



St Matthew's Walsall - Bulletin

Sunday 5 November 2023

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

What's on this week ...

Sun 5 Nov	8.45am	- Parish Communion
	10.00am	- Service Bell Ringing
	10.45am	- Morning Praise and Baptism of Anif Yusuf
	1.00pm	- Asian Congregation (Centre)
	6.30pm	- Evening Service
Mon 6 Nov	8.00am	- Morning Prayer
	10.00am	- Ethnic Identity Course (Centre)
Tues 7 Nov	8.15am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	10.00am	- Places of Welcome
	7.30pm	- Ethnic Identity Course (Centre)
Wed 8 Nov	9.30am	- Baby Massage (Centre)
	10.00am	- Bible Study
	11.00am	- Burial of Ashes of Liz Blewitt
	1.30pm	- Heritage visit by the Mayor
	3.30pm	- JAM After School Club (Centre)
	6.30pm	- Christmas Community Choir (Centre)
	7.00pm	- Bell Ringing
	7.30pm	- Ethnic Identity Course
	7.30pm	- Community Choir (Centre)
Thurs 9 Nov	8.00am	- Morning Prayer
	9.30am	- Stay and Play (Centre)
	12.30pm	- Sensory Play for Babies (Centre)
	2.00pm	- OWLs (Centre)
	6.00pm	- University of Wolverhampton Nurses Badge Ceremony
	7.30pm	- Ethnic Identity Course (Centre)
Fri 10 Nov	8.00am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	9.30am	- Church Cleaning and Flowers
	7.00pm	- St Matthew's Youth Club
	7.30pm	- Signs for Worship Service (Centre)

Further ahead

- 14 Nov** - Walsall Faith Leaders' Network Meeting
- 16 Nov** - Blue Coat Academy Prize Evening
- 18 Nov** - West Midlands Police Band
- 25 Nov** - Walk of Awareness (TBC)
- Youth Orchestra Concert (TBC)

Prayer Diary for November - Available at <https://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/resources/>

Prayer Requests – Please pray for both Mark and Esther Westbury as Mark (whom many of you will remember as a former churchwarden at St Matthew's) undergoes further treatment for leukaemia. Please also pray for Sue Webster's friend, Sophie, as she waits for test results. Please continue to pray for Maureen Platt and Iris Taylor, David, Bozz, Natasha, Julie and Jane Griffin, all of whom have been unwell, Colin's friend Hon, Iris Mallaband, Ann Hazzard and Heather Samuels.



10.45am Services

The service on **Sunday 5 November** is an all-age service, with the shared joy of the baptism of Anif Yusuf. Please come and welcome Anif with us, or join us online on our YouTube channel.

St Matthew's Youth Club

St Matthew's Youth Club is **NEW** and open to anyone secondary school age. There'll be loads of fun activities, games, and prizes, and we're planning a trip or two! There'll be space to learn about Jesus, make new friends and just chat.

If you come to Sunday services at St Matthew's Church we'd love for you to join us, and hope you can bring friends too!

St Matthew's Youth Club starts **Friday 10 November** and will meet fortnightly on Friday evenings from 7.00-8:30pm. It is for anyone aged 11 to 18 and meets in the main Church building.



And Youth Group volunteers...

Also, if anyone would like to volunteer to help with this group, please speak to Rev Jim.

Black Country Foodbank

Foodbank collections will be restarting at St Matthew's from November. To find out the latest shortages, please follow 'Black Country Food Bank' on Facebook, and more details about the Black Country Food Bank can be found at

<https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk>



JAM

We have another **new** and exciting after school club for primary school aged children. Join us for crafts, games and activities. Younger siblings are also welcome! Starting **Wednesday 8 November**, 3.30-4.30pm in the Church Centre.

Children's Church

The next Children's Church meeting for leaders and helpers will be on **Monday 13 November** at 7.30pm at the Rectory (48 Jesson Road). Anyone who would like to join the team would be most welcome to come along, too. To find out more, speak to Priscilla or contact her on 07984 626637.

A lovely problem to have!

We are very likely to need extra people available to help with refreshments at the confirmation service at 10.45am on **Sunday 19 November** as it will be a big service. If you are able to help, please speak to Jim.

Baby Massage

The next five-week Baby Massage class starts on **Wednesday 8 November** at 10.00-11.30am in the Church Centre. Parents will learn how to massage their babies' whole bodies, which can help with bonding, relaxation and pain relief. There will also be time for teaching, chat and discussion on baby-related topics. The five-week course costs £35, but there is £5 off if you book with a friend. It's suitable for babies from birth to one year old. Contact Priscilla on 07984 626637 for more information.

Christmas Community Choir



Our Christmas Choir has begun, and is in fine voice! But don't worry if you missed the first session, as you are welcome to come along and join in. Andy has great plans, as ever, for carolling at Christmastide, and everyone always has a wonderful time. So come along and sing a song - though for a cup of tea and biscuit rather than a sixpence...

There is still time to apply to be St Matthew's Operations & Caretaking Assistant

We are seeking a committed, practical individual to work on a flexible, part-time basis to support the work and vision of St Matthew's Church and Centre. You will perform a wide range of duties related to the cleaning and maintenance of the Church property, preparation of rooms for use by internal and external groups, administrative support, and digital and technical support during Sunday and occasional services. The closing date for applications is **Sunday 12 November**. For more information and to apply, visit www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/jobs

Church Weekend Away - Bookings now open!

You are invited to our annual Church Weekend Away. It's a wonderful time to relax, to build friendships, and to get closer to God. The weekend is for the whole church: all ages, abilities and life-stages. Find out more and book:

www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/weekend-away



Wider Church & Local News

Any Questions? At Lichfield Cathedral

BBC Radio 4's *Any Questions?* was first broadcast in October 1948. Every week it visits a different part of the country with a panel of four speakers who answer questions from the audience. On **Friday 1 December** it will be at Lichfield Cathedral. Admission is by ticket only and doors will open to the audience at 6.30pm. (Children under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.) See the cathedral website for full details including booking tickets.

<https://www.lichfield-cathedral.org/what-s-on/any-questions>

Sanctuary Mental Health and Well-being Church Conference

This conference will create a space for you to explore how churches and Christian communities can become sanctuaries that champion positive mental health and well-being. Taking place on **Friday 24 November** from 9.30am to 3pm at LifeCentral Church in Halesowen, the conference will explore the following topics:

- How to be a 'mental health aware' church.
- Mental health self-care and boundaries.
- What to do when mental health problems go beyond your remit?

The guest speaker will be **Betsy De Thierry**, a nationally renowned *Trauma Recovery Consultant* and *Psychotherapist* who is also a Church Leader. Booking is essential via Eventbrite (just search for the conference title).

The Ideal Church Show

The Christian Resources Exhibition returns to the Midlands on **8-9 November** at Canmore Park, Solihull. More than 160 exhibitors will display everything from clergy clothing to customised keyboards, heating to seating, charities to children's work. A 50-strong talks programme will feature all sorts of experts, from fund raising to faith sharing. With loads to see and do, and much to learn, do come along for an inspirational and information-packed day! <https://creonline.co.uk/>

Key Contacts:

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

Pastoral Care Coordinator: Anne Tolley 07518 339606

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

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