

# Newsletter Sunday 8th March 2020



- Sun 8th** 8.00am - BCP Communion (Church)  
9.00am - Parish Communion (Church)  
10.00am - Bellringing  
10.45am - Holy Communion with Thanksgiving (Church)  
2.00pm - Bellringing Practice  
4.00pm - Asian Congregation (Centre)  
6.30pm - Church Hill Praise (Church)
- Mon 9th** 9.00am - Play and Pray (Church)  
3.15pm - Kids Club (Centre)  
7.30pm - Homegroup leaders meeting (Rectory)
- Tues 10th** 8.40am - Blue Coat Academy KS3 Assembly (Church)  
10.00am - Open Church  
3.20pm - Younger Youth (Centre)
- Wed 11th** 9.30am - Toddlers (Centre)  
10.30am - Funeral of Kathleen Barker (Church)  
12.00pm - Lent Lunch & Service (St Pauls)  
4.00pm - JCU (Crescent Baptist Church)  
7.30pm - Bellringing Practice  
7.30pm - Bible Course (Church Centre)  
7.30pm - Band Rehearsal (Church)
- Thurs 12th** 2.00pm - OWLs (Centre)
- Fri 13th** 8.20pm - Blue Coat Academy Staff meeting (Church)  
8.40am - Blue Coat Academy Assembly (Church)  
9.30am - Church Open, Cleaning and Flower Arrangers (Church)  
6.30pm - Signs for Worship Workshop (Centre)  
8.00pm - Signs for Worship Walsall Service (Centre)
- Sat 14th** 10.00am - Signs of God Workshop (Church)
- 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)  
6.30pm - Church Hill Praise (Church)

## Morning Prayer

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

## Further Ahead

- Mon 16<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am - Staff Team meeting (Church)  
7.30pm - Leadership Team (Rectory)
- Wed 18<sup>th</sup>** 7.30pm - Bible Course (Church Centre)
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup>** 10.00am - Finance Committee meeting (Church)  
1.00pm - Funeral of Bruce George (Church)
- Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>** 7.30pm - AGM - Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Church)



**Prayer Requests** From our prayer cards and email prayers. Please pray for Heather, June and the families of Kath Barker, Bruce George and Michael Hazzard.

### **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](http://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: "If someone with no money asks you to lend them £10, would you lend or give it?"

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

Please see the separate advice sheet and please continue to pray for all those affected by Coronavirus and those caring for them. Go to: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches> for more up-to-date info.



**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.

**Church Communications** We are pleased to announce that the Leadership Team has agreed for Mike Ray to take on the role of "Communications coordinator" for St Matthew's church. As many will know Mike is already doing many of the things already associated with this. Initially Mike will be spending time completing an audit of our current communications and policies, especially those that are linked to the internet or social media. In due course Mike will report back to the Leadership Team and PCC. If anyone would like to make any comments or suggestions, please contact Mike.

**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](mailto: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>.

**Email problems** Recently some people may have had an update to their computer system which has resulted in email from the church being fed into the "Junk email" folder. This has happened to a number of people and includes things like prayer emails and the notice sheet. If you normally receive church emails, please check your "junk email" folder.

### **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, 11th March, the talk is 'The Samaritan Woman'.

### **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.

**Signs of God Easter Workshop** An experienced team of tutors will help you to explore how you can use BSL in a Christian setting, with a focus on the Easter Story. The day will be accessible and suitable for all levels of BSL or none. Deaf people are always welcome along. Do invite your friends. Come and enjoy a day of teaching and practical training in a relaxed environment. Refreshments will be provided, please bring your own lunch. Only £20 for a whole day of superb and fun teaching. Saturday 14th March, 10am-4pm, in the church. Please contact Colin for more information, or to book, go to <http://bit.do/easterbsl>

### **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

**We are in Fairtrade Fortnight!** The Fairtrade organisation makes a massive difference to so many of the world's poorest. When you are out shopping please look for chocolate, sugar, honey, wine, coffee, tea and other goods with the Fairtrade logo on, and make Fairtrade a habit.

## **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](mailto:rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

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

## **Staff Contacts:**

**Ben Butterfield** – U18s Worker - 07917 764435  
email: [youth@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:youth@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

**Hannah Morrish** - Kids Worker - [han193@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:han193@hotmail.co.uk)

**Adrian Perks** – Centre Manager - 07954 138350.  
email: [centre@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:centre@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

**Kirsten Robson** - Church Office - 01922 626039  
email: [office@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:office@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

**Barbara Parker** - Safeguarding Officer - 01922 649909  
[safeguarding@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

**Mike Ray** - Planning Centre/Rotas - [rotas@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)**

