



**Bible Readings**

**2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2**

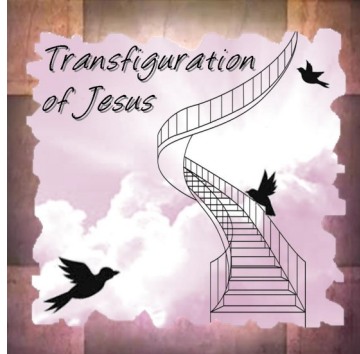
**Luke 9:28-36**



*Response after Bible Readings*

**Leader:** *In this we hear the word of God*

**Response:** *Thanks be to God*



**Welcome to St. Matthew's Community Room.**  
 Children are very welcome at St. Matthew's and that means their noise is welcome too. This room is here if you feel the need to step out of the service or would like some more privacy but still want to see and hear what's going on in the service.  
**OPEN FROM 9AM**

**Livestreaming at**  
**8am and 9.30am only**

**8am—Worship**  
 Led Jon Humphries

**9.30am—Worship**  
 Led by Jon Humphries  
 Followed by morning tea

**KUCA** Preschool,  
 Years K-2 & Years 3-8

**6.45pm—Worship**  
 Led by Sandra Morell  
 and Jon Humphries

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

**What's happening this week at St. Matthew's**

**MONDAY 3 March**

*Church Office Closed*

**9am—Sorting & Pricing for Op Shop & Garage Sale** lower hall

**7.30pm—Christian Meditation**  
 community room and church

**TUESDAY 4 March**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop open**

**9.30am-11am—Christian Meditation**  
 community room and church

**11am—Care & Prayer**  
 community room and church

**7-8.30pm—Lectionary Bible Study**

**WEDNESDAY 5 March**

*Ash Wednesday*

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**  
**10am-12pm—In Stitches**  
 Upstairs hall

**7.30pm—Ash Wednesday service**

**THURSDAY 6 March**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**  
**10am-12pm—Coffee & Discovery**  
 Upstairs hall and Church

**FRIDAY 7 March**

**5-7pm—Fusion Youth Group**  
 "Park night"

*Church Office Closed*

**SATURDAY 8 March**

*No Scheduled Activities*

**SUNDAY**  
**9 MARCH**

**8am—Worship**

**9am—Worship @ the Willow's**

**9.30am—Worship**

**KUCA**  
 Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8  
 Followed by morning tea

**6.45pm—Worship**  
 Community meal



**MINISTER**

REV JON HUMPHRIES  
 Email: jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARY:**

LYNN SAMUEL  
**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** 8AM-2.30PM  
 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

**OFFICE :** 9686 3003  
 Email: office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**LOCATION:**

CNR CHARLES & EDGAR STREETS  
 BAULKHAM HILLS

**POSTAL ADDRESS:**

BAULKHAM HILLS UNITING CHURCH  
 PO BOX 773 BAULKHAM HILLS 1755

**WEB SITE:** www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au  
 Weekly newsletter available on website

**FACEBOOK:**

@stmatthewsunitingchurchbaulkhamhills

**PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR** 9639 8570

SONALI WANIGESEKERA  
 PO BOX 321 BAULKHAM HILLS 2153  
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Thank you to all who have contributed to this publication.

# Something to think about

## 2 March

### Transfiguration

#### Lectionary Readings:

Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

#### Feel free to 'Google it' (or Use the Search Engine of Your Choice)

This is the Cray supercomputer. In 1985, the Cray-2 was the world's most powerful computer, with a peak performance of 1.9 gigaflops (1.9 billion floating point operations per second). Compare that to an iPhone 12 (and we are now up to the



iPhone 16) which can perform about 11 teraflops (11 trillion operations per second), which is more than 5,000 times faster than the Cray-2. Most of us who have a smart phone hold in our hands computing power that was only dreamed of only a few decades ago. We carry this every day and also have good speed access to the Internet

which opens up a world of human knowledge (and a bunch of other stuff like opinions and false-truth and fake news etc.)

What a blessing it is to have such power for learning at our disposal. This can be an amazing tool. Whilst it is still necessary and extremely helpful to have experts in fields of knowledge who help shape and guide our understanding, we no longer have the difficulty or have the enormous effort of having to find the right library, go to it, find the right book and then look up the information we might need. With minimal effort we have almost instant access to so much knowledge and wisdom.

If we have questions about what someone is saying in a service or what they might be saying prompts further questions in us, then we can simply take out our phones and look things up. In fact, being disciples, that is learners of the way of Christ who was God and Word of God, then we should be always on the lifelong journey of learning. Furthermore, we don't have to wait until Sunday or Bible Study night to get into learning about the Bible. We are encouraged to read the Bible ourselves and the reality is that there will be things that we don't understand or things which we can and should learn more about. If we have such moments of inquisitiveness we can feel free to 'Google it' or use the Internet search engine of our choice. Furthermore, we should be seeking to expand our understand and it should become part of our spiritual disciplines, whatever age we are, to learn more about what God is saying to us through the Bible and to seek to understand Scripture better. It is therefore good to get in the habit of looking things up.

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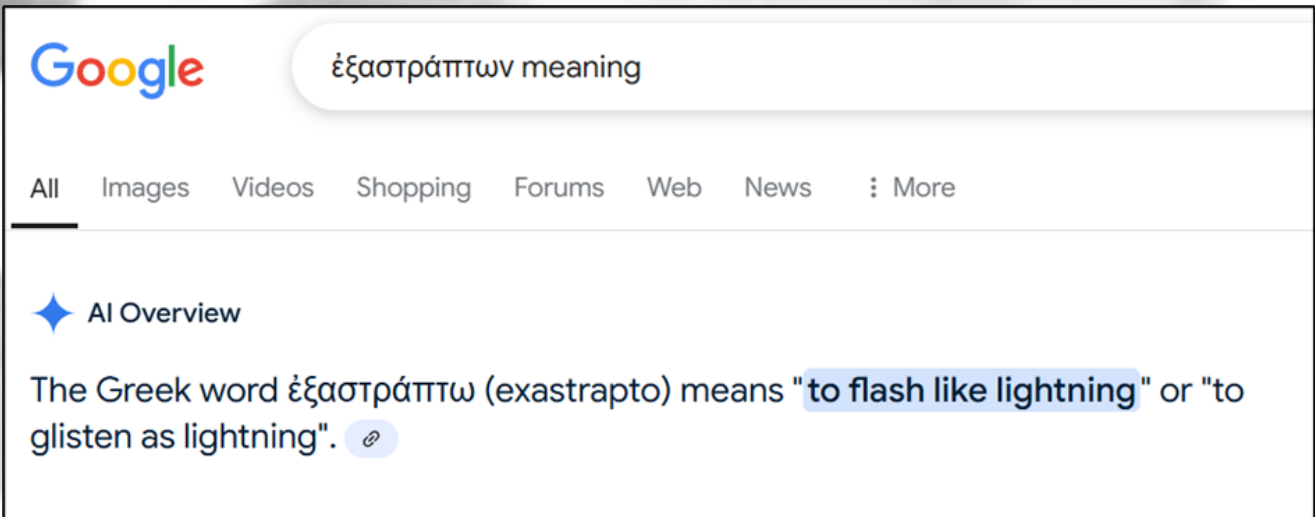
Feel Free to “Google it “-continued

This Sunday is Transfiguration Sunday. The Gospel reading set in the Revised Common Lectionary, as noted above, is Luke 9:28-36. Feel free to Google it. When we do we don't even need to have a physical Bible in our hands, for we immediately get access to a range of translations online, these are not just different translations into English, but translations into many languages.

We also get access to amazing tools such as interlinear Bibles which open up the text in its original language. For instance, if we look up Luke 9:29 which is the verse about Jesus being transfigured, and add “interlinear” into the search prompt, then we can access information from sources like Biblehub.com as shown below.

It then becomes simply a matter of highlighting any words that we want to learn more about, copying them and pasting them into another search page with the adding of “meaning” after the word we pasted. We then can find various sources which give us the meaning of that word. If we try that for ἐξαστράπτων [which we can see above is pronounced in English as exastraptōn] and is translated as “became dazzling” we now get in Google an AI summary of its meaning.

The screenshot shows the Biblehub.com interlinear page for Luke 9:29. The page is titled "Luke 9:29" and features a search bar at the top. Below the search bar, there are navigation tabs for various Bible versions (NIV, NLT, ESV, BSB, KJV, NKJ, NAS, AMP, CSB, HCS, CEV, GNT, ARA, ASV, DBT, DRB, ERV, GWT, ISR, ISV, KJP, NET, NHE, OJB, WEB, WBT) and study tools (Parallel, Study, Audio, Visuals, Comment, Interlin, Greek, Lexicon, Strong's, Multi). The main content area displays the verse in multiple languages, including Greek, English, and Latin, with grammatical annotations below each word. The Greek text is: 29 καὶ ἐγένετο ἐν τῷ προσεύχεσθαι αὐτὸν, τὸ εἶδος τοῦ προσώπου αὐτοῦ. The English text is: And it came to pass in the praying of Him, the appearance of the face of Him. The Latin text is: heteron kai ho himatismos autou leukos exastraptōn. The page also includes a footer with the text: "Produced in Partnership with Discovery Bible. Click For Videos And Apply Greek Without Learning The Language."



The screenshot shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the text "έξαστράπτων meaning". Below the search bar, there are navigation tabs for "All", "Images", "Videos", "Shopping", "Forums", "Web", "News", and "More". A section titled "AI Overview" is visible, containing the text: "The Greek word έξαστράπτω (exastrapto) means "to flash like lightning" or "to glisten as lightning".

We can also see website summaries which may be enough or which we can click on to learn more.



The screenshot shows search results for the Greek word "έξαστράπτω". The first result is from BillMounce.com, with the URL "https://www.billmounce.com > exastrapto". The result title is "έξαστράπτω | Free Online Greek Dictionary". The gloss is "to flash like lightning" and the definition is "pr. to flash forth; hence, to glisten as lightning, Lk. 9:29\*". The second result is from Bible Hub, with the URL "http://biblehub.com > greek". The result title is "Strong's Greek: 1823. έξαστράπτω (exastraptó) -- To flash ...". The meaning is "I flash forth like lightning, gleam, am radiant." and the word origin is "From the Greek prefix έξ (ex, meaning 'out of' or 'from') and the verb άστράπτω (astraptó ...".

So how we use the great computing power and amazing access to a great source of information as part of our faith and discipleship, as well as how we might use it more and with discernment is something to really think about.

*God bless.*

*Jon*

PEOPLE NEWS

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**



Margaret Benoit  
Warwick Hayes

Our very best wishes to all the St. Matthew's community who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

## Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

2 – 8 March

*Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands*



**We need your help  
teaching KUCA  
During the 9.30am  
service**

**Preschool, Year K-2 and  
Years 3-8**

**Please see Jon if you can help.**

## *Weekly* SYNOD SPOTLIGHT

Uniting Church Synod of NSW and the ACT

Uniting Church Synod Spotlight Newsletter

For (21 February 2025) please see link :

[New Insights](#) ([Synod Weekly](#))

## Seniors Golf Day in Seniors week put on by Cumberland Council

Dates:

- Monday 10 March Sefton Golf Course \$10 entry fee
- Thursday 13 March Woodville course

**Free lunch**

First in best dressed

**Please  
contact Earl  
Gray**



**Friday 7 March  
Saturday 8 March**

The Property Committee will be holding the next working bee over 2 days to make it easier for volunteers to attend. The focus of the working bee is to be ready for Erin Matthewson & Sam Lam wedding on the 15th March which is being held at St. Matthew's together with afternoon tea and Easter soon after. We want the church to sparkle for these events.

**Times and dates:**

- ◇ **Friday 7th March:** from 2.00pm to 6.00 pm
- ◇ **Saturday 8th March:** from 8.00am to 11.00am (morning tea provided)

Please come along for a little while or the whole time. Many hands make light work and would be most appreciated.



**Youth @ St Matts**  
Term 1, 2025

**5-7PM FORTNIGHTLY ON FRIDAYS**  
Year 3-9 \$10 (includes supper)

**WEEK 4**

21 February

**Youth vs Leaders**



**WEEK 8**

21 March

**Games Show Night**



**WEEK 6**

7 March

**Park Night**



**WEEK 9**

4 April

**Engineering Challenge**



For more information contact Jon Humphries  
[jonestmatthewsuniting.net.au](mailto:jonestmatthewsuniting.net.au) 9686 3003



**WORLD DAY of Prayer 2025**

**Focus country: The Cook Islands**

**7.30pm**

**Friday 7th March**

**Holy Trinity Anglican Church  
295 Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills.**

**Join your local one-hour prayer service**

**The Easter Experience 2025**

**at Gordon-Pymble Uniting Church  
Sunday 6th, Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th  
& Wednesday 9th April**

**If you would like to take part please contact  
Gordon-Pymble Uniting Church at [info@gpuc.org.au](mailto:info@gpuc.org.au)**

The Easter experience staged each year with volunteer actors from Gordon/Pymble congregation and others, an outreach to the local primary schools (year 4) telling them the story of Easter.



Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of NSW & ACT  
Stamp Committee  
Sales For 2024 \$ 23,088.00

Delivery of Stamp Material– All material can be sent to our postal address  
Po Box A2178, Sydney South, 1235, NSW or hand delivered to UCA Synod  
reception, level 10, 222 Pitt Street Sydney, Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

**St. Matts are collecting your old stamps, Please place them in the box marked stamps that can be located in up stairs foyer.**

## **St. Matthew's 50th Anniversary celebrations Planning meeting**

There will be a meeting to begin planning the celebrations for the 50th Anniversary of St. Matthew's.

**Time: 6:00 pm on 6 March 2025 in the Community Room.**

Anyone interested in helping or who have ideas are welcome.

Ideas from those who can't make the meeting can be shared with Greg Gibb.



The first Thursday of each month from  
March until December

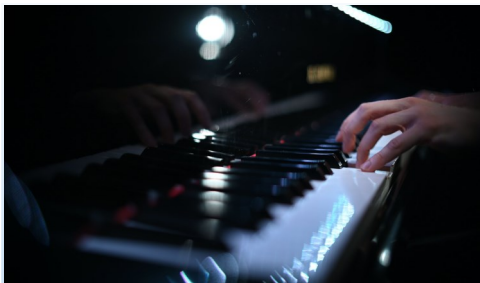
Next meeting will be **6th March**  
**10am—12noon**



Speaker: Jennifer Philps  
"Genetics Medical Research Institute"

*These informal morning gatherings include devotions, morning tea and guest speakers which cover a large range of interesting and informative topics.*

\*\*\*\*\* ALL WELCOME \*\*\*\*\*



Entry by  
donation in aid  
of a project to  
build a well in  
Uganda

## **Recital of Piano Repertoire**

Presented by  
**Colin Watts**

2.30pm

Saturday 8th March  
Holy Trinity Anglican Church  
Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills

Contact: Christine Haines 0401 344 800

**The St. Matthew's Uniting Church weekly Newsletter is available to view at the end of each week for the upcoming Sunday on the St. Matthew's website**

**[www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au](http://www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au)**

**Click on the metal dove image / publications or find in recent posts.**



# Seniors Festival Expo

Hills Community Care

Thursday, 13 March  
10am – 3pm

Balcombe Heights Estate, Building 15  
92 Seven Hills Road, Baulkham Hills

Your one stop shop for support services available to Hills seniors.

We are excited to announce the upcoming **Seniors Festival Expo**, a must-attend event for seniors, caregivers, and anyone looking to explore resources and services specifically tailored for the senior community.

This year's expo offers a **one-stop shop** where you can discover a wide range of **services, products, and resources** designed to enhance wellness, improve your lifestyle, and enrich everyday living. Whether you're interested in **health and wellness, technology solutions**, or simply looking to learn more about ways to improve your quality of life, you'll find valuable solutions at this year's event.



For more details scan the QR code or visit [www.thehills.nsw.gov.au](http://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au) and search Seniors Festival Expo