

Rota for Prayers, readings and children's talks March/2011

March 2011	Prayers for others	Readings	Children's talk & theme	Worship Theme	Notes
Sun 6 th - 11.15am	Joyce Maclean	James 3:1-18 Bill Bruce	Ian Cathcart	The Beatitudes for today: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God Matthew 5: 9 – The consequence of being meek and not constantly wanting to advance your agenda is that you then have time to focus on God's agenda – reconciliation between God and us was just the beginning – reconciliation is what Jesus does – spouse and spouse – parent to child – boss to employee – neighbour to neighbour. IF we are Christians the atmosphere around us has to feel different, smell different and actually be different. Beliefs are the beginning but what we do and what we SAY is crucial and <i>how</i> we do it and <i>how</i> we say it is often even more crucial. James 3:18	
Sun 6 th – 7pm		Matthew 6:5-18 and 9:14-17		Preparing for lent – Preparing for Matthew – Preparing for Prayer and Fasting - A question about fasting – patches on garments and patches on wineskins! New information on Try Praying.	Communion
Sun 13 th – 11.15am	Denise Halcrow – focus on the persecuted church	Matthew 5:1-16 Mary Ritchie	The Parable of the Two House Builders or generally on 'choosing Jesus' Ash/Leigh Woods	The Beatitudes for today: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven 5:10-12. Twenty years from now – how tolerant will society be of Christian beliefs. If you had to choose, what would you go for: the acceptance of God or acceptance of those around you? At the end of the Sermon on the Mount it all comes down to two different men building two different houses on two different foundations and Jesus saying choose – persecution can often be the point where that choice truly gets made!	
Sun 13 th – 3pm		Matthew 10:34-42		Staying the whole course and receiving the reward.	
Sun 13 th – 7pm				Praise Night – a night of sung worship.	
Sun 20 th – 11.15am	Alan Rennie	Matthew 6:19-34 Mairi Tulloch	Sandra Stewart	Matthew All the Way! – The Big Bible Read – God's People are supposed to be distinctive because they are laying up treasures in Heaven and not being anxious about it down here!! The financial downturn is a mission opportunity!! We are sojourners – we are foreigners in a foreign land – we are not meant for this world and we need to live holding on lightly to things in this world – if they ever get a hold of us we are in trouble. Invest where the return is guaranteed – put your investments where the dividend is out of this world. And meantime learn to be wary of all this world has to offer – it rarely delivers.	
Sun 20 th – 7pm		Jonah 1-4!!		Jonah – not a sermon from Matthew but one inspired by the fact that in Matthew chapter 12 when Jesus is asked for a message	

				<p>Jesus says that his generation will only have the message of Jonah! Five points from four chapters: Listening for God and then doing what we're told – not running away in the opposite direction to Tarshish; remembering that repentance, forgiveness and grace are not just the entry point into the gospel – they are how we are meant to operate all the time; the gospel is a powerful message that still changes lives today; and compassion for the lost not just a sermon! Lastly, self pity is an incredibly bad quality in people generally but in Christians it destroys the gospel stone dead.</p>	
<p>Sun 27th – 11.15am</p>	<p>Rommie Mac Dowell</p>	<p>Matthew 12: 15-31 Katie Barker</p>	<p>Any of the parables in Matthew 13 which can be made into a promise we have from God; OR general trusting the promises of God Charles Tulloch</p>	<p>Matthew All the Way! – The Big Bible Read – God's promises are throughout the Bible – we are meant to draw strength from them – we are meant to live around them – we are meant to live expecting their fulfilment – we must live with the promises of Jesus guiding our lives.</p>	
<p>Sun 27th – 7pm</p>		<p>Matthew chapters 1-12 !!!</p>		<p>Matthew All the Way! – The Big Bible Read – A Matthew 'Show and Tell' Service. One of the reasons for going through the gospel of Matthew day by day is that you don't need to wait for a Sunday sermon for God to use Matthew in your life. Bring to this service your stories, inspirations and life answers that God has given to you as we have gone through Matthew together. Not your whole life testimony – just what God's been doing through you and to you by way of the first twelve chapters of Matthew. Worship theme: God's promised power and answer to prayers.</p>	