

St Matthew's Walsall - Bulletin

Sunday 26 January 2025

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

Sun 26 Jan	8.45am	- Parish Communion
	10.00am	- Service Bell Ringing
	10.45am	- Morning Praise, Children's Church and the Baptism of Halo Eden and S'Raela Zuri Smith
	3.30pm	- Installation of Rev Jim as Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral (Lichfield Cathedral)
	1.00pm 6.30pm	- Asian Congregation - Alpha Course (Centre)
Mon 27 Jan	8.00am	- Morning Prayer
	10.00am	- Homegroup (Centre)
	1.00pm	- Baby Massage (Centre)
Tues 28 Jan	8.15am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	10.00am	- Places of Welcome
Weds 29 Jan	10.00am	- Bible Study
	3.30pm	- JAM After School Club (Centre)
	6.00pm	- Guides (Centre)
	6.30pm	- Guitar Circle (Centre)
	7.00pm	- Bell Ringing
	7.30pm	- Community Choir (Centre)
Thurs 30 Jan	8.00am	- Morning Prayer
	9.30am	- Stay and Play (Centre)
	12.30pm	- Sensory Play for Babies (Centre)
	2.00pm	- OWLs (Centre)
	7.00pm	- Music Ministry Team Rehearsal
Fri 31 Jan	8.00am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	9.30am	- Church Cleaning and Flowers

Further ahead

Sun 2 Feb	- Young Ringers Quarter Peal
Sun 9 Feb	- Remembering Service
Thurs 13 Feb	- Funeral of John Westwood (Streetly Crem)
Tues 25 Feb – Sat 1 Mar	- Blue Coat Festival
Sun 2 Mar	- Blue Coat Sunday Service

January's Prayer Diary – available at <https://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/resources/>

Prayer requests – Please pray for Joan Cartridge as she awaits test results in hospital, and that she get home quickly.

Please continue to keep in your prayers Henry Nicholas, Wendy Barker also keep all the following in your thoughts and prayers: John Westwood, Graham Taylor, Foxx Charvis Ward, Rosemarie Burgess, Iris Taylor, Sue Webster, Iris Mallaband, Maureen Platt, Ann Hazzard and Heather Samuels.



10.45am service

Please join us for a Morning Praise service led by Jeremy Sargent on **Sunday 26 January**, and help us to welcome two young new members of the church when Rev Jim Trood baptises Halo Eden Smith and S'Raela Zuri Smith. The service will also be livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Urgent notice

The heating in the nave is still not working. The 8.45am service will be held in the side chapel, which can be heated, however the main church will be cold for the 10.45am service. Please wrap up warm and wear as many scarves, hats and gloves as you wish! You are also invited to bring a blanket and hot water bottle with you.

The Bluecoat Festival needs you!

This year the Bluecoat Festival takes place in week commencing **24 February 2025**, and school pupils will be visiting the church on **Tuesday 25, Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 February**, starting at 9.15am. As with last year, we will need volunteers to welcome and help where necessary, and, if possible, to make some refreshments available for staff and visitors.

If you can help at any time during this period, please have a word with Judith in church or on 07490 488144 or email Judith at ridgway@talktalk.net.

Weekend Away Highlights!

What an incredible weekend we had together! From powerful times of worship, inspiring teaching, and heartfelt prayer, to fun activities, laughter, and building deeper connections with one another—God truly met with us in a special way.

Here are some highlights from our time away—take a look and relive the joy!



Special thanks to Ben for organising it all, Hannah for running the kids work, Alex for running the activities, and everyone else for getting stuck in over the weekend. There is also a video showing all the fun at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I29U2i9x1IA>

Funeral of John Westwood

John Westwood's funeral will be held on **Thursday 13 February** at 11.15am in the East chapel at Streetly Crematorium. Please remember John in your prayers.

Alpha Prayer support

If you would like to support the Alpha Course by praying for it, please let Jim know or send him an email. He will send out updated prayer request pointers each week during the course to help inform your prayers.

Birthdays, badges and song!

The Community Choir will be celebrating its 2½ year anniversary, Andy Clayton will be enjoying his own birthday, and there will also be a special badge-giving for the first chorister who has reached 100 attendances! There is an open invitation to all past and present choir members to come along on **Wednesday 29 January** at 7.30pm, as well as any of the St Matthew's community, and share in songs, chat, tea and, most importantly, cake!



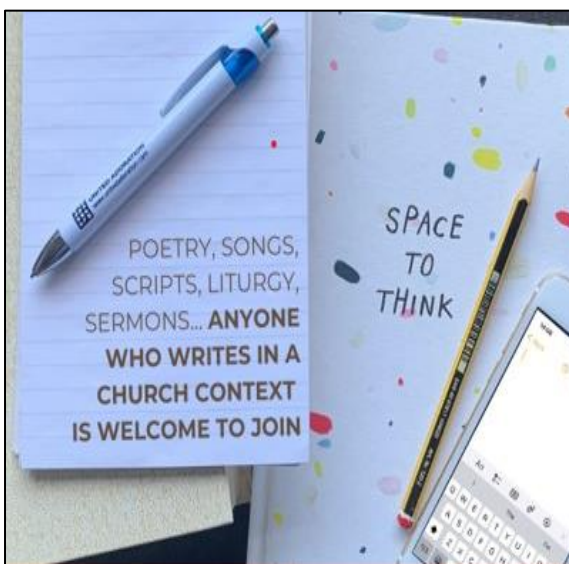
Remembering Service



There will be a Remembering Service at St Matthew's on **Sunday 9 February** at 3pm. This is a wonderful time to gather together to remember those whom we have lost, and to celebrate the joy we can find in their memories.

During the service an Act of Remembering will include the opportunity to light a candle. Please put the date in your diary, and come and share this poignant time together. Please give Nancy in the office any names that you would like included on the service sheet by **Monday 3 February**.

Songsmiths and Psalmists



SONGSMITHS & PSALMISTS

2025
FEBRUARY 1ST
MARCH 1ST
APRIL 5TH
JUNE 7TH
JULY 5TH
OCTOBER 4TH
NOVEMBER 1ST

**13:00 - 16:00 | ST THOMAS' CHURCH,
ALDRIDGE, WS9 8SL**

Thanks to the hospitality of St Thomas' Church in Aldridge the sessions are **free** to attend. You can sign up online in advance or on the day.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ANDREW CLAYTON
ANDREW_CLAYTON@UNITEDADORATION.COM

New Archdeacons for Walsall and Salop

Christmas was given an additional sense of expectation for two clergy who were offered Archdeacon's posts in Lichfield Diocese following a selection process at the end of last year. It has now been announced that The Revd Canon Elizabeth Jackson is to be the next Archdeacon of Walsall and that the Revd Nick Watson is to be the next Archdeacon of Salop. They will both commence their ministry on **Sunday 4 May 2025**, when they will be installed at 3.30pm Choral Evensong at Lichfield Cathedral.

Commenting on these appointments The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave, Bishop of Lichfield, said: "We have found two remarkable priests who have a variety of gifts and experience that will make them effective, pastoral and mission-minded Archdeacons. They are an excellent fit for the journey we want to take towards the goals we have set for our diocese for the next five years and beyond."

The Rt Revd Tim Dr Wambunya, Bishop of Wolverhampton said of the Revd Canon Elizabeth Jackson: "Liz Jackson brings extensive mission experience and strong administrative leadership to her new role as Archdeacon of Walsall. We are excited to welcome her to the Wolverhampton Episcopal Area team in the Lichfield Diocese where her gifts and skills will be warmly embraced. May God bless and support her new ministry among us."

The Rt Revd Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford said: "Liz has been a great gift to the Area Team in Berkshire and to the wider Diocese of Oxford. Liz has both a wider strategic vision and an eye for detail together with a willingness to grasp nettles when required. Liz brings a passion for justice and for the marginalised to everything she does and will flourish in her new role."

Canon Liz said: "I look forward to coming to the Wolverhampton area, where I long to support parishes in becoming ever more effective as disciples of Christ and as agents of change in their communities. They already have much to offer. I want to build on that."



Image courtesy of Steve Buckley &
Oxford Diocese

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