bless the Lord you seas and rivers;

bless the Lord you whales and all that swim in the waters:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

**Post Communion**

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Intercessions****The World:** For peace in all areas of conflict in the world. For those affected by fires, floods and earthquakes. For emergency workers working in disaster areas. For refugees, asylum seekers and agencies that help them. For good stewardship of the earth and its resources.**The Church:**The unity of all Christians everywhere. Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Ruth, Archdeacon Pete and Area Dean Rev. Alex Peach. Churches in the South Sefton Deanery, and local ecumenical partners. **The Diocese:** St Michael in the Hamlet, St. Philemon Toxteth, Holy Trinity Wavertree, Wavertree School, St Bridget & St Thomas Wavertree, St Mary Wavertree, Parish of Wigan Central (Saint Mary Ince-in-Makerfield, Saint Catharine Wigan, Saint Andrew Wigan, Christ Church & Saint Anne Ince-in-Makerfield), St Catharine's School, Ince School, St. Andrew's School.**For those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit**: Ailsa McAlees, Hewie, Eileen Maguire, Graham Forrest, Olga Gregor, Jess Farrell, Carl Lee, Richard Shacklady, Edith Keeton.**For the departed remembered at this time:** John Williams, George Disley, Margaret Wilkinson, Robert Wilkinson, Mary Simpson, Ellen Finegan, Bill Upton, Edward Gouldbourne, Hannah Whitlow, William Toes, George Hart, Connie Toes, Martha Knott, Annie Hubble.**Notices*** We are looking to grow and develop our worship and serving teams - if you are interested in leading intercessions (saying prayers), reading a passage from scripture during a service, administering a chalice at communion, helping as an altar server, or acting as a sidesperson/welcomer, or if you're just interested in finding out about any or all of this, then please contact: Rev. Dr Louis Johnson 07947 752 399/louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk, or speak to a church warden or member of the clergy team after the service - everyone is welcome to have a go at anything and to explore whether you feel God is calling you do develop your Christian discipleship and worshipping life in this way!
* **Christmas Cards:** Janet Bissex is taking orders for Traidcraft Christmas cards - see leaflets at the back of church. She will send for them at the end of September.
* **St. Mary's Tuesday Club: 30th****September** at **2:30pm** (Meeting Room - Rev. Jackie Parry).

**Events*** **MacMillan Coffee Morning:** St. Mary's are hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning on **Thursday 25th September** at **10.30am** to **12 noon**. All welcome.
* **Pet Service on The Feast of St Francis for Creationtide**: We will be holding a Pet Blessing Service at St Mary's on **Saturday 4th October at 11am** - this will mark both the Feast of St Francis, and the end of the season of Creationtide - more details to follow, but please put the date and time in your diary and come along if you can, whether you have a pet to bring or not!
* **St Faith's Patronal Festival:** St Faith's will be celebrating its Patronal Festival on **Sunday 5th October** at **10.30am** - and we will be welcoming as a guest preacher The Venerable Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, Archdeacon of Liverpool, and will be having celebratory refreshments afterwards, so please also put this date in your diary and join us with friends from our group of local churches to mark the occasion.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Services at St Mary’s** |  |
| This Sunday 10:00am, Eucharist **Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist** | Peter Walker |
| Monday, 4:00pm**Evening Prayer** | Louis Johnson |
| Wednesday, 10:30am**Eucharist** | Louis Johnson |
| Next Sunday 10:00am, Eucharist **Harvest Festival** | Louis JohnsonPeter Cowley |

**St Mary’s, Waterloo Park**[**www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk**](http://www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk/)**Vicar: Rev. Dr Louis Johnson 07947 752 399 /** **louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk****Hon Curate: The Rev. Janet Bissex 0151 538 4767 /** **revjanetb@yahoo.co.uk****Hon Curate: The Rev. Peter Cowley CA Tel. 0151 4265441****Hon Curate: The Rev. Peter Walker Tel: 07867690099****rev.peter.walker@hotmail.com****Church Wardens: Howard and Elsie Pate Tel: 0151 920 8437****Reader Emeritus: Ray Bissex Tel: 07530241516****Administrator: Mrs Carolanne Leary Tel: 07913873697** |
|  |

**Creationtide from 1st September to 4th October**

**What will be going on at St Faith’s and St Mary’s?**

As well as there being a Creation theme in the hymns, prayers and sermons during September, there will be a few other ways in which we can observe this wonderful season:

* The Holy Rosary will be said on the 28th September at 9:45am, during which there will also be prayers for God’s creation.
* During the four Sundays in September we will say a section from the Benedicite, which is a prayer which celebrates the beauty of Creation – thanks go to Judy Riley for this wonderful suggestion.
* A Fair-Trade Coffee and Tea Tasting will be held after the service on Sunday 28th September at St Faith's.
* A Pet Service will take place at St Mary's at 11am, on Saturday 4th October, which is the Feast of St Francis.