



St Matthew's Walsall - Bulletin

Sunday 17 March 2024

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

What's on this week

Sun 17 Mar	8.45am	- Parish Communion
	10.00am	- Service Bell Ringing
	10.45am	- Morning Praise and Children's Church
	1.00pm	- Asian Congregation
	6.30pm	- Evening Service (Centre)
Mon 18 Mar	8.00am	- Morning Prayer
	10.00am	- Homegroup (Centre)
	1.30pm	- Caldmore Primary Academy School Church Visit
	5.30pm	- Wedding Rehearsal
Tues 19 Mar	8.15am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	10.00am	- Places of Welcome
Weds 20 Mar	10.00am	- Bible Study
	1.30pm	- Blue Coat Federation Easter Service Rehearsal
	7.00pm	- Bell Ringing
	7.30pm	- Alpha Course
	7.30pm	- Community Choir
Thurs 21 Feb	8.00am	- Morning Prayer
	9.30am	- Stay and Play (Centre)
	12.30pm	- Sensory Play for Babies (Centre)
	2.00pm	- OWLs (Centre)
	3.30pm	- Organ Practice
	7.00pm	- Music Ministry Team Rehearsal
Fri 22 Mar	8.00am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	9.30am	- Blue Coat Federation Easter Service
	7.00pm	- St Matthew's Youth Club (bowling, tbc)
Sat 23 Mar	11.00am	- Wedding of Kate Largan and Sebastian Burgess

Further ahead

24 Mar	- Palm Sunday Service
	- Blue Lights Choir Spring Concert
25-29 Mar	- Holy Week Services
28 Mar	- Maundy Thursday Communion Service
29 Mar	- Good Friday Service

31 Mar

- All Age Easter Day Celebration

6 April

- Burial of Ashes of Patricia Everton

March's Prayer Diary - Available at <https://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/resources/>

Prayer requests – There are many who are struggling with their health and with other worries. Please pray for all those in need and, in particular, for Bishop Alan Smith, Maisie Ewan, Melanie Whitehouse, Iris Taylor, Sue Webster, Iris Mallaband, Ann Hazzard, Anne Tolley and Heather Samuels.



10.45am Service

On **Sunday 17 March**, come and help us to uncover the story of a woman who, amidst injustice and betrayal, took bold steps to secure her place in the Messianic line, demonstrating God's faithfulness to fulfil His promises.

Easter Services

Join us at St Matthew's as we celebrate the hope of Easter.

Palm Sunday | 24 March

Parish Communion	8.45am
Morning Praise	10.45am
Asian Congregation	1pm
The Evening Service	6.30pm

Holy Week | 25-29 March

Short services each night, including Communion on Maundy Thursday	7pm
---	-----

Good Friday | 29 March

Walk of Witness (Town Centre)	10am
The Great Big Easter Festival (Town Centre)	12-3pm
Church open for reflection	12-3pm
Holy Week service	7pm

Easter Day | 31 March

Parish Communion	8.45am
All Age Easter Celebration	10.45am
Asian Congregation	1pm
The Evening Service	6.30pm

Can you help on Good Friday?

- * We need first aiders and a few people who are happy to act as stewards for the Good Friday Walk of Witness at 10am. If you can help, please speak to Jim.
- * Following the Walk of Witness, Love Walsall are organising a town centre festival – The Great Big Easter Festival, Good Friday 12pm-3pm. Again, if anyone can help, we need stewards, helpers to set up and pack down, people to talking to people/street evangelism, or volunteers to bring a Easter craft to do. If you can help, please speak to Jim.

A plea from the Black Country foodbank

With Easter only a month away, how is everyone's fasting going? This year for our Easter campaign, we have asked people to 'Lend a Hand for Lent' – to donate the items from our shopping list that you have chosen to give up for Lent. By donating these items, and any other items from our shopping list, we can help those who are less fortunate and don't have the choice to give something up this Easter. We look forward to seeing what everyone has given up this Lent!



Wider Church & Local News

Walsall Lent Lunchtime Services 2024

This year the services are focussed on 'Christian Voices of Hope', and how Christians respond to the issues that we face today.

Abigail Martin, from St Chad's Sanctuary, will be talking on 'Asylum seekers' on **Wednesday 20 March** for the fourth of a series of seven presentations, so please join us for a light lunch at 12.10pm, followed by a service and the talk at 1pm. All are welcome, so please come to the Upper Room, St Paul's Church at the Crossing, Walsall, and take part.

Lichfield Cathedral's Lent Series – Faithfully Political

In an election year, and when political issues are high profile, this set of talks by leading thinkers will equip Christians to approach the complexity of contemporary political life, and the big issues, with a sense of theological confidence and knowledge.

Talks will be followed by group discussion and plenary feedback:

- Faith in the Law - **Wednesday 20 March** at 7.15pm by Tim Hannam KC, Head of Citadel Chambers



Love Black Country – so much on offer!

Walsall Walk of Witness & Easter on **29 March**... Get ready to see the annual Walk of Witness, played out on the high street followed by – for the first time – an Easter Festival for the whole family.

See the culmination of the Easter story unfold in the community from 12pm to 3pm at Lower Hall Lane, Walsall. Then, after the Walk, join us together for a parade of angels and drums down the high street leading to a stage with a gospel choir. Watch a reenactment of the resurrection, musical sets, Christian crafts stalls, street entertainers, street drama, street evangelism, HOTS (Healing on the Streets), kids' crafts, food trucks and community artwork.



Coram Beanstalk need volunteers

Can you help a child like Olivia learn to read? Coram Beanstalk can, with your help – together we can create readers.

Can you spare a few hours a week to help a local primary school inspire children to become readers?

- By giving a few hours a week, in a local primary school, you could make a real difference to how well children do at school, and in life.
 - We'll train you to set children up to succeed ... sharing, talking and having fun with books to help them understand the joy of reading.
- Make a difference to a child's life, and to yours.

Find out more at corambeanstalk.org.uk, or call 020 7729 4087.

Muha Band are coming to St Matthew's

On **Saturday 27 April** at 7pm, in partnership with The Rotary Club, St Matthew's is hosting a concert in support of Ukraine. Muha Band (Ukraine/UK and based in Nottingham) offers a new tradition in contemporary Eastern European music. Influenced by the multicultural society in the UI, the band is a brilliant live act. Tickets are £10 each, payable on the door or prepaid.

Love Walsall Together Pentecost Service – early notice

On **19 May**, Love Walsall is bringing us together for a special joint service in Walsall to celebrate Pentecost. See you at 6.30pm on Sunday 19 May at St Matthew's Church, Walsall.

Care for the Family

The charity Care for the Family is putting on an event called *A mind of their own* to help parents, grandparents and carers build strong emotional resilience in their children's lives. The topics covered will include how to deal with failure and turn negative thoughts into positive ones, building a healthy identity, and having a positive body image. The event is touring the country and will be at Coventry Elim Church CV1 3GR on **Tuesday 4 June** and at Lifespring Centre in Wolverhampton WV3 0QT on **Wednesday 5 June**. An early-bird ticket before 14 March costs £6 available from cff.org.uk/moto. There will be some leaflets at the back of the Church, if you want to know more.



Rector: Jim Trood 07939 587208, rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Pastoral Care: Anne Tolley 07518 339606

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

Safeguarding Officer: Barbara Parker 01922 649909 or safeguarding@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Church Office: 01922 626039 office@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Website: www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk