



Widcombe  
ST THOMAS & ST MATT'S

## Newsletter June 2016

In Roman mythology, Juno was champion of women and of marriage. In modern times, June is therefore known as the bridal month. My mother is called June and as we begin this new month, it got me thinking about the power of names...

Continuing in the current national celebration of all things Shakespearian, I'm reminded of his famous question, "What's in a name?" Juliet tells Romeo that a name is simply an artificial, meaningless convention and that, most importantly, she loves the person who is called 'Montague', not the Montague name, not the Montague family. Romeo, out of his passion for Juliet, therefore rejects his family name and vows, as Juliet hopes, to "deny (his) father" and instead be "new baptized" as Juliet's true love.

To be fair to Juliet, I get the sentiment but, personally, I think names are important and, Biblically speaking, they usually convey a deep message of real substance. Many have a prophetic significance while others reflect people's faith and gratitude to God: Peter we know is 'the rock', for his revelation and profession of faith in Christ is seen as the firm foundation of the church we love and know today. God changed Jacob's 'supplanter' name to Israel, 'having power with God', and Abraham means 'father of a multitude'. Joshua means God 'saves', Samuel means 'God has heard' and Timothy, you'll be pleased to know, means 'one who honours God'.

So names, then, are far more than just labels or markers. They carry significance and help us define ourselves as individuals. Now being totally honest, running two churches, regularly meeting dozens of new people in all kinds of different contexts, sometimes means I'm not always great at remembering everyone's names... even my children know that all too well! Amazingly in scripture though, God reassures us, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine".

In the TV programme from the late 60's, 'The Prisoner' (I saw the repeats in case you were wondering!?) Patrick McGoohan, 'Number 6', famously shouts, "I am not a number, I am a free man!" Sometimes in life, it's all too easy to feel just like that – simply a number, just one of the 7.4 billion people living, ant-like, on this planet.

It certainly might feel like that at times - but that isn't the truth. You're not just a number, you are known, you are loved and you are important. The Good Shepherd knows His sheep, calls them by name and leads them out. So be assured, whatever your name, God knows it, remembers it and will never forget it!

Have a fantastic June, and thanks, Mum, for such a great name!

Love Tim, Sarah, Ellie, Samuel & Joseph



**Widcombe**

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[www.widcombe.church](http://www.widcombe.church)

## NOTICES

The PCC is looking for a new Foundation Governor for Widcombe Junior School from September. Anyone who might be interested or knows anyone suitable please contact Angie Frith (tel 447005 or email [ajfrith@btinternet.com](mailto:ajfrith@btinternet.com)).

Thanks to everyone who helped with serving refreshments and home-baked donations for the WA Art Trail - we raised the superb sum of £498 and had a lot of compliments about our wonderful cakes.

## For your prayers this month

Tegan Lloyd Williams is back in the UK - please pray for her as she adjusts to life here, and pray for the continuing work in Nepal. We hope to see Tegan in July - watch this space for details.

Please pray for all the couples getting married at St Thomas in June and July, for the preparations and for their new lives together: Hannah Gould & Kye Paradise, Liz Russo and Joshy Easaw, David Quine & Alison Logan. Also pray for three couples from St Matt's getting married elsewhere: Jon Ball & Imogen Adderley, Jonathan Hilsden & Aurelia Bromilow, Mike Hallet & Hannah Sharland.



St Thomas  
à Becket

## Parish Communion

Thursday 12noon  
2nd, 16th & 30th June

## THINGS TO DO

**Coffee Morning Wednesday 10am-noon**  
Parish Hall, St Matthew's. Drop in for tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat. All welcome!

**St Thomas open afternoons on Sundays from 2.30-5.30pm until September**  
The church is kept open for visitors.

**Afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday: 3-5pm, Wednesday 8th June St Matthew's. RSVP to Trudy (see below).**

**Lunch and Natter - 12noon Parish Hall, St Matthew's, Wednesday 6th July**  
An informal and friendly lunch, followed by a talk or film (for those who would like to stay!) Lunch served at 12.30pm. Contributions of £5 invited. Bring a friend for free! To secure your place, transport or more information, call Trudy on 07732 626986 or Hayley on 01225 938482.

**Widcombe Association events this month at St Thomas à Becket Church**  
*"Music for a Summer Evening"* 7.30pm, Friday 10th June. Musicians from Prior Park College. Tickets £8 on the door (to include a glass of wine). All proceeds to St Thomas Replacement Organ Appeal.

*"Pass on a Poem"* 7.30pm, Tuesday 14th. If you would like to read a favourite poem, contact Deborah Clements 01225 469322 or [mail@radnclements.co.uk](mailto:mail@radnclements.co.uk) by 3rd June. Refreshments available.



St. Matt's

**Pastorate  
&  
Life Hubs**

Life Hubs in homes around the parish  
on 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd June

Joint Life Hubs/Pastorate barbecue  
29th June - ask your Life Hub leaders or  
Tim for more details

## Sunday Services June 2016

Date	Time	Service		Venue
<b>5th June</b>	10.30am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	Rev'd Judith Harries	 St Thomas à Becket
2nd Sunday after Trinity	5.30-7.30pm	Contemporary service (Toast café from 5pm)		 St. Matt's
<b>12th June</b>	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev'd Tim Buckley	 St Thomas à Becket
3rd Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	Family Worship & Baptism		
	5.30-7.30pm	Contemporary service (Toast café from 5pm)		
<b>19th June</b>	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Rev'd Tim Buckley	 St Thomas à Becket
4th Sunday after Trinity	5.30-7.30pm	Contemporary service (Toast café from 5pm)		 St. Matt's
<b>26th June</b>	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev'd Caroline O'Neill	 St Thomas à Becket
5th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Team Service	
	5.30-7.30pm	Contemporary service (Toast café from 5pm)		

Join us for tea and coffee after the 10.30am service every Sunday

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## OUR CHURCHES



St Thomas à Becket  
Church Street  
Bath  
BA2 6AZ



St Matthew's  
Widcombe Hill  
Bath  
BA2 6AA

### **Contact us**

If you have any general queries about services, opening times, or any other matters, please see our website [www.widcombe.church](http://www.widcombe.church)

Vicar: Revd Tim Buckley 07810 543209 ([vicar@widcombe.church](mailto:vicar@widcombe.church))

Churchwardens St Thomas à Becket: Angela Frith & Sian Lewis  
Chapelwardens St Matthew's: Andrew Udale-Smith & Bill James

**To book our buildings or for information about getting married, baptisms or to make donations, please contact the office:**

Parish Administrator: Mary Udale-Smith

Church Office, St Matthew's Church, Widcombe Hill, Bath, BA2 6AA

Email: [admin@widcombe.church](mailto:admin@widcombe.church)

Phone: 01225 465065 (answer service out of hours)



We extend a warm welcome to the Orthodox and Lutheran congregations who also meet in our Widcombe churches

### **The Orthodox Parish of Saint John of Kronstadt**

Services at St Matthew's:

Saturday Vigil 5pm

Sunday Divine Liturgy 10.30am

[www.bath-orthodox.org.uk](http://www.bath-orthodox.org.uk)

### **The German Lutheran Church**

Occasional services at St Thomas à Becket:

Sunday 5th June 12.15pm

[www.evsynode.org.uk/bristol.html](http://www.evsynode.org.uk/bristol.html)

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