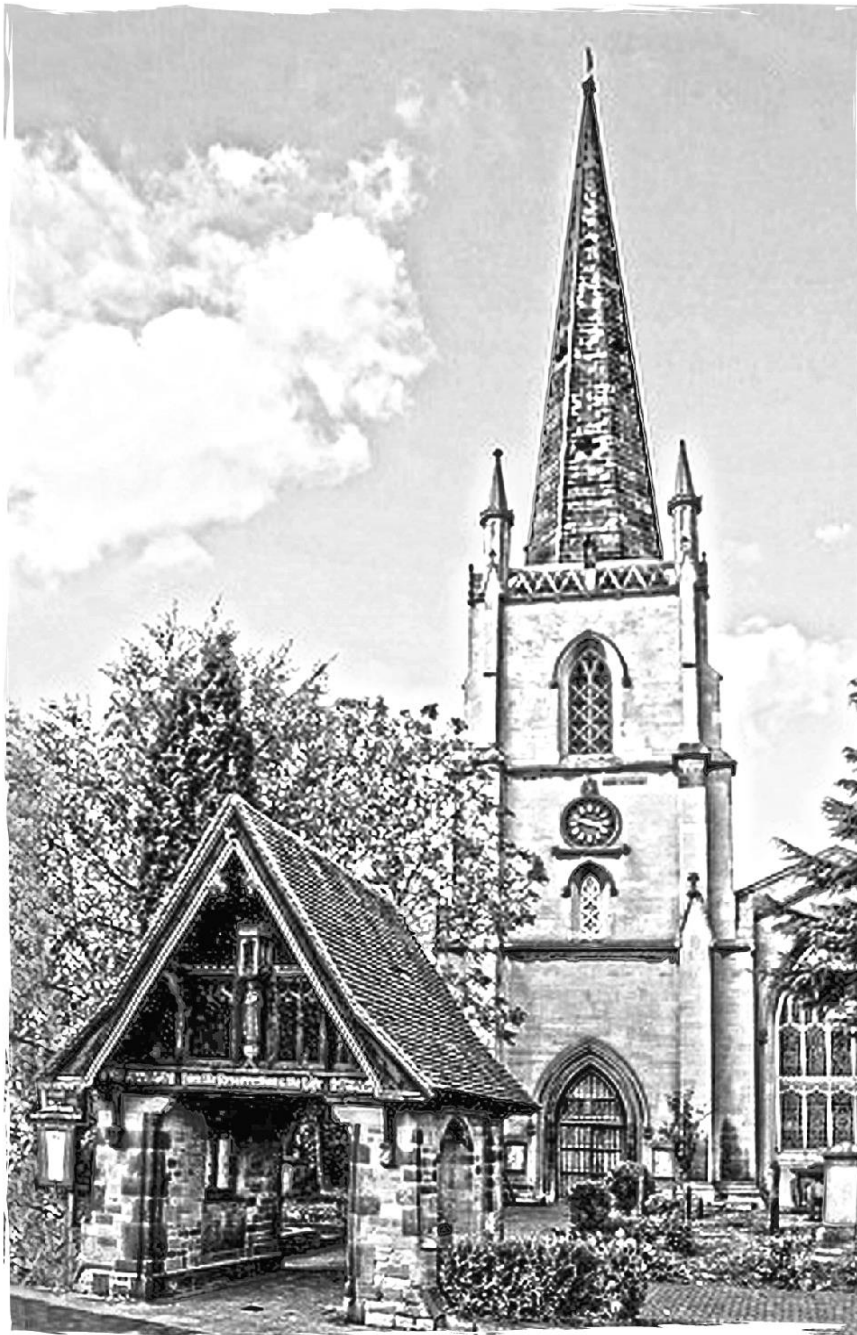


St matthews church

Prayer Diary



November 2023



*St Matthew's Church – **Worshipping** God; **Equipping** his people;
Growing his kingdom; **Serving** Walsall.*

***How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.
Isaiah 52:7***

Wednesday 1st November:

Home Start

Holy Father, we ask that these new playgroup sessions in the Church Centre will be well attended, and that the children will enjoy their time together and their parents/carers find fellowship with others. We also ask you to watch over our own playgroup that meets in the Church Centre each Thursday and thank you for the warm welcome, caring and dedication that Priscilla gives to this group and all who attend. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Vicarage Walk.

Thursday 2nd November:

Our world

Dear Father, almost every day we hear of terrible tragedies occurring somewhere in this beautiful world that you created. At the moment we think of the dreadful situation in the Middle East. We thank you that there are people who are prepared to risk their own lives to go and help all those affected. Please guide all those in authority, whose job it is to manage these situations and help them to find the resources and energy so that everything possible is done to relieve suffering. We pray that the leaders of all the countries currently at war, in the Middle East and Ukraine, will soon resolve their differences and peace can be restored. Amen.

Prayers for the Walsall Deanery; St Gabriel's Church.

Friday 3rd November:

Groups Embark & Dignus meeting in our Centre

Dear Lord, we thank you that many new groups and societies are now using our Church Centre as a place to meet. Today we are thinking about Embark and Dignus, who train carers to help people live independent lives. May their meetings be successful and all those who train with them go on to help and support others so that they are able to have happier and more fulfilling lives.

Please pray for the residents of Glebe Street.

Saturday 4th November:

All those coping with long-term illnesses

Dear Lord, during your ministry here on earth you healed many people. Please be with all those who are sick, calm those who are suffering, refresh those who are weary and bring your peace to those who are distressed. Give all your strength and support and help them to deal with any setbacks that may delay their return to full health. Our God can and does heal so please be with all those who are currently undergoing medical treatments so that they feel your strength and love to help them cope. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Hart Street.

Sunday 5th November:

Our Church

Thank you for this Sunday, Lord. We come before you first and foremost with hearts of gratitude. You have seen us through another week and, as we stand at the threshold of a fresh week, full of new beginnings, help us start this new week with you. Stir in us a deep desire to come to know you better and remind us that it is not solely by going to a Sunday service that we worship you, but it is through our daily communion with you through relationship and prayer. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Mount Street.

Monday 6th November:

Standing Committee meeting

Dear Father, please bless all the members of Standing Committee meeting as they meet tonight. We thank you for all the time and dedication they give to serve you in this way. Guide them all in any decisions they have to make so that our Church can move forward in the direction you wish it to follow. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of White Street.

Tuesday 7th November:

Confidence and energy

Dear Lord, we pray that our lives may not be full of indulgences and neglect. Help us not to be complacent and self-satisfied with our endeavours, and not to be afraid to help where we see it is needed. Give us the energy and your strength to step out in faith, whenever we can and be confident in our ability to accomplish good works in your name. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Brace Street.

Wednesday 8th November:

Burial of ashes of Liz Blewitt; JAM after-school club

Gentle Jesus, as her ashes are buried, we thank you for the life of Liz Blewitt - for the dedication and love that she had for you and our Church here at St Matthew's. We also pray that many will attend our JAM after-school club and that all who are there will have fun together as they praise and glorify your name. We are all your children and know you love us and care for us. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Corporation Street.

Thursday 9th November:

Nurses badge ceremony; Deanery Synod

Lord, as these nurses begin their new careers in caring for the sick, we give thanks that they are going to openly commit to this dedication at St Matthew's Church by joining in a celebration with families and friends in your presence. We give thanks for our NHS, for all those past and present who work at all levels bringing healing and comfort.

May you be with the Deanery Synod as they meet today, as they discuss diocese-wide issues, and may its members never forget that you are at the centre of all the Church does, Lord. Amen.

Prayers for the Walsall Deanery; St Matthew's Church.

Friday 10th, November:

Street ministry; Street pastors

Father, we pray for these teams out in the centre of Walsall this evening. They may be offering a warm drink and something to eat, or talking to those enjoying the pubs and clubs. There are many who need a listening ear and kind reassurance and we pray that can be offered through the reflection of Christian love. Keep all those safe on the streets tonight. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Waterly Lane.

Saturday 11th November:

Refugees

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 organisations and countries that are willing to help refugees and give them shelter. We pray for those in positions of power, United Nations and leaders of governments to call for and support the call for peace. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Tasker Street.

Sunday 12th November:

Those who are unwell and need Your healing

Dear Lord, during your ministry here on earth you healed many people and today we ask that you watch over all those who are unwell. Please be with all those who are sick, calm those who are suffering, refresh those who are weary and bring your peace to those who are distressed. In my prayer I think of _____.
Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Woodcutter Close.

Monday 13th November:

Finance Committee; Confirmation rehearsal

Father, we ask your blessings on these candidates who have completed the course leading towards confirmation. Still their minds and open their hearts in preparation for their confirmation ceremony.

May the knowledge and experiences of those with responsibility for managing the Church finances be led by prayerful consideration. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Midland Road.

Tuesday 14th November:**Love Black Country leaders' retreat**

As these church leaders, from different denominations across the Black Country, come together to pray, worship and talk about the ways the Church can be energised in spreading your word across our region, Lord, fill them afresh for this mission. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of South Street.

Wednesday 15th November:**Our climate**

Loving Father, who gives us cloud and shade, who sends us sun and rain, may we appreciate the sheer variety of the climate of the world. It is not for us to engineer things, Lord, but let us not upset the climatic balance through thoughtless actions and bad stewardship. Let us be respectful of your creation. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Camden Street.

Thursday 16th November:**Blue Coat Academy; Town centre ministry**

We bring before you Lord the Academy. As its governors meet may they keep the school's Christian ethos at the heart of their decisions. We pray, too, for the prize-giving evening in Church and ask that it will be a great celebration of the hard work and gifts of so many at the school.

We pray for the town centre ministry that they may be able to spread the good news about you to all who live, work, shop and study there. Amen.

Prayers for the Walsall Deanery; St Andrew's Church.

Friday 17th November:**Our God**

Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper

Light in the darkness, my God

That is who You are. Please help us never to forget those truths. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Rutter Street.

Saturday 18th November:**West Midlands Police Band concert**

Thank you, Lord, for the work of the West Midlands Police as they keep us safe in our town. We pray they have wisdom in undertaking their duties, and may they be kept safe from the many dangers that face them. And we thank you for tonight's concert, and ask that it be a wonderful time enjoyed by all. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Spout Lane.

Sunday 19th November:

Deanery confirmation

Dear Lord, how glorious it is to see so many people publicly confirming their faith in you at our Church today. Having made this step, Lord, we pray they will continue to move forward on their journey of faith and they may show what you mean in their lives to all who they meet. Protect them too, Lord, from doubts, troubles and temptations that may lie ahead, and may their belief and trust in you grow ever deeper. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Milton Street.

Monday 20th November:

Church Council (PCC)

Please be with the members of St Matthew's Church Council as they meet tonight. May they be able to see your vision for our fellowship, and may they have the faith then to lead the Church in the direction you want it to go. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Junction Street.

Tuesday 21st November:

Baptisms

Thank you, Lord, for Tangeni who was baptised in St Matthew's two years ago. We pray that faith continues to grow and blossom, and ask that your presence will be with all baptised at St. Matthew's and your arms around them. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of South Street Gardens.

Wednesday 22nd November:

Blue Coat Federation governors

We give thanks for all who act as governors at the Federation, and ask that you will bless them in this important work, as they guide and support the dedicated staff at those schools. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Thorpe Road.

Thursday 23rd November:

St Margaret's Church

Please be with our brothers and sisters who meet at St Margaret's, as they wait for a new minister. We trust, dear Lord, that you are preparing the right person for that job, and we ask that as Rev Jim goes there today he may be a source of encouragement and support to them. Amen.

Prayers for the Walsall Deanery; St John's Church, Pleck.

Friday 24th November:**Foster Squad meeting**

Father, we pray for this meeting today. We ask for any concerns to be broached, any worries to be brought to the group and future endeavours to be discussed. We pray that everyone attending will feel the love and support of the group and know that help if required, is available. Help all those on this journey of fostering. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Arundel Street.

Saturday 25th November:**Walk of awareness; Youth orchestra; Acorns party**

We pray for these three activities happening today. We pray that all of them will be well attended and thoroughly enjoyed, with Acorns charity party raising much needed funds for this wonderful charity. We pray that we will all be generous not only with our money but also our time, helping one another. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Windsor Street.

Sunday 26th November:**Church services**

Loving Lord, we thank you for the gift of leadership and pray for all those you have been called to be leaders to work effectively with others. We thank you especially for all those in St Matthew's who lead our services. Lord, we gladly worship you for your greatness, your love and your power. Help us all to keep praising you, regardless as to what life brings our way or is happening to us. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Brookhouse Road.

Monday 27th November:**Alms house meeting; Starfish meeting**

Dear Lord, we pray for the above meetings and ask that those present will find them useful and fruitful. May discussions and decisions be made with the best interest for all those involved and You, loving Lord, be amongst them all as they move forward. May decisions made today be beneficial for those in need in the future. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Cornwall Road.

Tuesday 28th November:**The world**

Father, we pray for all the countries of the world. We pray for peace as we hear and see all the atrocities that are happening. May we all offer support to the many appeals for help in providing food, water, building resources and the many other requirements desperately needed, as we pray for generosity from all those who can. That the wars to be over quickly preventing as much tragedy as possible. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Edinburgh Road.

Wednesday 29th November:

Interviewing potential ordinands

We pray, Father, for the interviews taking place today. We ask that your Holy Spirit will be present and all those interviewing will feel the closeness of you. Father, please let the correct persons stand out and may they be a beacon of hope and light for you always. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Orwell Road.

Thursday 30th November:

Nativity rehearsal; New Wine leaders' network meeting

Lord, we pray that the rehearsal today will be one of joy and that all goes well as we come near to its production. We give Jimm and all those involved our support in prayer and ask for your wisdom on any decisions for them all. We pray also for the New Wine meeting, Lord, may decisions be made and the discussion of future events be one of praise and celebration as to what has gone before and what will happen in the future. Amen.

Prayers for the Walsall Deanery; All Saints; Holy Ascension; St James'; St Thomas' Churches.