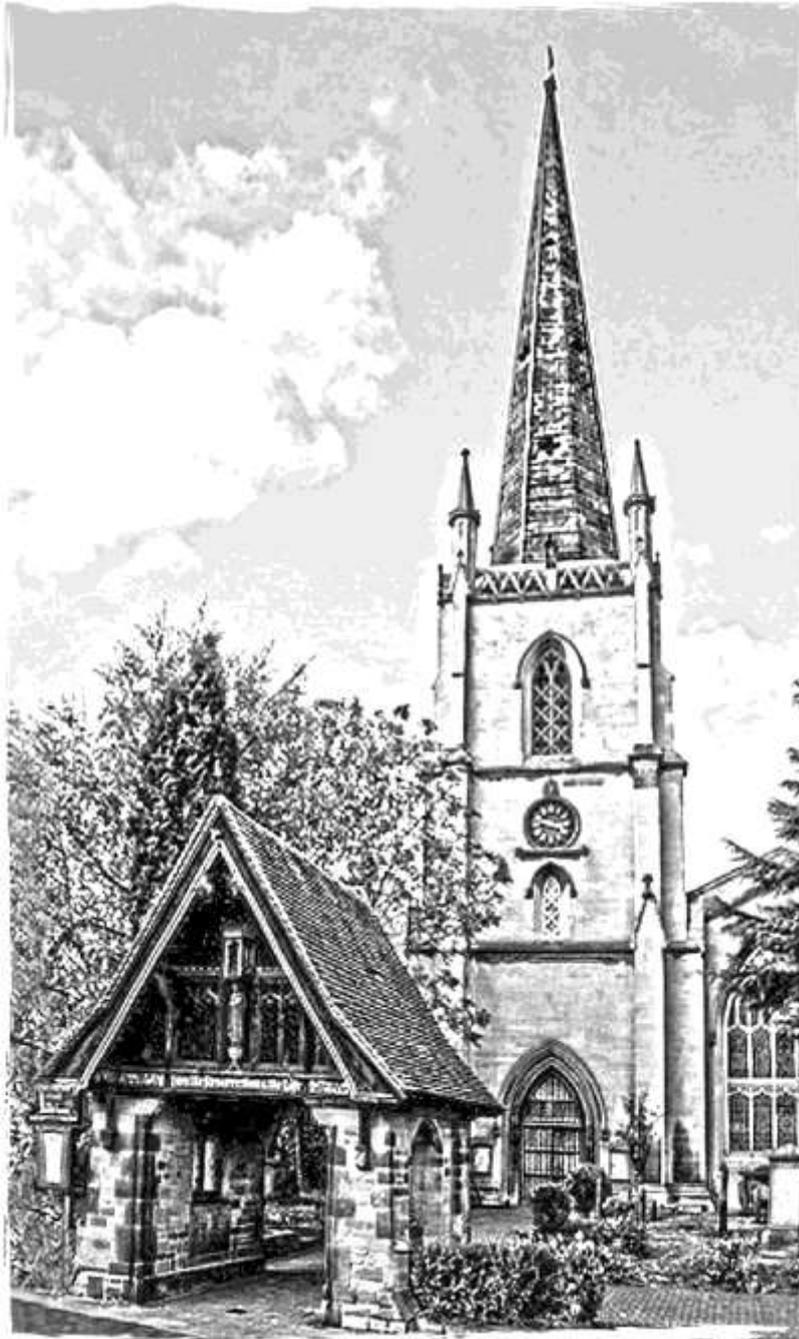
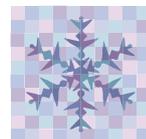


# St matthews church

## *Prayer Diary*



**January 2022**



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**

**Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup>. January: Peaceful New Year. Gorway Road**

Dear Father, at the start of a new year, we pray for people everywhere and in every kind of need. We pray for all those starting the year with burdens, and especially worries over Covid and ask that they will find refreshment, peace and the strength to continue with you beside them. Please give us all the courage to trust you in all that we do. We also pray that 2022 will be a year of peace. Grant wisdom to all the world leaders so that their decisions, with the guidance of your holy spirit, will enable the nations of the world to live together in harmony. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Amen.

**Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January: St Matthew’s Community. Gorway Close**

Holy Father, we pray for all those who attend our services today, or join us online. Let the peace of being in your presence surround them. Let the hurry and worry of life fall away from them. 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.

**Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January: Put your trust in the Lord. Gorway Gardens**

So do not start worrying: Where will my food come from or my drink or my clothes? Your Father in heaven knows what you need. Instead be concerned about everything else with the kingdom of God and with what he requires of you and he will provide you with all these other things. So do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings. Matthew 6 vs 31-34. Amen.

**Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> January: Refugees. Highgate Road**

Almighty and all powerful God, creator of the world and the nations we bring before you all those caught up in conflicts throughout your world. We pray for all those people who are leaving everything behind to flee to safety. We thank you for the work of all those organizations and countries that are willing to help these refugees and give them shelter. Please give them hope and a new

beginning. We pray for those in positions of power who have the means to actions might bring about make a difference. Guide the United Nations, and governments whose peace. Amen

**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> January: God's Wonderful Works. Highgate Avenue**

Everybody else is noisier than God. Newspaper headlines and television programmes all announce human works. Dear Lord, help us to see your works. They are not advertised but are inescapable if we take the time to look. They are everywhere. You do not mount an advertising campaign to get our attention but simply invite us to look. Help us through prayer to see all that you have done for us and to give thanks. Amen.

**Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> January: Love Walsall Breakfast. Deanery of Great Barr.**

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 Walsall and the Black Country for Christ in the hope that our communities will be transformed. We hold up to you all those attending the meeting and thank you for their continued commitment to our local communities. Amen

**Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> January: For Ourselves and Jim's talk at Rotary. Avion Close**

Father, make us more like Jesus. Help us to bear difficulty, pain, disappointment and sorrows, knowing that in your perfect working and design you can use such bitter experiences to shape our characters and make us more like you Lord. We pray that Jim's talk at the Rotary Club will be well received and that all who attend will feel encouraged and wanting to know more about the peace and security you bring to those who trust and believe in you. Amen

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup>. January: For Reassurance and Peace. Little London**

Fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely and honourable. Put into practice what you learnt and received from me, both from my words and from my actions. And God who gives us peace will be with you. Philippians 4 v 8. Amen

**Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup>. January: Our Services Today. Follyhouse Lane**

Loving Father, bless us as we come to worship you today. Whichever time or type of service we worship at today, in church or needing to watch the steaming from home we ask that we feel your presence with each of us.  
Amen

**Monday, 10<sup>th</sup>. January: Funeral of Susan Evans. Leadership Team.  
Vincent Street**

Father, we pray for the family and friends of Susan today. May they find comfort in your word.

As the Leadership Team meet today we ask that your guiding hand is with them in their discussions and decisions. Amen

**Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup>. January: Climate Change. Fair Field Mount**

Heavenly Father, you send the breath of life through wind and rain and sun. We give thanks for the climate we depend on and even when snow stops us in our tracks the weather shows us we can take nothing for granted yet have everything to thank you for, Loving Lord. Amen

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup>. January: Emerge. Belvidere Road**

We give thanks Father for those who engaged in the Youth Emerging Leaders Development programme. May the skills learnt bring forth the next generation of inspirational leaders to engage with communities locally and nationally. Amen

**Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup>. January: Covid 19. Deanery of Fullbrook.**

Healing, loving Father, be with those who are suffering through this coronavirus pandemic in sickness, distress or depression. Calm and comfort, and give the peace only you can provide. We give thanks for the skills you have given to medical researchers to develop these vaccines. Amen

**Friday, 14<sup>th</sup>. January: Big Youth. Jesson Road and Rectory.**

God of inspiration and aspiration we ask for your blessings on the youth of today and on the people and organisations who give them the opportunities to grow in your love. Father, as these church youth groups from across Walsall meet at the Baptist Community church may there be fun and fellowship and developing friendships. Amen

**Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup>. January: N.H.S. Sandymount Road**

We give thanks Father, for all those who work within our beloved NHS. For all those who go to their work place, be it the Manor Hospital, doctors' surgeries and clinics. Whatever their role may be, from the cleaning and catering staff, porters and technicians, nurses and doctors we acknowledge the risks they take for the care and wellbeing of their patients. We pray for the care and wellbeing of all those who work in the NHS. Amen

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January: Today's services. Emery Street**

Please bless all who are taking an active part in today's services. Whatever their role, may they do it to your glory. Amen

**Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> January: Candidates for ordination /Homegroup leaders.  
Emery Close**

We pray today for the candidates for ordination as their applications are considered by the Bishop's Advisory Panel. We give thanks for those who feel called to full-time ministry for you, and may your wisdom be given to the Panel members as they assess their suitability. We pray too for the homegroup leaders' meeting tonight. May each leader continue to lead their group in a sensitive and pastoral manner that draws people to you and binds us together in fellowship. Amen

**Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January: Town Centre Ministry meeting. The Pines**

Dear Lord, our town centre is experiencing so many problems with closing shops, declining customers, empty offices and homelessness. Please direct those at tomorrow's Town Centre Ministry meeting so that your Church can really fulfil the many needs that now exist. Please give those involved a vision as to how we can work together to bring your message of love and hope to all, whatever their circumstance, and through the work of this Ministry may those in the town centre come to see the relevance of Christ in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Walsall. Amen

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January: National strategic project on Lay/clergy collaborative leadership; Walsall Young Adults; JCU**

Please direct this large national project so that the churches across the country can be lead in the most effective and productive ways possible. We pray too for the Walsall Young Adults and JCU as they meet together. May the Christian faith really take hold amongst these age groups and be

embedded in their culture, to ensure your message is not just displayed in today's society, but gets carried on to the generations to come. Amen

**Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> January: New Wine Leadership.**

**Meeting Deanery of St Matthews**

New Wine has brought such blessings over the years. As the leadership meets again today to review what has happened and to look forward over the year ahead, may it be able to see clearly the direction you want the organisation to take and the nature of the work you want it to do. Amen

**Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> January: St Martin's Church. Lysways Street**

We pray for our neighbouring church of St Martin's, and ask that you bless its work and ministry. At this time we bring before you its forthcoming Alpha Course. Please guide all who are involved in the organisation of the course, embolden those who are thinking of asking friends and family to come along, and move in the hearts of those who you want to hear the message the course brings. Amen

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January: Jim, Joe, the Leadership Team, the PCC and the Wardens. New Hall Street**

At this time of constant change because of the pandemic, we thank you for all who lead our church. We are so grateful for their dedication, faith and commitment, and pray they will continue to make decisions that allow our fellowship to flourish. Amen

**Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January: Our meeting together. Orlando Close**

We give thanks dear Lord that we live in a country where we are free to meet together without fear of reprisal or persecution. May we not take that for granted as we gather today. We remember those who are in places where gathering to worship could have far-reaching implications. We thank you for their amazing faith, and we ask you will protect, strengthen and embolden them. Amen

**Monday, 24<sup>th</sup>. January: PCC Meeting. Bath Street**

Lord, we bring this meeting to you and ask that all those present will have ears and hearts tuned into you so their focus will be totally yours. We ask that all matters arising will be dealt with compassionately and the wider picture be one to include all. Amen

**Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup>. January: N.H.S. Hanch Place**

As we reflect on all that is happening in the world with the many covid variants, we call on you Lord to be with us, to guide and protect us and for us to feel your ever loving presence. We pray for our N.H.S, for all those working in our hospitals, vaccination centres and care homes. We pray that all the injections to help protect us will come to the fore and we will triumph over this virus. Amen

**Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup>. January: Blue Coat Federation Governors Meeting. Dandy's Walk**

We give thanks for our Blue Coat Schools and for all those who give their time to meetings to discuss situations and the way forward to improve the running and well being of both pupils and staff. We pray for all those meeting today that you will direct their thoughts, and their actions will endorse the ethos of Christianity. Amen

**Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup>. January: Link Ministries Event/Diocesan Meeting. Deanery of St Andrew's, Birchalls.**

Father, we pray for all those meeting at the Queens College event and for the Diocesan meeting discussing Vicars of large churches. Father we pray for your Holy Spirit to be present to uplift all those attending and for your Will to be done. Oh Lord hear our prayer as we all look for your guidance in all that we do. Amen

**Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> January: Queen Mary's Speech Day Service. Barleyfields Road**

Father in such uncertain times we pray that Queen Mary's Grammar school's speech day will be able to be held in church. We give thanks for all the staff and pupils and for all the hard work and dedication everyone gives. Amen

**Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup>. January: Looking Forward With Hope. Hope Street**

We pray that as we move into the next month of the year that we can proceed with hope and expectation in our hearts. Lord giver of life and love we call out to you, guide us in our thinking and doing and may our thoughts and actions be ones of delight to you. Amen

**Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup>. January: Remembering Service for the Bereaved.  
St Michael's Street**

Dear Lord, we bring before you all those who are remembering loved ones they have lost. May your loving arms be felt around those who are hurting as they proceed through each day and may they gain strength from knowing you. May this service help to strengthen all those attending, may they feel loved and cared for. Amen

**Monday, 31<sup>st</sup>. January: Unconscious Bias Training/ Pastoral  
Meeting. Bath Road**

We pray for all those attending the training course today and for all those attending the pastoral meeting tonight. Help us Father, to think and behave with empathy towards others and to be a beacon of light to those who are struggling. We ask for guidance in how we extend our hands of friendship and help and may our love for you be evident in all that we do. Amen