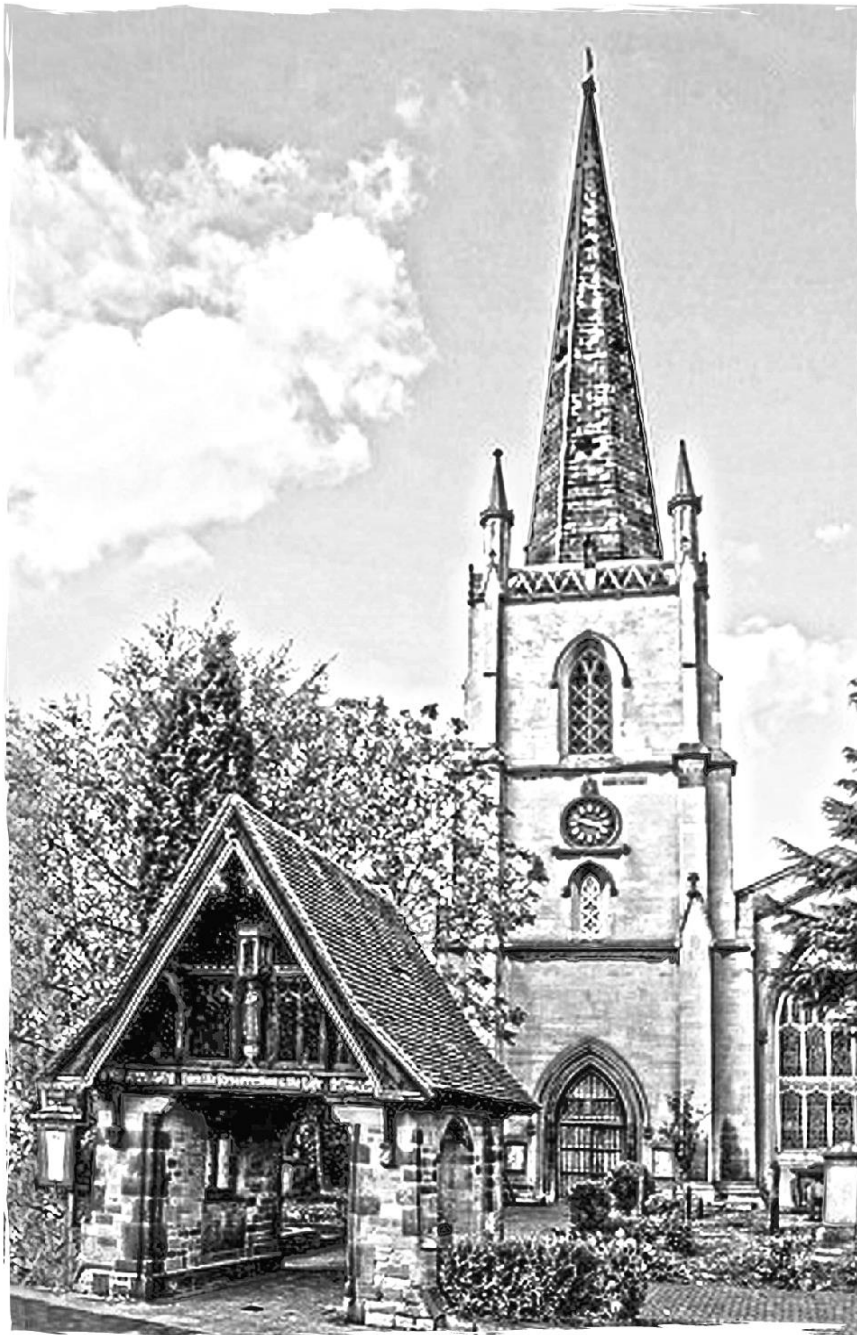


St matthews church

Prayer Diary



October 2024



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

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Philippians 4:8

Tuesday 1st October:

Funeral of Terry Lloyd

Dear Lord, we ask you to be with the family and friends of Terry Lloyd whose funeral takes place today. Help them to celebrate his life and reassure them of your love for them at this tough time. We also pray for all members of our congregation who are facing challenging times in their lives. Help them to know that you are always with them and give them the strength and wisdom to deal with any demanding situations that they may have to face. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of New Hall Street.

Wednesday 2nd October:

JAM After School Club

Dear Lord, we pray today for all those children and leaders that attend this Club. During their meetings, the children learn about you through hearing bible stories, playing games and crafting. Help them to realise how much you love them and help them to make you an important part of their lives. May they think about all they learn each week and help us to encourage more children to attend, who also want to meet with you Lord. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Orlando Close.

Thursday 3rd October:

Stay and Play / Sensory Play

Dear Lord, we ask you to watch over all the children and parents or carers that attend this club. May they all enjoy the time spent together in fellowship, playing, singing and craft activities. We ask that many will become part of our St Matthew's family and attend other services and groups in our church. We also thank you for the dedication of Priscilla, who leads this group. Amen.

Pray for churches in the Walsall Deanery: All Saint's, Holy Ascension, St James' and St Thomas' Churches.

Friday 4th October:

Signs for Worship

Father, we ask you to watch over this special group of both deaf and hearing people who meet this evening to sign and sing praise and worship songs of all types together. We thank you for the help they also provide in leading and signing services and events at our church and other venues and take part in many public events ensuring that any deaf people attending can feel included and part of the proceedings. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Bath Street.

Saturday 5th October:**Trust**

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy, save us from despair. Help us to trust in you alone, knowing that you will provide all that we need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Hanch Place.

Sunday 6th October:**Good Intentions**

Loving Father, our lives are full of good intentions as we plan to spend more time in your presence in prayer and reading your word. However, we do not always do as we plan, and we do not think of you as often as we ought. Help us to be humbler and not to think we can do it all on our own. We need to put our trust in you, and to allow you to fashion our lives and direct us in the direction you wish us to follow. Please restore and energise the faith of all those worshipping you today in our church. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Dandy's Walk.

Monday 7th October:**Home Groups**

Dear Father, we thank you for our Home Groups, for all those people who meet together to learn more about you and share in fellowship and friendship. We pray for the support they give to each other. We thank you for the leaders of these groups and pray that more people will come forward to join them. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Barleyfields Road.

Tuesday 8th October:**Places of Welcome**

Heavenly Father, thank you for all those who volunteer to spend each Tuesday in our church, ready to welcome all who visit, with a cup of tea, a cake and a friendly chat. We pray for all those who come into church. May they find what they seek, whether it is to look around the church or to feel the peace and comfort that just being in your presence may give them. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Hope Street.

Wednesday 9th October:**Guitar Circle**

May the formation of this new group, Lord, be a successful way in developing the skills people have and using them to worship your glory through music. We pray for your encouragement for those with a guitar to take this step forward to be part of leading our worship. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of St Michael's Street.

Thursday 10th October:**War and Conflict**

God of justice and peace, we pray for war zones across the world; for those caught up in conflicts, innocent bystanders as well as armed service professionals. May the leaders of countries and factions take stock of the consequences of prolonged conflicts and acts of violence. May your love break through the tensions and impasses and the peace negotiators be successful in their quest to bring reconciliation. Amen.

Pray for churches in the Walsall Deanery, St John's Church, Walsall Wood.

Friday 11th October: Radio 4's Any Questions

We pray, Lord, for those involved in the preparation and production of this national and international radio broadcast this evening. As we seek to promote St Matthew's Church as a place of important worship within Walsall, we pray too that discussions will be one of compassion for the hardships of many in our local and national multicultural society.

Please pray for the residents of Bath Road.

Saturday 12th October:**Guides and Rangers Centenary Celebration**

Father, what a wonderful reason to bring Brownies, Guides and Rangers of the past and present and their leaders together. May this celebration of the formation of the 14th Walsall (St Matthew's) Guides 100 years ago reinforce the belief in the importance of all girls from different backgrounds and faiths feel a sense of belonging and participation in the local community. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Little London.

Sunday 13th October:**Baptisms and Affirmations of Faith by Immersion**

Loving Father, we pray that you will be with all those who are taking a big step along the road of their Christian Faith today, taking up your offer of baptism into your Church. Calm their fears and doubts as they give their testimonies and go forward in this act of commitment. Be with Rev Jim and their sponsors in their love and for support each one. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Sandwell Street.

Monday 14th October: Embark Training

Father, as our society has more people living to an older age there is a need for paid careers to support them in their needs. May Embark Training recruit the right people into these jobs with the skills and empathy needed. May this be a fulfilling role in society, too. Amen.

Archdeacon meetings. We pray for Revds Julia and Jim as they continue in this extra role in your service. Give them the wisdom and energy to complete these tasks. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of West Bromwich Street.

Tuesday 15th October:

Service for the new Bishop of Wolverhampton

Father, we are grateful that you called Revd Tim Wambunya to fulfil the role of Bishop of Wolverhampton and that we are able to host his enshrinement this evening at St Matthew's. May his love of you, Lord, and his experiences of many different types of ministry bring a renewed mission to our diocese. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Caldmore Green.

Wednesday 16th October:

Baptisms

We pray for Hayden, Kylo, Calvin, Jude, Roma-Grace, Henry and Sophia, who were all baptised at St Matthew's in the months of August, September and October over the last few years. We give thanks for each one of them. May you have them all in your arms and we pray that each day their faith will grow and grow and they put their trust in you more and more. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Caldmore Road.

Thursday 17th October:

Blue Coat Federation Junior Harvest Service

God of creation, the earth is yours, with all its beauty and its goodness, its rich and overflowing provision. May today's service be a joyous time for pupils and staff alike as they celebrate all you have given us. Amen.

Pray for churches in the Walsall Deanery, St John's Church, Walsall Wood.

Friday 18th October:

Church cleaning, maintenance and flowers

Dear Lord, we thank you for all who give so freely to the work of our church. We give thanks for the money we receive, and those who give their time to prayer. We thank you too for those who, today, will be giving of their time and gifts to clean and maintain the church building, and ensure it remains a place befitting your worship. May they see that they are glorifying you in all they do, and may they be aware that their work helps in spreading the good news of you. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Grove Terrace.

Saturday 19th October:

Great Barr Brass Concert

We are so pleased to have another concert in our church, and we pray that all who come, whether to play or to listen, will enjoy their time in St Matthew's and want to come back again. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of New Street.

Sunday 20th October:

Our Services

As we meet today, dear Lord, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth. May our consciences be touched by your holiness, our thoughts nourished by your word, our minds purified by your beauty, our hearts opened by your love and our wills given over to your wishes. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Hill Street.

Monday 21st. October:

Rev Jim

Our Father, we thank you for Reverend Jim, and for the godly and sensitive way he leads our fellowship. We pray, too, for him as he deputises for the Archdeacon – may he do his tasks with care and dedication, always keeping you and your will at the forefront of his decisions. Please give him the strength he needs, and may Priscilla and all his family support him in this work. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Town Hill.

Tuesday 22nd. October:

Sandwell Deaf Community Association Meeting

Father, it is so special that members of the deaf community should be part of our fellowship, enriching it. May we be able to meet their needs, and may they continue to bless our worship with their evocative sign language. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of St Matthew's Close.

Wednesday 23rd. October:

Community Choir

We are so blessed to have such an active and joyous community choir. We ask, Lord, that today's time together will be one of fun and support for all who go. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Small Street.

Thursday 24th October:

Queen Mary's Grammar School Speech Day / Federation Trustees Meeting

May Queen Mary's speech day be a time when the learning and growth of all the pupils is celebrated, and may they all be blessed as they move on in their education. We pray for the trustees of the Blue Coat Federation, too, and ask that you guide them in their stewardship of the school and associated money, so that their actions will be to your glory. Amen.

Pray for churches in the Walsall Deanery, St. Martin's Church.

Friday 25th October:**Home Groups**

Please bless our various home groups as they meet throughout the week. We ask that they be a time of fellowship, support and growth for all who attend, as they come to know you better. Thank you for the hosts and hostesses who give so freely, and thank you as well for those who lead the groups. May they cherish and nurture the members in their faith. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Upper Rushall Street.

Saturday 26th October:**Narcotics Anonymous Unity Day**

Dear Father, we ask you to bless our Centre and give you thanks and praise for all the activities that take place there. We think especially of the group meeting there today and ask you to be with all those involved, giving them strength and enthusiasm to encourage and support others. Help us find ways to build links with all the groups that meet there so that we can invite their members to become a closer part of our church family. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Dudley Street.

Sunday 27th October:**Our Congregations**

Dear Lord, we pray for all the people and children who will attend a service at St Matthew's today. Although we all worship you, we sometimes seem like separate groups instead of all being part of the same community. Perhaps we could find time to attend a different service so that we may learn more about you and a different way of worshipping you, and also meet other members of your church family at St Matthew's. Help us all to strengthen our links within our congregations and work together to glorify your name. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Birmingham Road.

Monday 28th October:**Those in Need**

We pray, dear Lord, for those in need in this town. We ask that you will comfort them in their hardship and may they feel you with them in their lives. We give thanks particularly for the work of Ablewell Advice and the Food Bank. These two organisations do invaluable work providing financial advice and food, and we ask that they will have the support they need to continue. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Jesson Close.

Tuesday 29th October:

Those Who are Unwell and Need Your Healing Hand

Dear Lord, during your ministry here on earth you healed many people and today we ask that you will watch over all those who are unwell at this time. 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. I pray for at this time. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Jesson Road and The Rectory.

Wednesday 30th October:

Damage to our Climate

Generous Father, we have experienced the changes in the weather patterns in our own country. Across the world we see evidence of climate change from scorching heat, forest fires and devastating floods. We pray that alongside our efforts to reduce personal waste through recycling and reduction of non-reusable energy sources; we pray that those who make these decisions in government and leaders of industry will use their powers to stop the damage to your precious gift to us, Our World. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Freer Street.

Thursday 31st October:

burial of ashes of Barbara Pincher

Loving Father, we pray for the family and friends of Barbara Pincher who bring her ashes today to be buried in the Memorial Garden at St Matthew's. May this final act bring comfort to them and a final resting place for Barbara's ashes. Amen.

Pray for churches in the Walsall Deanery, St Luke's Church.

Pray for the residents of Lysways Street.