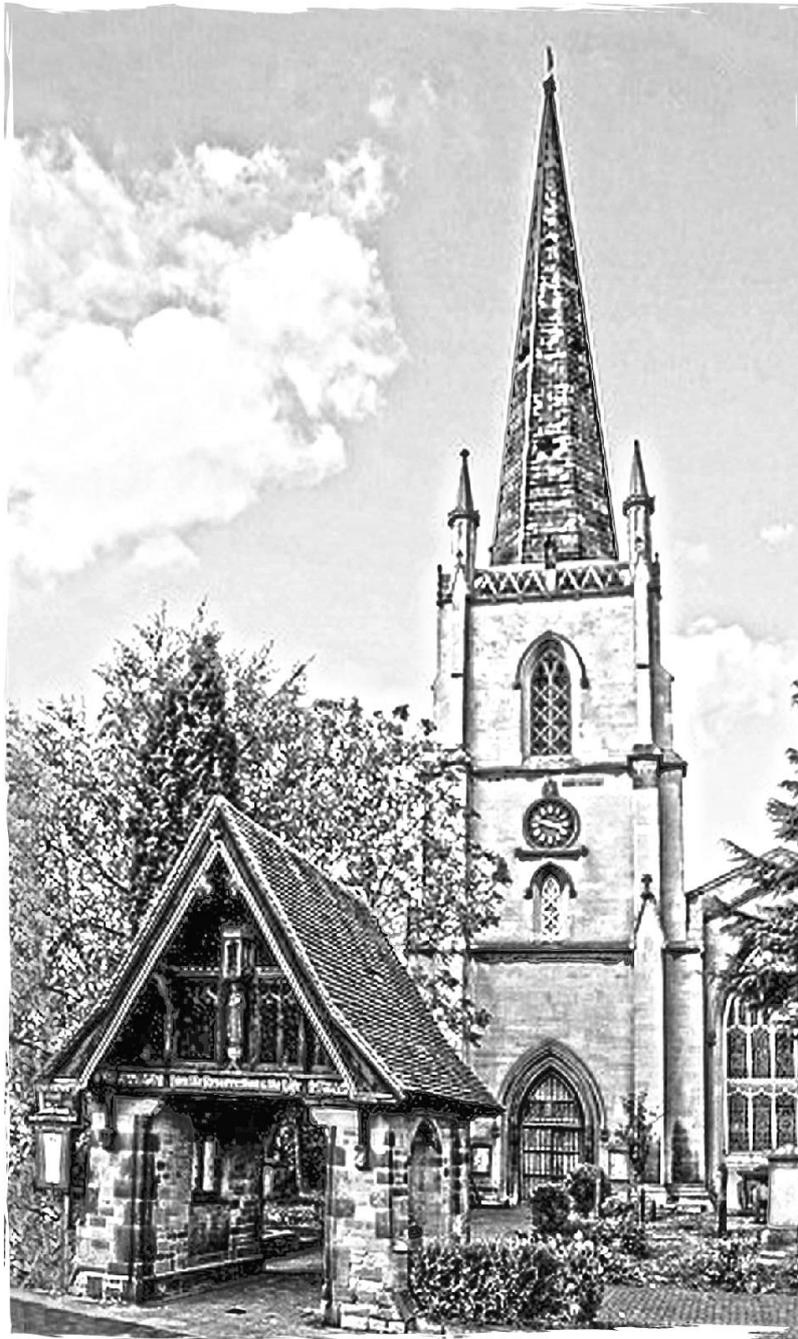


St matthews church

Prayer Diary



July & August 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 July: Our Children

Dear Father, as many children will be leaving school this month and moving onto work or university, we pray for their futures and that with your help they will be able to achieve all their plans and ambitions. Many younger children will be moving to senior schools and we ask that you to watch over them as well. All of them will have been affected by the school closures during the pandemic and we pray that with you beside them they will be able to cope with all these changes and move into the next stage of their lives and a new routine. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Waterly Lane

Friday, 2nd July: Vacancy at St Luke's and St Paul's.

Holy Father, we pray for all those involved in the interview process and selection of a new vicar for our fellow church. We hope that many will apply for the post and that with your guidance and help the right person will be selected and will soon be able to start serving you in Walsall. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Tasker Street

Saturday, 3rd July: Help and Support

Dear Father, we pray today for your guidance and help for all those who are facing a difficult time in their lives, especially those learning to cope with a life threatening illness or coming to terms with a recent family bereavement or just coping with life during the pandemic. Help them to know that you are always with them and to let them feel your supporting arms around them. Give them your strength and wisdom to help them deal with any difficult situations that they may have to face. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Woodcutter Close

Sunday, 4th July: Today's Services

Dear Lord, we pray for all the people and children who will attend a service at St Matthew's today, whether it is in person or online. Let the hurry and worry of life fall away from us. We are all your children and know you love us and care for us. You are here with us now and always. Help us to speak to you thoughtfully and to allow time for you to speak to us. Lord, you know how busy we are and if we forget you, we know that you will not forget us. Amen.

Please pray for the Deanery of Sheffield and High Heath.

Monday, 5th July: Finance Committee & Leadership Team Meetings

Lord Jesus, we give thanks for all our Leadership Team and Finance Committee members. We know that being members of these committees is a large commitment and we thank you Lord for their dedication. Help them, by giving them all the energy and enthusiasm that they need to undertake all that they do for our church in your name.

Amen

Please pray for the residents of Midland Road

Tuesday, 6th July: Staff Team & Wedding Enquirers Meetings

Almighty God, we thank you for all those couples who have been married at St Matthew's and pray that you are still walking with them in their lives together. As more couples seek to be married in our church, we pray that you will guide and nurture them as they plan their weddings and futures together.

We also pray that you will be with all those attending today's Staff Meeting. Amen

Please pray for the residents of South Street

Wednesday, 7th July: Love Black Country Breakfast Meeting

Dear Lord, please make your presence felt at this breakfast meeting today. This group aims to equip the church to reach out to people of the Black Country for Christ and to transform our communities. We pray that they will continue to have plenty of ideas on how to ensure the success of this initiative. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Camben Street

Thursday, 8th July: Leading Diocesan Training & Deanery Synod Meeting

Dear Lord, please be with all those involved in this meeting today. The world at the moment is such a changed place and we continue to pray and invite you into our hearts. Help them to listen to you so that they plan wisely. Give them the strength and courage to make any decisions necessary in your name and according to your wishes. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Rutter Street

Friday, 9th July: Kickstart Trainees.

We pray Father, for all those trainees that have placements at St Matthew's church and other churches in the dioceses. We pray for the success of this scheme to encourage and support these young people with skills that will enable them to get into jobs or education that they will find fulfilling. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Spout Lane

Saturday, 10th. July: WASUP. Walsall Against Single Use Plastic.

Creator God, WASUP was launched in 2019 and was being embraced by many schools. We pray that there is a greater awareness of the damage that plastic is doing to our land and seas. May all of us reuse or recycle plastics when it is unavoidable to receive them in wrappings on food or goods. May public pressure force big companies to rethink their use of plastics. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Milton Street

Sunday, 11th. July: Confidence to worship in church.

Father, as we begin to settle into the routine of worshipping together in church may we all have the confidence in the safety measures put in place. We may be two metres apart from each other physically, but may our hearts be joined in worship through prayer and silent? singing. Amen

Please pray for the Deanery of Streetly.

Monday, 12th. July: PCC meeting.

Father, we pray for your presence at this first meeting of the newly elected PCC. We ask that you are with all members this evening. May they hear your guidance as they consider the issues facing our church in the months and years ahead and may they clearly see the path you want St Matthew's church to follow. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Junction Street

Tuesday, 13th. July: Clergy Chapter Meeting.

Father, we pray that you will be with Rev's Jim and Joe as they meet with the other clergy from the largest churches. We ask that they will support and encourage each other in their ministry both practically and spiritually and may they all return to their congregations refreshed and empowered to do your work. Amen

Please pray for the residents of South Street Gardens

Wednesday, 14th. July: Blue Coat Federation and Academy Governors.

Dear Lord, we give thanks for our Blue Coat schools for what they stand for and teach; a Christian school with Christian values. We pray that the meeting this evening of the Federation Governors and tomorrow of the Academy Governors will have you firmly at the centre of all their discussions, decisions and the future running of them. Please give wisdom to all those attending and the decisions made be led by you. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Thorpe Road

Thursday, 15th. July: Deanery Standing Committee.

Dear Father, we pray today for all those attending this meeting especially the representatives from St Matthew's, Rev. Jim and Jimm. Please bless them and all those who attend and give them a clear vision of all you wish them to achieve in your name.

Amen

Please pray for the residents of Arundel Street

Friday, 16th July: Refugees and Welcome Churches

Dear Lord, at this time of such disruption around the globe we pray for the world's refugees. Whatever the reasons for them moving, we ask that you keep them safe and protected. We thank you especially for the work and commitment of Welcome Churches, as it helps churches reach out to support refugees in their community, and we ask that you will direct us, as a church, in this work. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Windsor Street

Saturday, 17th July: Marriage enquirers' meeting

We thank you Lord for all who want to take their marriage vows in church before you. We ask that you will be with them as they make their plans, both for the wedding day itself and for their subsequent life together, and we pray that as a church we can be as supportive as possible. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Brookhouse Road

Sunday, 18th July: Our services

As we meet today, whether in person or on line, we ask that your spirit will move in our hearts. May you speak to us through the readings and talks, may you be pleased by our worship, and may our prayers bring us closer to you. Amen

Please pray for the Deanery of Pheasey.

Monday, 19th July: Standing committee / Black Country NexGen prayer evening

We pray for today's standing committee, and we ask that its members are given wisdom and faith as they make decisions that affect the ministry of St Matthew's. We pray too for the NexGen prayer evening. It is wonderful that so many want to be involved in this event, and we ask that they are empowered and have their faith strengthened and grown.

Amen

Please pray for the residents of Cornwall Road

Tuesday, 20th July: Infants & juniors end of year assemblies

We are so grateful that Blue Coat Infants and Juniors will each be hosting their end of term assemblies in church, and that the children's education is rooted so firmly in the Christian faith. We ask that these will be lively fun events where the good news about you is presented clearly to all who are there in a way that is fully relevant and engaging. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Edinburgh Road

Wednesday, 21st July: Blue Coat end of term

At the end of this unique and very challenging year, we pray for all the schools of this town as they break up for the summer, remembering especially the Blue Coat schools. Thank you for the wisdom and care of the staff as they kept the children safe, and we ask that teachers, pupils and all who work in the schools will have a good and refreshing break over the summer. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Orwell Road

Thursday, 22nd July: Personnel Committee

Father, we are so grateful for all who are employed by St Matthew's. We ask that the Personnel Committee, as it meets tonight, celebrates the work of our staff, and is given the compassion to handle any matters with sensitivity and love. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Boscobel Road

Friday, 23rd July: The ways of the Lord

'Therefore you shall be careful to do as the Lord has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right or the left. You shall walk in the ways which the Lord your God has commanded you. (Deuteronomy 5v32)

Help us Lord, as individuals and as a church, to walk in your ways and stay loyal to your commands. Amen
Please pray for the residents of Princes Avenue

Saturday, 24th. July: Examine Our Hearts.

Dear Lord, help us to be totally honest with you as we look at our lives. We seek your forgiveness and ask you to fill us afresh with the gift of your Holy Spirit. Help us to use the gifts you have given us to enrich and bless others and may the love we hold for you shine out in all that we do. Amen

Please pray for the residents of The Crescent

Sunday, 25th. July: Our Faith.

Father we pray today for all those whom we know and love who seem bemused by the faith we hold and by which we are held. Lead us to someone today with whom we can share your love and to leave the outcome of the encounter in your hands. Rekindle our desire to share our faith with all and win them for you. Amen

Please pray for the Deanery of Great Barr.

Monday, 26th. July: Wedding Celebrations.

We pray for Shallum & Mishal as they come before you today in St Matthew's to make their wedding vows. We pray their life together will be blessed by you as they walk as husband and wife through all that comes their way. We also give thanks for the wedding ceremony last year for Kirsten and Richard and pray that today's celebration of that special occasion will be one full of love and blessings. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Magdalene Rd

Tuesday, 27th. July: Use What God Has Given Us.

We give thanks Lord, for all the gifts you have given us and ask for your forgiveness when sometimes we feel inadequate as situations arise. You have equipped us with the knowledge and the knowhow as You equipped the disciples to do amazing things, may we be bold and step out in faith. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Keble Grove

Wednesday, 28th. July: Diocesan Synod, Emerge, Expand.

We pray for all the meetings, the training sessions and open night's that are taking place today. As we try and encourage more people to come to know you Father, we give thanks for all the initiatives that encourage young and old to venture out in your name. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Close

Thursday, 29th. July: Youth Sport's Day.

We pray for all those taking part today from the Walsall, Wolverhampton and Sandwell boroughs. We give thanks that life is starting to open up more, allowing us to enjoy some of the activities we used to do before the pandemic. Thank you for being with us during this testing time. Amen

Please pray for the residents of St Catherine's Close

Friday, 30th. July: Home Groups.

We give thanks for all those who lead, host, or attend a home group. Thank you that we are freely able to meet together and worship you. As we move into the month of August some groups will have a break, so we ask for your Holy Spirit to be with us. May our hearts, our words and actions all reflect our love for you. Amen

Please pray for the residents of New College Close

Saturday, 31st. July: A Grateful Heart.

We pray merciful father for a grateful heart that is turned to generosity and which is freed from the desire to possess and hoard. Help us to open our eyes and hearts to people not as blessed as ourselves and be generous in sharing. Guide us in our thinking and doing always. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Road

While there is no prayer diary written for the month of August please pray for these meetings and activities.

Father, we give thanks for the work that Ben does with the youth of Walsall. We pray for the success and enjoyment that he has planned for this group including a water fight, Olympic Day and Online Team challenge.

Thursday, 5th. August: Love Walsall Breakfast.

Father, we pray for this group of people from churches across Walsall that meet monthly to talk, plan and pray for the spread of your word through combined actions. Amen

Monday, 9th. August: AGM of the Harper, Marsh and Crump Almshouses

Father, we give thanks for these supportive homes that were set up many years ago. We pray for the wellbeing of those who live in these accommodations and for the wise judgements and decisions of the trustees.

Thursday, 26th. August: Coronavirus Core Team Meeting

Father, we give thanks for this group of St Matthew's church members that, under the leadership of Rev. Jim, have met over the last eighteen months to plan for the safety and protection of our congregation and church building. We pray that the national opening up of our communities will enable this team to cease to be needed. Amen