

Newsletter Sunday 15th March 2020

Sun 15th	8.00am	- BCP Communion (Church)
	9.00am	- Parish Communion (Church)
	10.00am	- Bellringing
	10.45am	- Morning Praise (Church)
	2.00pm	- Bellringing Practice
	4.00pm	- Asian Congregation (Centre)
Mon 16th	6.30pm	- Church Hill Praise (Church)
	9.00am	- Staff Team Meeting (Church)
	9.00am	- Play and Pray (Church)
	3.15pm	- Kids Club (Centre)
Tues 17th	7.30pm	- Leadership Team (Rectory)
	8.40am	- Blue Coat Academy KS3 Assembly (Church)
	10.00am	- Open Church
Wed 18th	3.20pm	- Younger Youth (Centre)
	9.30am	- Toddlers (Centre)
	12.00pm	- Lent Lunch & Service (St Pauls)
	4.00pm	- JCU (Crescent Baptist Church)
Thurs 19th	7.30pm	- Bellringing Practice
	7.30pm	- Bible Course (Church Centre)
	2.00pm	- OWLs (Centre)
	6.00pm	- Passage & Praise Rehearsal (Church)
Fri 20th	8.20pm	- Blue Coat Academy Staff meeting (Church)
	8.40am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly (Church)
	9.30am	- Church Open, Cleaning and Flower Arrangers (Church)
	10.00am	- Finance Committee meeting (Church)
	1.00pm	- Funeral of Bruce George (Church)
	6.30pm	- Signs for Worship Workshop (Centre)
	7.30pm	- Passage & Praise (Church)
8.00pm	- Signs for Worship Walsall Service (Centre)	

Sat 21st

Sun 22nd	8.00am	- BCP Communion (Church)
	9.00am	- Parish Communion (Church)
	10.00am	- Bellringing
	10.45am	- Morning Praise (Church)
	4.00pm	- Asian Congregation (Centre)
	6.30pm	- Church Hill Praise (Church)

Morning Prayer

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri	7.30am	(Church)
Weds	8.00am	(Blue Coat Academy)

Further Ahead

Mon 23rd	7.30pm	- AGM: Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Church)
Sat 28th		National 12 Bell Eliminator (Church)
Sun 29th		Clocks go forward 1 hour at 1.00am



Prayer Requests From our prayer cards and email prayers. Please pray for the families of Kath Barker, Bruce George and Michael Hazzard, and all those effected by COVID-19.

St Matthew's Church Giving

You can give direct to the church in a number of ways including the collection plate or by the contactless payment at the machine at the back of the church. If you would like to give to St Matthew's by Bank Standing Order, there are forms available at the back of church. Gift Aid forms are also available at the back of church. Another way is through www.stewardship.org.uk/giving/give. Account Name - St Matthews Walsall Parish Church (Lloyds Bank) Sort code - 30-99-06 Account Number - 00060947 Reference - Donate

Passage and Praise Friday 20th March 7.30pm Join us for an evening of worship, led by members of the band, giving thanks and praise to the Lord through music. The evening will also include readings from the Bible, exploring the roots in scripture that the songs come from. All are welcome!

Jesus Money The intention of these weekly questions is to help families and friends talk more about a Christian perspective on money. Today's question is: "what would a generous church look like?"

Communications Survey

We want to improve how we communicate with church members and the public. Please can you spare a few minutes to tell us what we're doing well and what needs improving? Go to www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/comms-survey, scan the QR code, or fill in a paper survey available from the back of church.



Bishop's Lent Appeal 2020 This year's Bishop's Lent Appeal 'Precious In My Sight' will support some of the most vulnerable members of society. It will contribute to the campaign to keep Acorns Children's Hospice in Walsall open so they can continue their vital work with children and families. The appeal will also support clergy families under pressure in our Link Diocese of Matlosane, South Africa. More details on how to give to the appeal will be available soon.

Taste and See – Reader Training Designed to give you a broad introduction to the content and expectations of Reader Training - it's a great opportunity to gain insight and ask any questions you may have. Each session includes an act of worship, a general introduction to Reader Training and a taster teaching session. The nearest taster sessions to Walsall are: Wolverhampton – Monday 16th March, 6.30-9pm, The Church at Perton, Anders Square, Perton.

Lichfield – Saturday 28th March
10am–12.30pm, Three Spires House, Lichfield
To book your place email jodie.galley@lichfield.anglican.org

Silent No More Conference Women who have suffered sexual abuse as a child will be able to find help and solace at a new ground-breaking national conference set up to tackle this taboo topic. Restoration Church in Walsall hopes this will be the catalyst for change to equip and release women who have suffered from childhood sexual abuse. Speakers are: Patricia, a committed Christian, who was neglected and abused between the ages of 14 and 16, along with Laura Brett from Press Red (a ministry which aims to eradicate abuse and violence against women) and Claudia Bell from Thirtyone:eight (a Christian Charity which aims to protect vulnerable people from abuse). It will be held on May 16th, 2020 at The Village Hotel in Walsall. The conference will be interspersed with worship and prayer. To book go to <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/silent-no-more-tickets-78902538617?aff=ebdssbeac>

Pathways - A Year of Vocational Reflection Are you thinking about what God is calling you to do? Pathways is a one-year course for people who are exploring their Christian faith and

discipleship and reflecting on their own particular gifts and calling. The course covers several key areas including God at work in the Church, our neighbourhood and our family as well as in your own life and also focuses on Bible study and prayer. Dependent on numbers, there are four local groups (Shrewsbury, Stoke, Wolverhampton and Lichfield) which meet together four times throughout the year in Stafford. Speak to Jim for more information.

Ecumenical Pilgrimage Our German link diocese, the Nordkirche, are inviting people on an ecumenical pilgrimage called Monastic Life in Mecklenburg from 6-15 June. The pilgrimage will explore the practices of those in monastic life, visiting several monastery sites, churches and other places of interest and offer daily devotions, Bible study and prayer. More details at <http://www.stmarksbasford.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/An-Ecumenical-Pilgrimage.pdf>.

Lent Lunchtime Services 2020

They are held at the Upper Room in St Pauls. Lunch is served at 12.00pm, and the talk begins at 1.10pm. This coming Wednesday, 18th March, the talk is 'Pontius Pilate'.

New Wine Celebration Night Saturday
14th March 7pm at St Matthew's, Dudley Road, Tipton, DY4 8DL. Local Network Celebration Evening with John McGinley. The evening will include: Worship, Teaching and Ministry. Contact Peter Smith for details peter@pennfieldsparish.co.uk

Nominations for PCC and Wardens

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Mon 23rd March at 7.30pm. Please pick up your copy of the annual report today.

Nominations for wardens, PCC members and Deanery Synod representatives should be submitted by Sunday 22nd March. Any other business should be notified to eh church office 24hours in advance.

Confirmation Service We have a cluster confirmation on Sunday 28th June 2020 at 6.30pm at St Matthew's. Anyone who would like to be confirmed should speak to Jim.

Church Repair and Maintenance

Tuesdays 10am-3pm. Fridays 9.30am-12.30 pm. Feel free to drop in and give an hour or more to assist when you can spare the time. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

National 12 Bell Eliminator

Competition This takes place on Saturday 28 March, featuring some of the best ringing bands in the country. It is a major event for St Matthew's Tower, and you are warmly invited to come and hear St Matthew's bells at their best, the ringing taking place between 11.30am and 2.30pm. In addition, the bell ringers are looking for practical support for the event. If you can **help by making cakes or volunteering** on the day we would be very grateful. Sign-up sheets are at the back of church. Thank you. John Edlin

Church of England's advice on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Church of England have updated their guidance in response to Coronavirus Covid-19. We are following the advice and in summary from this week we will...

- Offer Communion in one kind only to all communicants i.e. the consecrated bread/wafer, with the priest alone taking the wine;
- Suspend handshaking or other direct physical contact during the sharing of the peace;
- Suspend direct physical contact as part of a blessing or 'laying on of hands'.



RUOK coordinators

If you notice someone is missing from church, why not give them a ring or speak to one of our RUOK coordinators?

Our coordinators are:

- 8.00am service – Helen Robinson
- 9.00am service - Jim Trood
- 10.45am service – Rita Chilton
- 6.30pm service – David & Penny Hunt



Clergy Contacts:

Rev Jim Trood – 07939 587208 (Day off Tuesday)
email – rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

- ◇ **Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Anne Tolley 07518 339606
- ◇ **Email Prayer Requests** (non-confidential) prayer@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk
- ◇ **Homegroups:** To find out more please get in touch with Judith Ridgway 07490 488144 / ridgway@talktalk.net or Priscilla Trood 07984 626 637 / priscillatrood@btinternet.com
- ◇ **Prayer Triplets Coordinator:** Kirsten Robson
kirstenrobson1@gmail.com

Staff Contacts:

Ben Butterfield – U18s Worker - 07917 764435
email: youth@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Hannah Morrish - Kids Worker - han193@hotmail.co.uk

Adrian Perks – Centre Manager - 07954 138350.
email: centre@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Kirsten Robson - Church Office - 01922 626039
email: office@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Barbara Parker - Safeguarding Officer - 01922 649909
safeguarding@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Mike Ray - Planning Centre/Rotas - rotas@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

New to St Matthew's? Welcome! Please fill out a connect card which can be found in the back of the chairs and post it in the connect box on the welcome desk. We would love to keep in touch and get to know you more.

Website: www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

