



## **Bulletin from St Matthew's Walsall**

*Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020*

*(This bulletin also includes highlights from the past week's online bulletins)*

**St Matthew's Church:**

**Worshipping God; Equipping his people;  
Growing his kingdom; Serving Walsall**

### **ST MATTHEWS NEWS**

#### **Prayer requests**

Please pray for those known to you and the wider church who are struggling at this time. Please remember in your prayers Helen Robinson, Judith Wiggin, Brian, Joan Cartridge's daughter in law Helen. Please pray for the family and friends of Andrew Taylor, Maureen Yardley, Beatrice Taylor and Adina Keldo.

#### **Christmas Services**

Christmas is fast approaching and here are all the details of our in-person and online services that we're holding this year. You are warmly invited to join us for any of them.

- **Carol Service** | Sunday 20th December 6pm | Online on YouTube
- **Nativity Service** | Christmas Eve 5pm | Online on YouTube  
If people would like to hear and learn the songs in advance of our online nativity service, these can be found at: <http://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/nativity-music/>. The service will be broadcast on our St Matthew's Walsall YouTube channel at 5pm on Christmas Eve. Jim has already had a sneak peak of the service and it looks great!
- **Midnight Communion** | Christmas Eve 11:15pm | In-person | Ticketed - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/127123117667>
- **Christmas Day Holy Communion** | Christmas Day 8:45am | In-person | Ticketed - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/127123980247>
- **Christmas Day All Age Service** | Christmas Day 10am | Online on YouTube

*In-person Services* - There are still some tickets available for our other in-person Christmas services - but they are going fast, so book now to avoid disappointment! The services that need to be pre-booked are the 11.15pm Christmas Eve Midnight Communion and 8.45am Christmas Day Holy Communion. Tickets can be booked online or by contacting Rev Jim.

*Online Services* - All of our online services will be premiered on our YouTube channel - [www.youtube.com/stmatthewswalsall](http://www.youtube.com/stmatthewswalsall)

*Coronavirus Restrictions* - All of our in-person services mentioned above are subject to government restrictions, so keep an eye on our website and future communications for any changes. Don't forget to wear a face covering when in our church building.

*Get sharing!* Please let your family, friends and neighbours know about our Christmas services and invite them along. After a tough year, let's pray that Christmas brings comfort and joy to a world that is weary and hurting.

We look forward to seeing you this Christmas!

#### **Church Services**

The weekly pattern is:

Sunday	8.45am Traditional Communion Service
	10.00am Online Service (on YouTube)
	4.00pm Asian Congregation Service (on Skype)
Wednesday	10.00am Mid-week Communion Service (not 30 <sup>th</sup> Dec)

#### **Christmas Office Closure**

The Church Office will close at the end of the working day on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, and will reopen in the New Year on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January. The next bulletin will be 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

### **RightNow Media Recommendations**

RightNow Media is an online Christian video streaming website, it has a collection of videos including Bible Studies, Kids shows, Conferences, short videos and lots of other things. It is absolutely free. Email the office to get signed up. Throughout December we will have kids' recommendations that run alongside our all age section of our 10.00am service.

#### **20 December: (Jesus is born)**

- Kids / Shorts / Holy Moly /Holy Moly Christmas Collection / Session 2 Jesus is Born (5 minutes) (suitable for 4+)
- Kids / Ages 11+ / Kingstone / The Christ / Session 3 - The Incarnation (suitable for 8+)

#### **General pool of Christmas videos (suggested for 24<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> December)**

- Kids / Popular Kids Shows / Superbook / Session 8 The First Christmas (27 mins) (7+)
- Kids /Age 11+ / Chi-Rho / Session 21 A Child is Born (27 mins) (I know its in the 11+ but I reckon its suitable for 8+)
- Kids / All kids shows / 60 second Bible Stories / Session 11 The Birth of Jesus (4+)
- Libraries / Christmas Kids Series (numerous things for all ages and of all lengths)

#### **3 January: (Kings)**

- Kids / Shorts / Holy Moly /Holy Moly Christmas Collection // Session 3 The Wise Men follow the star (6 mins)(suitable for 4+)

### **Baby Massage**

The next baby massage course at the church centre will start on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 1.00-2.30 pm. It's suitable for babies up to one and their carers and the 5 week course costs £30. Contact Priscilla on 07984 626637 for more information.

## **WIDER CHURCH NEWS**

### **Shaping for Mission**

The diocese's programme to respond to our serious financial challenges, and our even more serious mission challenges, is up and running in deaneries. Information about Shaping for Mission can be found in this dedicated section of our website (<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/shaping-for-mission/>). You can also sign up for our fortnightly update offering news, resources and network-building for everyone with an interest in Shaping for Mission.

### **Faith & Science in the local Church**

The Faraday Institute is hosting a two-day online workshop for lay and ordained leaders covering topics including AI, bioethics, creation care and response to disasters on 8/9 January.

### **Stoke Crisis Pregnancy Counselling**

A 10-session training course in 2021 for Christians who want to support those making pregnancy decisions begins in February. To find out more email Revd Simon Tomkins.

## **WALSALL NEWS**

### **Let's Talk Loneliness**

Every day up to Christmas the UK Government Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) will be sharing inspiring stories, advice and simple things you can do to help ease feelings of loneliness. Visit the Let's Talk Loneliness website and stay connected this winter.



### **Making Connections Walsall**

Are you a Walsall resident in need of support? There are lots of groups, organisations and clubs in Walsall which can support the health and wellbeing of local people. However, people often don't know about them. Making Connections Walsall referrals are processed by the West Midlands Fire Service who will connect you to your local hub organisation to discuss services available in your area to support you. Making Connections Walsall is available to all Walsall residents. To discuss or make a referral, please contact: 0121 380 6690. You will be contacted by your local hub within three working days. [For more information, please see our website.](#)

### **New radicalisation support website launched**

A new safeguarding website launched this week, aimed at family and friends to encourage them to share concerns that a friend or loved one might be vulnerable to radicalisation.

<http://www.actearly.uk> Research shows that Family and friends are best placed to spot the signs that someone might be vulnerable to radicalisation. We want them to ACT early so their vulnerable friend or loved one can get the support they need before the situation escalates into something more serious. This campaign is even more important than ever in the current pandemic climate where we have seen a decline in Prevent referrals during lockdown. Recent studies have found that the public are unsure of signs to look out for and who to turn to when they have concerns.

### **Days off**

Please note that until further notice both Rev Jim and Rev Joe will be taking Friday as their day off and their phones will be switched off. Should there be a need to contact them in an emergency, please contact one of our church wardens, Judith, Patti, Diane or Anna. Thank you.

**Morning Prayer** Jim and Joe will be leading Morning Prayer via Zoom, **Monday to Thursday at 8.30am** for about 20 minutes. If you would like to join them, the Zoom details are: Meeting ID: 895 8349 9139, Password: 949576  
The last Morning Prayer before Christmas will be **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** and it will resume on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**



---

### **Key Contacts:**

Rector: Jim Trood 07939 587208, email – [rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

Lay Curate: Joe Smith 07946 398442, email – [curate@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:curate@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Anne Tolley 07518 339606

Email Prayer Requests (non-confidential): email - [prayer@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:prayer@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

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

Online Communications: Mike Ray email - [rotas@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:rotas@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

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

**Website: [www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](http://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)**





SHARING IS CARING

# WALSALL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

FREE HOT CHOCOLATE + MINCE PIES ALL DAY!

Come and join us in the spirit of sharing and caring this winter!

The team at **The People's Studio** have partnered with, **Blueprint Association**, **Mind Kind Projects**, **Borneo St Allotments**, **Pimentos**, **One Love Walsall**, to provide free meal parcels this Christmas!

Sign up to collect or receive free food parcel | <https://bit.ly/2KfGH6v>

## WHAT'S ON?

### SANTA'S GROTTO

11.00 - 13.00

Toys, Books and special treats for the kids! Because sharing is caring!

### FREE FOOD PARCEL

12.00 - 15.00

Help yourself to a selection of seasonal veg, herbs, cupboard food and other essentials.

### CAROL SING ALONG

19.00 - 20.00

Join live on facebook as Andrew Clayton & other locals sing Christmas Carols!

### FREE HOT CHOCOLATE & MINCE PIES

ALL DAY

## WHERE?

THE PEOPLE'S STUDIO, WALSALL, WS1 1PT

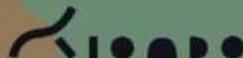
COVID-19 TIER RESTRICTIONS APPLY



**Delivery:** If you are unable to get to the venue, please get in touch as we can arrange a contact home delivery subject to eligibility.

[Lisa.Lucy@kiondo.co.uk](mailto:Lisa.Lucy@kiondo.co.uk), +447585605434

23RD DEC 2020



blueprint

