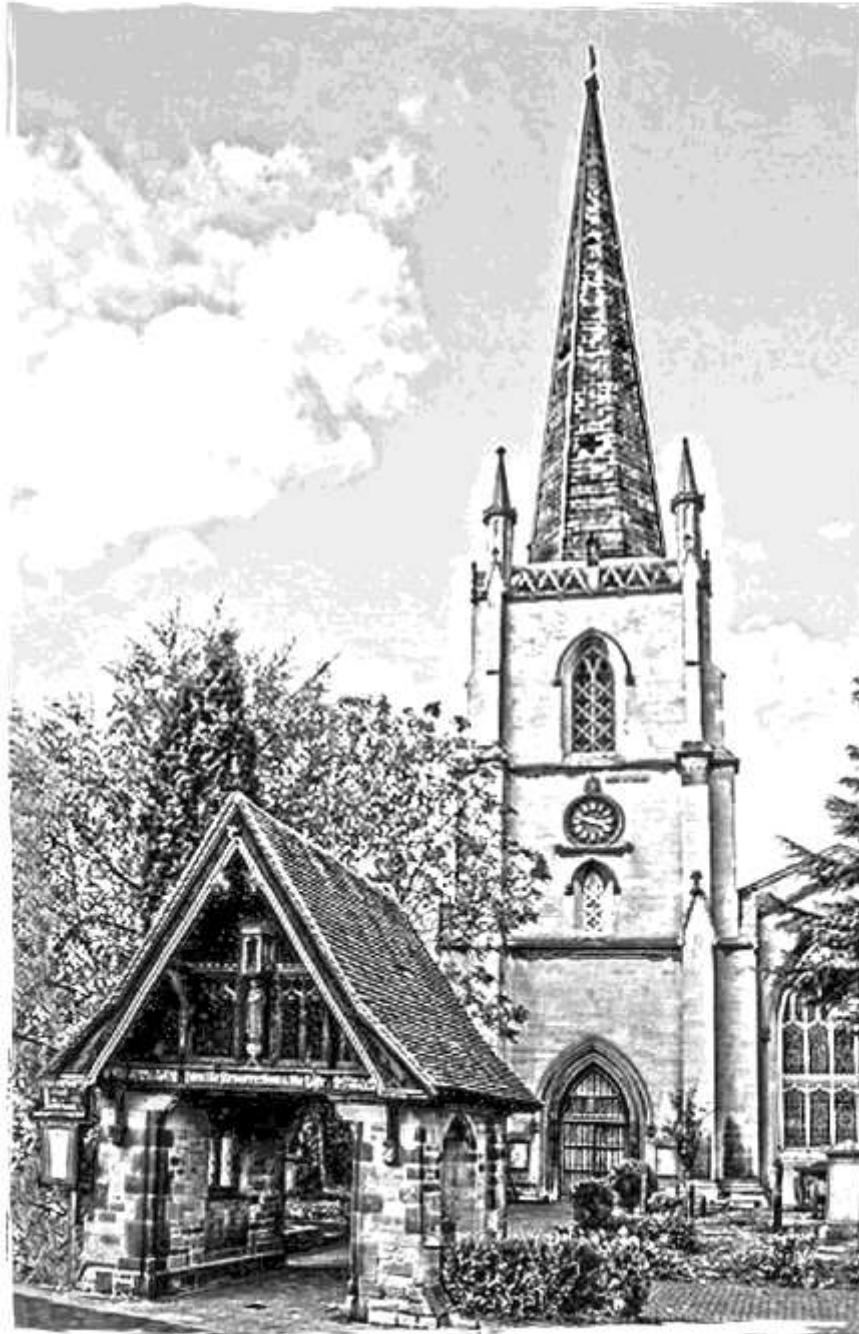


St matthews church

Prayer Diary



October 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

The format of the prayer diary has changed slightly with the name of roads in our parish alongside the title for each day. Do please continue to prayer for residents in these streets and Deaneries.

Friday, 1st. October: Breathe on Me, Breathe of God.

West Bromwich Street.

Breathe on me, breath of God: fill me with life anew, that I may love as you have loved and do as you would do. Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure, until my will is one with yours to do and to endure. Breathe on me, breath of God; fulfil my heart's desire, until this earthly part of me glows with your heavenly fire. Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die. Amen

Saturday, 2nd. October: First Aid Course for Church Members.

Caldmore Green

Dear Father, as most of our church activities return to normal, it is so important that we are able to deal with any health emergencies that may arise. We need to have the confidence and knowledge to take the correct actions when needed and we pray that this course will give that to all those involved. Amen

Sunday, 3rd. October: All Age Harvest Festival Service. Caldmore Road

We thank you, then, O Father, for all things bright and good,

The seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;

Accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts;

And that which you most welcome, our humble, thankful hearts. Amen

Monday, 4th. October: Safeguarding Course for Church Leaders

Grove Terrace

Gentle Jesus, as life returns to normal after the lifting of the pandemic restrictions and more people return to take part in our activities, it is important that we learn how to spot the signals when children and adults are in difficult situations and may require our help. We pray that this course will give all those involved the knowledge they need to recognise those situations.

Amen.

Tuesday, 5th. October: St Matthew's Carers & Toddler Group. New Street

Dear Lord, please watch over all the parents, carers, leaders and children who will be attending this group tomorrow. Let them all enjoy their morning together in friendship and fellowship after such a long break. We thank you for the energy and enthusiasm of all the people who lead this club. Amen.

Wednesday, 6th. October: Love Black Country Breakfast/ Alpha Hill Street

Dear Lord, please make your presence felt at this meeting today. We thank you for the commitment of all the members and their willingness to serve you and our region in this way. We also ask you to be with all those attending and running the Alpha Course. We pray that many new people will join and that they will find the answers they are seeking and that their lives will be enriched by coming to know you better. Amen.

Thursday, 7th. October: Living in Love and Faith Course Deanery of Walsall Wood.

Heavenly Father, we ask that you to be with all those involved in this course, that they will come together and share their ideas and experiences on how we can grow your family and bring peace and support to all those that need it. We pray that, with your help, they will have plenty of ideas on how to ensure the success of this initiative. Amen

Friday, 8th. October: BIG Youth. Town Hill

Father, we thank you for the wonderful 'BIG Youth' network of churches that work together in Walsall and the way they value the younger generation. BIG Youth has enabled hundreds of young people to meet other Christians, to hear the gospel and worship God together. We pray that as they meet tonight for the first time, after the lifting of the pandemic restrictions, the evening will be a success and that everyone will have a great time. Amen.

Saturday, 9th. October: Walsall Town Centre. St Matthew's Close

Father, the centre of Walsall is such an important part of the character of this town and so we pray for the shops, cafes and businesses that are seeking to re-establish themselves in the wake of the pandemic. Give wisdom to all who make decisions about the future of our town centre and may a strong Christian presence be apparent for all to see. Amen

**Sunday, 10th. October: Confirmation Service at All Saints, Bloxwich.
Upper Rushall Street**

Loving Father, we pray for all those who are being presented for confirmation this evening. May your Holy Spirit be felt afresh by all those in All Saints church and be that guiding light to the candidates as they step afresh to fulfil their personal calling. Amen

Monday, 11th. October: Safeguarding Course. Birmingham Road

Caring Father. We pray for the members of our church that are going to attend this Safeguarding Course. Jesus taught us to look after the children, the widows and vulnerable of our community and by knowing who they are we can we can start to help and protect them. Open our hearts to hear your call. Amen

Tuesday, 12th. October: Climate prayer. Jesson Close

Father, in your creation you provided food for us to eat, both animal and plants. As we become more aware of the dangers that the production of meat causes to our climate may we consider our own lifestyle and reduce or remove meat from our diet. Amen

Wednesday, 13th. October: Alpha. Leadership Course. Freer Street

Dear Father, as Alpha continues, we ask you to be with the leaders and helpers of this course as they seek to engage with others about you. We pray that those attending will find the answers they are seeking. We give thanks for the leadership skills that Rev. Jim shows at St. Matthew's and pray he can share these with others on the course today. Amen

**Thursday, 14th. October: Blue Coat Junior's Harvest Festival.
Deanery of St Martin's.**

Father, we pray for the children of Blue Coat Junior School as they come to celebrate Harvest Festival in church. We give thanks for the gifts they bring to be shared with the others through food banks in Walsall and may their dances and songs begin to help them understand your generous love in their lives. Amen

Friday, 15th. October: Street Ministry. Cambridge Street

As this outreach ministry team seeks to begin meeting with and talking/ listening to people in Walsall town centre on a Friday evening Father, we pray that new members from churches across Walsall will feel called to join in this opportunity to be your presence on our streets. Amen.

Saturday, 16th October: Refugees and Welcome Churches. Clews Close

Dear Lord, we pray for the world's refugees, remembering especially those who have fled from Afghanistan. Thank you 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 show us, as a church and as individuals, how we can help those who have come to our town. Amen

Sunday, 17th October: Our services. Bescot Street

As we meet together today, both in person and on-line, we pray that through the prayers, and music and preaching your spirit will move among us and touch our hearts. We pray too for those who, for whatever reason, will be unable to join us today. Please be with them, and may they know they are still loved members of this fellowship. Amen

Monday, 18th October: The University. Earl Street

Please Lord be with all the University students in our parish, and particularly those who are in their first year here. We ask that you will comfort any who, for whatever reason, are finding it difficult, and may we as a church reach out to help and support in whatever way is needed. Amen

Tuesday, 19th October: Alpha. Wednesbury Road

We pray Lord for those who are thinking about coming to tomorrow's Alpha course. May the Christians they know be emboldened to encourage them and may your spirit move in their hearts so that they may step out in faith and come along to hear your word and the relevance of your message to their lives. Amen

Wednesday, 20th October: Emerge. Little Newport Street

We are so thankful that tomorrow's Christian leaders are starting to prepare, and especially those who are at today's Emerge meeting, the Black Country Leader's Community for 18-25 year olds. We pray that they will continue to grow and mature both spiritually and with their leadership skills so they are fully prepared for the work you want them to do. Amen

Thursday, 21st October: QMS Speech Day, Blue Coat Infants Harvest, Foundation Trustees' meeting. Deanery of St Luke's. Chuckery.

We are so blessed today to have our church full with children. We ask that all who come to the speech day will have an enjoyable and special time that they will treasure for the years ahead. We pray as well that those who come

to the harvest service will realise your glory as the Creator of all things, and will start to see their role as stewards of this world. Please bless the Trustees too as they reflect on how best to manage the funds and responsibilities of the Foundation. Amen

Friday, 22nd. October: Half term. Sister Dora Gardens

As half term comes to our schools, please Lord give the teachers, the support staff and all the pupils a good and restful week, when they can refresh themselves and return renewed for the remainder of term. Amen

Saturday, 23rd October: UCB. Little Caldmore

We thank you for the work of UCB as it spreads the Christian message in words and music to this country through both its radio stations and its printed material. We thank you for the commitment of its staff, and the honesty of its message, and pray that we as a church will be encouraged as we support the organisation this year. Amen

Sunday, 24th. October: Forgiveness. Small Street

Father, forgive us for the times when our decisions have badly affected those closest to us. I pray that you would help us to live in such a way that we might better understand the needs of others. Help us to be aware of how our actions, words and behaviour can leave others feeling. Amen

**Monday, 25th. October: Encountering The Holy Spirit.
Hayden Sander Square**

Lord, we ask for a new encounter with your Holy Spirit today. We pray that we may be renewed in our faith, empowered in our actions and given words of encouragement so we may be people of love and faithfulness. May this encounter leave us shining as a beacon for you in all that we do. Amen

Tuesday, 26th. October: Church Centre. Buckle Close

We give thanks for our church centre and for Adrian and Kirsten who work diligently to keep everything running smoothly. We pray that more people will wish to use the facilities we offer and help support the finances which were disrupted throughout the pandemic. We give thanks for the groups from the local community whom are once again using this building. Amen

Wednesday, 27th. October: JCU. Bridge Street

Lord we give thanks for all those who lead this group, for their passion for you and for spreading your message to as many young people as they can. We pray that the fun and teaching that is encountered at these sessions will encourage more youngsters to attend and for their lives to have you at the centre. Amen

Thursday, 28th. October: Owl's. Deanery of St Paul's @ The Crossing.

We pray for this group as they meet each Thursday. May friendships be formed that continue outside the sessions and a feeling of love and caring be felt by all whom attend. We pray that all those who do not yet know the love of Jesus will be touched by the actions of others and wish to learn more about you. Amen

Friday, 29th. October: Wardens. Springhill Road

Father, we give thanks for all the wardens at St Matthew's. We give thanks for their dedication to you and for ensuring that St Matthew's is as safe a place to come and worship as possible, as we continue to proceed with caution into the winter months. Amen

Saturday, 30th. October: Commitment to God. Ridgewood Close

We pray for all those who have drifted away from God during the pandemic. We know people struggled to understand what was happening, the loss of life and the hardships for so many people. We pray that the Holy Spirit will help to fan into flames the fires of faith and this will spread throughout Walsall. Amen

Sunday, 31st. October: I Am The Light of The World. Ablewell Street

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life' (John 8:12). Thank you Lord, that you came to give us life and light and no matter if we move away from you, You are always close to us. Amen