



Bulletin from St Matthew's Walsall

Sunday 9th January 2022

Worshipping God; Equipping His people; Growing His Kingdom; Serving Walsall

What's on the next two weeks...

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| Sun 9th | 8.45am | - Holy Communion (Church) |
| | 10.00am | - Bell Ringing |
| | 10.45am | - Morning Praise (Church) |
| | 1.00pm | - Asian Congregation (Centre) |
| | 6.30pm | - The Evening Service (Centre) |
| Mon 10th | | |
| Tues 11th | 8.40am | - Blue Coat Academy Key Stage Assembly (Church) |
| | 10.00am-4.00pm | - Places of Welcome (Church) |
| Wed 12th | 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 | - Bellringing Practice |
| Thurs 13th | 2.00pm-4.00pm | - OWLs (Centre) |
| Fri 14th | 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 Joan Cartridge, Christine Jones, Daniel Townsend, Liz Blewitt, Sheena, Kim, Marian Masters, and Heather Samuels. Please pray for the family and friends of Dick Sargent.

Annual Remembering Service At 3pm on **Sunday 30th January 2022** we will be holding our annual Remembering Service where we remember those who have died in the last year and others who we miss dearly. If you know of anyone who might appreciate an invitation to the service, please pass their names and addresses to the Church Office.

Coronavirus Health and Safety update Due to the recent changes in advice following the situation with the Omicron variant, we are now encouraging anyone who attends any services at St. Matthew's church to wear a face covering (unless exempt). If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch. "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others." (Phil 2:3-4)



Planned services from February 2022 Moving forward with our services next year we are going to try and return to the same pattern we had before the pandemic. These will restart the **first Sunday in February**. However, this may be subject to change depending on how things progress. The planned service pattern will be:

Sunday	8.00am	Book of Common Prayer Communion
	9.00am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) with hymns
	10.45am	Morning Praise
	1.00pm	Asian Congregation (Church Centre)
	6.30pm	Evening Service (Church Centre)

Do you serve at St Matthew's on a rota? If you are on a reading, prayers, music, welcome rota etc. please check the Planning Center rota and make sure you block out dates when you are not available. If you would like to serve the church community by joining a church rota, please speak to Rev Jim, Mike Ray or Kirsten Groom and they will add you to the relevant ones.

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.

January Prayer Diary The current prayer diary is available via <https://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/January-2022-Prayer-Diary.pdf> or a hard copy can be found in Church or obtained from the Church 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.



Wider Church & Local News

Lichfield Cathedral will be praying for Walsall deanery on Saturday 29th January, and Thursday 3rd March in their public and private prayers. Anyone is welcome to join them in the Cathedral for the Eucharist at 12.30 or Evening Prayer/Evensong at 5.30pm. You can also join online, at [Lichfield Cathedral Daily Worship | Facebook](#)

Crossroads Vocations Conference A multi-date conference offering four opportunities to explore your vocation in 2022 with the diocese's vocations team, online or on person - where Christ, Church, world and self, meet. There will be online vocations conferences on **Saturdays 12 February, 10 September and 3 December and an in-person Quiet Day on Saturday 14 May**. Details to follow [here](#).

Course with a Difference Have you run the [Difference](#) course? Are you thinking about it? Having done it, are you wondering how to build on the learning? The theology behind the Difference course is our call as Christians to be reconcilers to one another and to creation, as we have been reconciled to God. The story of Jesus has reconciliation at its heart and is increasingly important at this time. There's a deep recognition of the need for Christians and the Church to be equipped to cross divides, navigate disagreement and engage with difference. The Difference course equips people to do this. You're invited to the Difference Hosts Gathering, led by a panel of facilitators and speakers from across the Midlands, **on 5 February**, 1.15-5pm, at Stoke St Michael Church, Coventry, CV2 4BG. Led by Emma Crick de Boom; Reconciliation Enabler for Coventry Diocese and the wider West Midlands, register [here](#).

The Mission Forum: Charting the Change Are you wrestling with mission as things continue to change around us? The Mission Forum is a gathering for anyone actively exploring the practice and direction of mission as we emerge from Covid and in the light of Shaping for Mission. It takes place from 10am-3pm at Wrockwardine Wood, Telford, on **Tuesday 8 February**. The forum offers networking opportunities to meet others developing mission in their setting, members of the Mission Team, Telford Minster and others. Topics include Pandemic and Lockdown: health and healing as mission; Shaping for Mission: vision into action; and Parish, Change and Mission. For more information or to book a place please email [Richard Barrett](#). To help shape the agenda please contact [Simon Foster](#).

LLF training As churches across the diocese engage in Living in Love & Faith, the national LLF team are offering three additional facilitation training sessions on **Monday 10 January from 2-4pm, Wednesday 19 January from 10am-12noon and Tuesday 25 January from 6-8pm**. You only need to attend one of the free sessions, which are likely to be the last opportunity to do this training. The sessions are designed for those who want to lead LLF courses and train others locally to do the same. Sign up by emailing [Georgina Morgan](#). [LLF](#) explores Christian teaching and learning about human identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. Find out more on [our website](#) where there's also a [new video](#) of people sharing their experiences of taking part in the LLF course.

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. Session available on **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



Love Black Country Job Noticeboard

Love Black country have highlighted a number of items and job vacancies in their latest bulletin. For more information go to <https://loveblackcountry.org.uk/category/noticeboard/> or contact Jim.

Key Contacts:

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

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

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Anne Tolley 07518 339606

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

Safeguarding Officer: Barbara Parker 01922 649909,

safeguarding@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Church Office: Kirsten Groom 01922 626039 / 07856 966631

office@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk (Mon-Thurs)

Website: www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

