



**Verse for the year:**  
 “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

**Bulletin from St Matthew’s Walsall**  
***Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021***

***Church News***

**What’s on this week...**

<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup></b>	8.45am	- Holy Communion (Church)
	10.00am	- Bell Ringing
	10.45am	- All Age Worship (Church)
	1.00pm	- Asian Congregation (Centre)
	6.30pm	- The Evening Service (Centre)
<b>Mon 8<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	- Finance Committee (Zoom)
	7.30pm	- Leadership Team
<b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup></b>	8.40am	- Blue Coat Academy Key Stage Assembly (Church)
	10.00am-4.00pm	- Places of Welcome (Church)
	7.30pm	- Deanery Synod (Church)
<b>Wed 10<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am-11.30am	- Toddlers (Centre)
	10.00am	- Mid-week Communion (Prayer Chapel in Church)
	4.00pm	- Joint Christian Union (Crescent Baptist Church)
	7.30pm	- Alpha (Centre)
	7.30pm	- Bellringing Practice
<b>Thurs 11<sup>th</sup></b>	2.00pm-4.00pm	- OWLs (Centre)
	7.00pm	- Nurses Badge Ceremony (Church)
<b>Fri 12<sup>th</sup></b>	8.40am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly (Church)
	9.30am	- Church Open, Cleaning and Flower Arrangers (Church)
	7.30pm	- Signs for Worship Walsall (Church)

**Prayer requests** Please pray for those known to you and the wider church who are struggling at this time. Please also remember in your prayers Sue Webster, Henry Styche, Maddie, Christine Jones, Daniel Townsend, Liz Blewitt, Marian Masters, and Rob Bradburn. Please pray for the family and friends of Danny Slater.

**Danny Slater** We are sorry to hear that Danny Slater died on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Danny had been ill for some time but continued to attend our 10.45am service where he had been a regular for a number of years. His funeral will be held at Streetly Crematorium on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am.**

**Service patterns for the remainder of 2021** Due to rising Coronavirus numbers, we have decided that we should keep the same pattern of services till the end of December. These are:

**Sunday**

- 8.45am (alternating BCP and Common Worship communion services)
- 10.45am (Morning Praise)
- 1.00pm (Asian Congregation in the Church Centre)
- 6.30pm (Evening Service in the Church Centre)

**Wednesday**

- 10.00am (alternating Common Worship and BCP communion services)

*Details about the special Advent and Christmas services will be published soon but broadly speaking follows a similar pattern to previous pre-pandemic years.*

**Flower Beds** We are very grateful for the donation of primroses by Morrison's Walsall, to brighten up the flower beds that line our pathway into church.

**Refreshments at 10.45am services** We have restarted refreshments at the 10.45am Sunday services. If this is something you could help serve (pouring drinks and washing some mugs) - please speak to Diane Edlin or the church office.

**November Prayer Diary** This is available on our website at <https://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/November-Prayer-diary-2021-1.pdf> or contact the office for a print copy.

**Daily Prayer Emails** We have set up an email option for receiving the daily prayer diary prayers. You can sign up at: <https://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/signup> or contact the office.

**Morning Prayer** If you want to join with Rev Jim, Rev Joe and others for Morning Prayer it takes place on Zoom from Monday to Thursday at 8.30am (Meeting ID: 895 8349 9139, Password: 949576). It usually lasts about 15 to 20 minutes.



**Coronavirus Precautions** Mask wearing is now optional and for the individual decision of those who attend our services. Other precautions still in place include: Respecting others space (social distancing), hand sanitiser stations, keeping a list of attenders so we can notify people in the event of a positive case, and Communion in one kind only. We would also like to remind people if you have symptoms of Coronavirus or test positive you should not attend church. Regular self-testing using lateral flow tests is also recommended.

**Operation Christmas Child** We will be packing shoeboxes at Owl's next month and would be very grateful if you would like to support this, with the following: empty shoeboxes, toys, crayons, pencils, toothbrushes, flannels, hats, gloves, socks, hair brushes, slides, skipping ropes, cars etc. It costs £5.00 per shoebox so money towards the postage will be

very gratefully received also. Please bring any items to church **on or before Sunday 14th November**. We managed between us to send 76 boxes last year so it would be lovely to match or beat that amount. If you require any more information, please call Anne on 07518339606.

### ***Wider Church News***

**Bold'zBrass in Concert** Popular local brass group plays live at St. Martin's Church Walsall, on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm**. Tickets (£6 Adults, £1 Children) available now from Sue Davidson - phone 01922 639589 or email davidsonsc@btinternet.com Come along to our evening of joyful live music! This small brass group based in Aldridge performs a range of traditional, classical, and popular music, with show tunes thrown in too. St Martin's church offers you a warm welcome to our concert. The evening will also feature a raffle and refreshments will be available. St. Martin's Church, 1 Daffodil Road, Walsall, WS5 3DQ

**New Wine Events** New Wine Local Network Teaching Morning: 'Living out Jesus' Kingdom - Glory in the Mire' with Mark Aldridge - Assistant Leader of NW. **Saturday 4th December, starts at 9.30am**, held at St Philip's Bradmore, Wolverhampton, WV3 7EN. New Wine Local Network Celebration Evening with Mark Aldridge - Assistant Leader of NW. **Saturday 4th December, starts at 7.00pm** at St Martin's Bilston, Slater Street, WV14 8PF, will include: Worship, Teaching & Ministry.

**Transforming Communities Together** You can find the latest information from the Diocese's Transforming Communities Together at:

<https://tctogether.org.uk/whats-new>



**Discipleship Today: Being And Doing** This joint day conference between Lichfield Diocese and Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury Methodist District on **4 December 2021** features keynote speaker the Revd Roger Walton, at Yarnfield Park Conference Centre near Stone. This long established lay-led conference also features Bishop Michael and the Revd Rachel Parkinson, Chair of Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury Methodist District. To book and for more info visit the website or contact John Underhill on 07936 300297.

**Autumn BSL workshops** If you're interested in learning some simple Christian British Sign Language signs there are two-hour online Zoom sessions to choose from on **Monday 15 November** and **13 December** all at 7pm at Rising Brook Church in Stafford.

**Guvna B and Amy Orr-Ewing at Fulfil Youth Event** The Autumn Fulfil is on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November** to which we welcome Guvna B and Amy Orr-Ewing. This will be an in-person event back at our regular venue of Mount Zion Community Church in Aston.

Our spring date is **11<sup>th</sup> March**, and the date of the summer event will be confirmed soon but it will either be **8<sup>th</sup> July**. Why not plan to bring your young people to these events?! If you are new to BCM and BCM's youth team you can view this little introductory clip: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZyN\\_UN9igQ&t=1sand](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZyN_UN9igQ&t=1sand)

**Sight Loss Friendly Church Taster Sessions** Every 6 minutes someone in the UK starts to lose their sight. Sight Loss Friendly Church (SLFC), from Torch Trust, the UK Christian sight loss charity, are pleased to announce further dates of our popular Tasters. These 30 minute Zoom sessions offer the opportunity to hear all the benefits of SLFC, meet the SLFC team and ask your questions. Sessions available are:

- Wednesday 10 November at 2:00 PM
- Tuesday 16 November at 11:00 AM
- Wednesday 12 January at 2:00 PM
- Monday 24 January at 2:00 PM

To register please visit <https://www.sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk/taster>.

For more information please email [SLFC@torchtrust.org.uk](mailto:SLFC@torchtrust.org.uk)

**Tread lightly into Christmas and 2022** The Chad Living team hosts two one-hour online sessions which are open to all, no booking necessary:

- **Wednesday 1 December 12pm – Re:Dress – Why our clothes matter** - Join us for this session where we'll look at the worldwide clothes production industry post-Covid, explore some of the environmental and ethical impacts of fast fashion and share our tips about slowing down fast fashion. We will also be launching out Re:Dress 2022 Challenge! Zoom link. Meeting ID: 857 4746 9970. Passcode: 620480.

### **Love Black Country Job Noticeboard**

Check out the noticeboard for any local job vacancies

<https://loveblackcountry.org.uk/category/noticeboard/>



**Hear the Gospel according to Luke!** As we look towards Advent and the start of the church year, the DVE team invites you to move into Lectionary Year C by listening together to the whole of Luke's Gospel. The readings will be online at midday **Monday – Thursday for the first four weeks of November**. You are welcome to join as often as you are able as we take time to listen to the Gospel, and to hear the word of the Lord. We will be reading one or two chapters per day. All welcome.

**Praying with your Cathedral** One of the good things to have come out of lockdown has been the small community of 40+ people from across the diocese – and across the world! – who now worship daily with the Lichfield Cathedral community through Facebook. If you would rather pray with others than alone, do join them at 8am for Morning Prayer (Common Worship) and at 5.30pm for Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) or Evening Prayer (Common Worship). Find the services on the Cathedral website or on Facebook. Their Sunday services continue to be live-streamed on YouTube at 8am, 10.30am and 5.30pm. If you know of someone who is housebound, and whose own parish church is unable to live-stream services, please do encourage them to worship online with their Cathedral.

**COP26 opportunities and resources** As the UN COP26 Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in November approaches, there are many opportunities for churches and individuals to get involved. The Revd Preb Chris Thorpe, from St Andrew's Shifnal, has produced these COP26 resources for RSCM's Sunday by Sunday to help churches with creative material. For info on 'Why Faith Matters at COP26' see this visual



**UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2021**  
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presentation from Green Christian. Churches are invited to join Tearfund's national COP26 church service online on **Sunday 7 November** featuring Pete Greig, Carol Ng'ang'a and Celtic Worship. Meanwhile, details about upcoming environmental webinars are available from the national Church.

**Diocesan Prayer Diary** The weekly Diocesan Prayer Diary has a deanery focus in line with Shaping for Mission – let Denise Keen know if you would like to receive it weekly as an email attachment. The prayer diary is a useful resource for those leading prayers as well as for individual use. We're keen to encourage wider ownership and use of it. The diocese also has a feed into the PrayerMate app which provides a very accessible and attractive platform for prayer on mobile devices.

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### **Key Contacts:**

Rector: Jim Trood 07939 587208, [rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk) (day off Tuesday)

Curate: Joe Smith 07946 398442, [curate@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:curate@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk) (day off Friday)

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Anne Tolley 07518 339606

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

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

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