



THE CHURCH OF  
ST MATTHEW  
COLDRIDGE

# June 2025 - Events and Services at St. Matthew's Coldridge

## **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Church Café, 2.30pm - 4pm**

Come for a coffee,  
homemade cake and  
some friendly chat.

## **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> – Morning Prayer, 10.30am**

This service will be led by  
a member of the lay  
community.

## **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> – Holy Communion, 10.30am**

This service will be led by  
Rev. Preb. Peter Rapsey.

## **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> – Church Tours, 11.00am and**

**2.00pm** These include a  
lecture by John Dike on the  
mystery of the Edward V  
window. Free but booking  
required (email:  
[coldridgeparishchurch81  
@gmail.com](mailto:coldridgeparishchurch81@gmail.com))

This event coincides with  
the **Coldridge Café**  
in the Village Hall.

In the month of June we celebrate the birth of John the Baptist. This saint has a special role in the history of Christianity, as the man who prophesied the coming of Christ. But he also has a special role in the history of Coldridge!

Our church is celebrated for its diverse collection of medieval oak and elm benches. But while these benches feature many beautiful and unusual carvings, they only contain one human representation: the head of St John the Baptist sitting on a platter.

We have no explanation for this anomaly – but we can speculate that one of Coldridge's medieval parishioners was so intrigued by the story of Herod's dancing daughter Salome and her demand for John the Baptist's head, that they specially commissioned the woodworkers to carve this biblical scene.

This is just one of many mysteries of our Grade I listed Church that we still value today.

