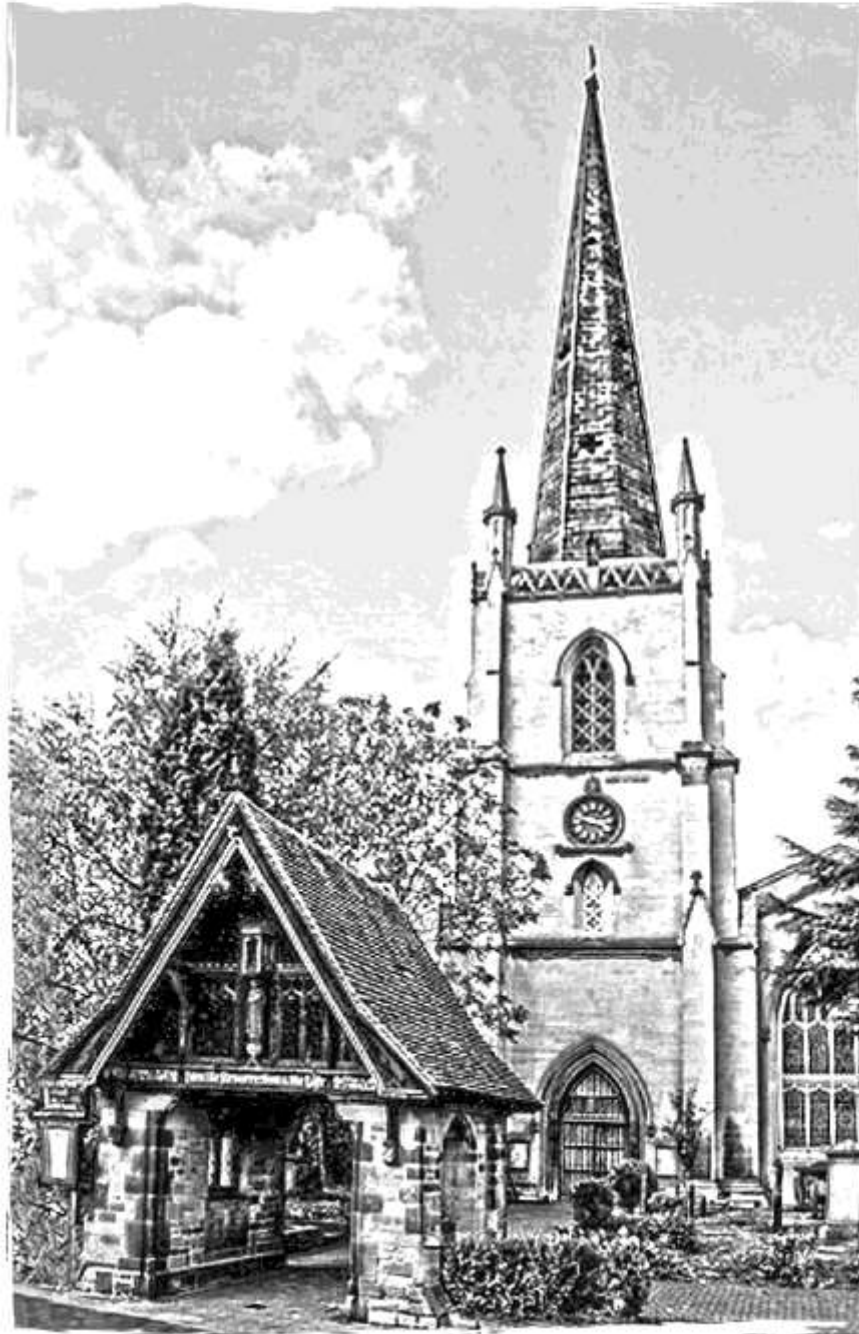


St matthews church

Prayer Diary



April 2021



St. Matthew's Church – **Worshipping** God; **Equipping** his people
Growing his kingdom; **Serving** Walsall.

“When your steps are guided by the Lord and you delight in his way, though you stumble, you shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds you fast by the hand.”

Psalm 37: 23-24

Thursday, 1st April: Love Walsall Breakfast

Dear Lord, we pray today for all those joining in this meeting. We ask that you will not only strengthen them in their own faith but also give them renewed enthusiasm and stamina to lead their own congregations in coming to know you better and to carry out your wishes in our communities. We thank you Lord, for their dedication and commitment to you and pray that our own love for you will grow stronger too. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Keble Grove

Friday, 2nd April: Good Friday, Walk of Witness

Lord Jesus, you hung upon a cross and died for us so that we might live for you. Your body was broken so that we might be healed and made whole. We can never deserve the sacrifice you made for us. Help us to feel the enormity of your sacrifice and in so doing, realise just how much you love us and are prepared to do for us. Because of the pandemic, our usual walk of witness through Walsall Town Centre cannot take place but we pray that you will be in the hearts of all who remember your sacrifice today. We thank you that with modern technology we are able to provide ‘a virtual walk’ online. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of St Catharine’s Close

Saturday, 3rd April: Holy Saturday

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your son to earth as a baby so many years ago. Thank you that he took the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross and for his resurrection, we thank you that his sacrifice for us proved that death was truly defeated. Help us to put our trust in You to be our Saviour, to guide us through the dark times in our lives and to give us the courage to live for you. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of New College Close

Sunday, 4th April: Easter Sunday

Risen Lord, we pray today for the hope and joy that your resurrection has given to us. Help us to realise that you have chosen us, your people, to follow in your footsteps. We are all set free from our sins through Jesus Christ. Help us to open our minds to see his light so that we may walk with him and know the hope to which he has called us and how rich are the wonderful blessings that he has promised us. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Road

Monday, 5th April: Prayer of Gratitude

Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have given us, for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us. Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen

St Richard of Chichester 1197-1253

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Close

Tuesday, 6th April: The Seasons.

Dear Lord, as we get ready for the longer and warmer days of spring and summer, we thank you for the changing seasons and for being part of your creation that is full of rhythm and cycles. We have cycles in our lives too as we evolve and move through all the amazing changes that you have in store for us. You are the architect of a world that works perfectly and we pray that we can move in harmony with all that you have planned for our lives. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Gardens

Wednesday, 7th April: Going forward in Faith

Dear Lord, the resurrection of Your Son has given us new life and renewed hope. Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal. Grant us wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do it, and the strength to complete it. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Highgate Road

Tuesday, 8th March: Becoming a Welcoming Person

Heavenly Father, we know that you care so much for each of us and how important we all are to you. Help us to show this same care and concern for others, accepting them just as they are without passing judgment. As our churches open up again, help us to welcome any new people who attend our church services and activities. We thank you for your patience with us and for always forgiving us whenever we stray, loving us despite all our faults. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Highgate Avenue

Friday, 9th. April: Our Clergy.

Father, we give thanks for the leadership of Rev.Jim and Rev.Joe at St Matthew's. May the love that they have for you Lord, shine out and embrace all those who hear your word through their preaching. Be with them as they take time to rest and enjoy the company of their families. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Avion Close

Saturday,10th. April: Walsall Town Centre.

Father, we pray for your presence and guidance in our town this weekend as shops and local business prepare to open their doors again after the restrictions of the past few months. We pray for the personal safety of all those who work there and give thanks for all those who have continued to work in food shops and supermarkets providing the food for us to buy in store and the packers and home deliverers. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Follyhouse Lane

Sunday,11th. April: Worship in Church.

Father, wherever we are able to worship be it at home on our own, in small groups or church today hear our prayers. We give thanks for your mighty work in our daily lives. Comfort and support those who are ill or mourning lost family members or friends. Guide us along the path you have planned for us.
Amen
Please pray for the residents of Vincent Street

Monday, 12th. April: Easing of Lockdown.

Father, as we begin to open up the daily routine of our lives we pray for your blessed protection on us all. As you led Moses and your people out of exile, from the plagues and pestilence may we have faith to follow your guidance. We give thanks for the skills you have given to medical scientists and researchers in the development of these vaccines. May these vaccines be available to all your people across the world. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Fair Field Mount

Tuesday, 13th. April: Concern for our Young People

Father, we have a generation of young people who are growing up in such a difficult environment. May those who have faith and knowledge of you Lord, find this strengthened and show us how we can reach out to those who do not know of your mighty love. May there be good links between homes and schools, schools and church, church and the community. May there be opportunities to reach out to those in further education and training and to those now looking for employment, to offer care and support as your son Jesus Christ would wish. Amen Please pray for the residents of Belvidere Road

Wednesday, 14th. April: Our Families.

Lord of young and old, we give thanks for family. For the wisdom of age and enthusiasm of youth, for the joys of parenthood and worries too. Help those who are facing troubles in relationships as well as finances. May we trust each other and you Lord, as we step forward in faith and face the future together. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Jesson Road

Thursday, 15th. April: Climate Changes.

Almighty Father, ruler of heaven and earth, who gives us cloud and shade, who sends sun and rain. May we truly appreciate and protect the sheer variety of climate in the world from frozen wastes still harbouring life, to tropical forests helping the world to breath. Let us not upset this climatic balance through thoughtless actions and bad stewardship. May we all be respectful of your creation, bountiful God. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Sandymount Road

Friday, 16th April: Cluster churches

Dear Lord, please be with the other churches in our cluster - St Martin's, St Luke's, St John's and St Paul's. We give thanks for their witness over the years, and pray that they are being guided through the many issues arising not just because of the pandemic but also from being a Christian community in 21st Century Walsall. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Emery Street

Saturday, 17th April: The end of the school holidays

With the holidays ending this weekend, we pray that all in our schools have had a good break. We pray especially for the staff, as they return to another demanding term keeping the children safe. We also remember those who should have been taking GCSEs or A Levels this term. Please comfort them in what must be a stressful time, and we ask that their hard work is fairly reflected in their marks. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Emery Close

Sunday, 18th April: As we meet today

Although many of us are still meeting on line or by phone, we pray dear Lord that we will still feel as a family coming to worship you. We thank you for the wonders of technology and the skill of our members that have allowed us to continue our services in this way. We remember too those who, for whatever reason, are unable to join us – despite the absence may they continue to feel part of our fellowship as we look forward to when we can all worship together once more in our church. Amen

Please pray for the residents of The Pines

Monday, 19th April: Standing committee

Thank you for those who give of their time and skills to help in the running of St Matthew's. As the Standing Committee meets today, we ask you bless its members with wisdom and faith so that they can make bold, godly decisions about our church and the direction it needs to follow. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Lysways Street

Tuesday, 20th April: Staff Meeting, chapter meeting of clergy and a team meeting.

Please be watching over these meetings today. May they be productive times where there is a realisation as to the paths you want us to follow and the work you want us, as your church, to do. Amen

Please pray for the residents of New Hall Street

Wednesday, 21st April: Hands to Help You (H2HU)

Thank you for the wonderful work that H2HU has done in our town over lockdown, and for the wonderful commitment and tireless dedication of these volunteers. Please continue to bless their work as they bring hope to so many in need. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Orlando Close

Thursday, 22nd April: Peace

Father, give to us and all your people, in times of anxiety, serenity; in times of hardship, courage; in times of uncertainty, patience; and at all times a quiet trust in your wisdom and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Bath Street

Friday, 23rd April: Diocesan Day of Prayer

As we pray today for spreading the good news of Jesus throughout the diocese. We ask dear Lord that you will give us direction, showing us how and where you want this work to be done. We pray too for faith, to be your feet and hands in this work so that we go out boldly into the streets and estates and communities showing and telling people what a difference you make. Amen Please pray for the residents of Hanch Place

Saturday, 24th April: Our Loving God.

Thank you Lord that you are a God of miracles. Help us to look at every situation with your eyes and to see how you can bring growth in the most unlikely places. Lord, we ask for your loving guidance as we carefully move out of lockdown. May we proceed with caution but with optimism that we can make a difference in how we lead our lives for the benefit of others. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Dandy's Walk

Sunday, 25th April: Church Services.

Lord, we give thanks to all those who have kept us connected with online services, phone lines and notice sheets. We pray that the proposed opening of St Matthew's over the next months will go to plan and we will soon be able to share worshipping you together once again. Thank you for your never ending love and for keeping us strong during this last year. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Barleyfields Road

Monday, 26th April: Finance Committee.

Dear Father, we pray for this meeting and for all those on this committee. May the discussion have You at the centre and, after this last year, a plan as to how to proceed. Jesus light of the world may our thoughts, our words, and our actions honour you today and always. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Hope Street

Tuesday, 27th April: The Planet.

Help us Father, to take stock of how much we have and remember others who are not so fortunate. To remember that our country is blessed with rich resources and there are many throughout the world who are struggling to survive. May we make a conscious effort to reduce waste and not to be a 'throw away' society, to take responsibility to make our world a better place for all as You intended. Amen
Please pray for the residents of St Michael's Street

Wednesday, 28th April: Church Centre.

Father, we pray for Adrian and Kirsten as they continue with their duties in the upkeep and running of St Matthew's Centre. We pray that after the many months of furlough and working from home they will feel recharged and ready to see life returning to some sort of normality. We pray that enquiries for booking the Centre will come through and the next few months see a financial improvement. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Bath Road

Thursday, 29th April: Children.

Let us pray for all the children of St Matthew's. After such a long time of not being able to share worship together in St Matthew's Church, we pray that we will soon be reunited. We pray for all the leaders and helpers and pray that their enthusiasm for teaching about you will encourage all and remind us that you never leave us but walk with us every day of our lives. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Little London

Friday, 30th April: Home Groups.

We give thanks for all the home groups that run from St Matthew's and pray for the time when we can meet once again in person. Thank you that we have been able to keep in touch and study through modern technology, sharing one another's hospitality which is part of being in a home group. May the last year be a reminder of all the things we have and how we should never take things for granted. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Sandwell Street