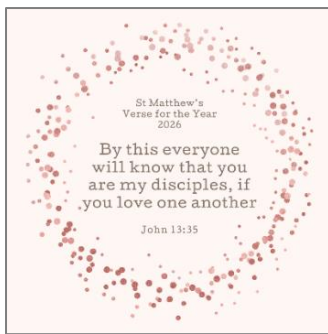




St Matthew's Walsall - Bulletin

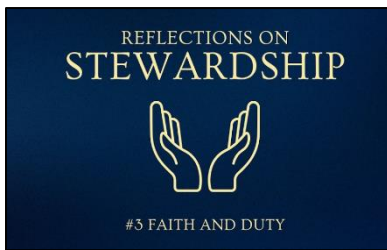
Sunday 27 September 2026

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

Sun 27 Sept	8.45am	- Parish Communion
	10.00am	- Service Bell Ringing
	10.45am	- Morning Praise & Children's Church
	1.00pm	- Asian Congregation
	6.30pm	- Worship Night in St Matthew's Church
Mon 28 Sept	9.30pm	- Church Council Meeting
Tues 29 Sept	8.00am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	10.00am	- Places of Welcome
Weds 30 Sept	10.00am	- Bible Study (Prayer Chapel)
	10.00am	- Baby Massage (Centre)
	3.30pm	- JAM After School Club (Centre)
	6.00pm	- Guides (Centre)
	6.30pm	- Bell Ringing
	7.30pm	- Community Choir (Centre)
Thurs 1 Oct	9.30am	- Stay and Play (Centre)
	12.30pm	- Sensory Play for Babies (Centre)
	2.00pm	- OWLs (Centre)
	7.00pm	- Music Ministry Team Rehearsals
Fri 2 Oct	8.00am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	9.00am	- Church Cleaning and Flowers
<u>Further ahead</u>		
3 Oct		- Diocesan Leadership Training for PSO
4 Oct		- Peal Event
10 Oct		- Hope in Harmony
15 Oct		- Funeral of Paul Grainger
16 Oct		- Blue Coat Federation Junior Harvest Service
		- Wedding of Sophie Turner and Niall Campbell
22 Oct		- Queen Mary's Grammar School Speech Day
		- University of Wolverhampton Nurses' Graduation

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

Prayer requests – Please pray for anyone you know in need, including Joan Cartridge, Philip Blackshaw, Joan Nock, Sue Webster, Brenda Franklin, Richard Hey-Smith, Maureen Platt, Iris Taylor, Michelle Whitehouse, Heather Samuels and Iris Mallaband.

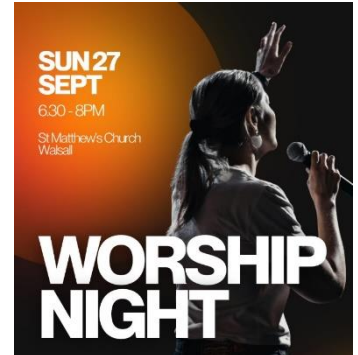


10.45am service

Alyson Green will lead us in this week's Morning Praise service, with Rev Jim reflecting on 'Reflections on stewardship 3: Faith and Duty' during the service on **Sunday 27 September**.

The Evening Service

We're taking a short one-week break from our 'God's book' series for a special Worship Night this Sunday! If you enjoyed our Summer Worship Nights - or missed out and want to join us this time - come along for an extended evening of sung worship at 6.30pm on **Sunday 27 September** at St Matthew's Church.



And from next **Sunday 4 October** we will continue our Sunday evening service programme by considering some big questions and what the Bible might have to say about them, like:

1. Can we take Genesis seriously in a scientific age?
2. What about strange laws and customs, including slavery?
3. Does God condone warfare and violence?
4. Why does God allow people to suffer?
5. Do Miracles and Exorcisms still happen?
6. Is the New Testament's teaching about sex outdated?
7. What about Judgement and the afterlife?

The services start at 6.30pm in the Centre, with refreshments from about 6.15pm and include talks and discussion time. All are welcome!

Lost property

There is a display of lost property in church by the glass porch. If you recognise an item of your own, please feel free to reclaim it. Any items left on the table on **Monday 28 September** will be given away, recycled or otherwise removed from the church site.

Forthcoming events at St Matthew's

On **Saturday 10 October** we will be hosting Hope in Harmony, a fundraising concert featuring our own Community Choir, Wulfruna Ladies Choir and Great Barr Brass – see the article below for more details about this!

On **Saturday 21 November** we will once more be hosting Apollo Academy Youth Orchestra for a rehearsal and concert.

On both these dates, it would be lovely to have a few volunteers to welcome our visitors, keep the urn hot and generally extend the warmth and love of our church to both the performers and their audiences. If you are able to help, please speak to Andrew Clayton in church or via email - andrew@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk - for details and to volunteer.



Hope in Harmony

Join us for Hope in Harmony at St Matthew's Church on **Saturday 10 Oct** at 7pm - an uplifting evening of live music in aid of two wonderful local causes: Walsall Bereavement Support Service and The James Brindley Foundation.

Enjoy incredible performances from Great Barr Brass, the St Matthew's Community Choir, and special guest soloists Jorja-Jo (Walsall's Got Talent finalist) and Ian Davies. Tickets are just £5, available on the door or in advance www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/events

Come along for a brilliant night out and help us support our community!

Children's Church

Parents - as Children's Church starts back, please could you:

- take your child to the back of church when it's time for the children to leave to meet with the group leaders
- if you're new, please fill in a registration form and tell the group leader of any special needs or allergies
- wait in church until your child is brought back around 12.00 noon or collect them from the Centre (not between the Centre and the Church).

Homegroups and Bible study groups – Autumn term 2026

Would you like to learn more about the Bible? Do you want to study God's word with other people and find out what God is saying to you? Would you like to meet with other Christians during the week for fellowship and prayer support? If so, you might like to join a small group such as a homegroup or Bible study group.

There are groups on different days of the week, at different times of day, and in different locations including the Church, Centre and people's homes. There's even a group that meets in a pub and another that meets online. You'd be very welcome to try a group without having to commit to it. If you want more information about any of the groups, pick up a list from the welcome desk or speak to Judith Ridgway or Priscilla Trood. Priscilla on 07984 626637 or priscillatrood@btinternet.com and Judith on 07490 488144 or ridgway48ja@outlook.com

St Matthew's Church Weekend Away 2027 – save the date!

Mark your calendars - we're heading to The Quinta Christian Centre in Oswestry from **Friday 8 to Sunday 10 January 2027** for our church weekend away. It's set to be a fantastic time of fellowship, relaxation, and fun together. More details and information on how to book will be coming soon, but for now, make sure to save the date!



Don't miss Together Festival 2027

Together Festival 2027 will be taking place on **12 June 2027** at Himley Park – one day, one church, all together!. Make a note not to miss this one!

Gospel of Mark Study Day: The Markan Jesus Master Class

This day considers the “master class” that Jesus sets before his disciples – the specialist teaching that those on the ‘inside’ receive. We’ll look at the way in which the particularity of Jesus’ teaching is unpacked, how it builds on Mark’s narration of Jesus’ preceding mighty deeds, and how it relates to the exhortation for the disciples to take up their cross and follow him to Jerusalem. What might be so entailed, and why might contemporary disciples be reluctant to embrace the obedient suffering Mark seems to have in mind...?

For more information: <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/calendar/1294>

Suggested (but not compulsory) pre-reading: Mark chapters 8-10

Who is it for: Regular worshippers at Church of England Churches in the Diocese of Lichfield

Course Hosts: Dr David Allen (former Academic Dean of Queen's Theological Foundation)

When: Saturday 10 Oct 9.30am-3pm with coffee from 9.30am. Session begins at 10am and finishes at 3pm. Lunch is included.

Venue: Shallowford House, Shallowford, Stone, Staffs (for satnavs please use ST15 0PB)

Cost: Free - costs covered by the Diocese

Book here:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/LichfieldDiocese/20261010GospelOfMarkStudyDayTheMarkanJesusMasterClass>

Cultural Festival 2026

Bishop Tim warmly invites you to the free Diocese of Lichfield Cultural Festival on **17 Oct** at Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town, Wolverhampton WV10 0LY. Please join us for a vibrant celebration of faith, culture, and community, featuring uplifting speakers, lively music, captivating dance, inspiring art, delicious food and heartfelt fellowship. Spread the word and invite your parish community to register using the Eventbrite link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diocese-of-lichfield-cultural-festival-tickets-2000006769085>

The Bereavement Journey—a place to talk

Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? Then join us for this film and discussion course, The Bereavement Journey. Topics include:

- Attachment, separation and loss
- The impact and pain of bereavement
- Adjusting to change
- Anger and guilt
- Coping with others’ reactions
- Moving on healthily

Sessions will be held at St John’s Methodist Church, Victoria Avenue, Bloxwich WS3 3HS on Monday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm on **28 September**, and **5, 12 and 19 October**, with an optional faith session on **26 October**. We ask for a donation of £10 per person, which includes the Guest Manual, but we would not want cost to prevent someone attending.

If you would like more information or would like to book a place, please email:

bereavementjourneywalsall@gmail.com or call Bev Boden on 07970 808819. More information on the course is available at www.thebereavementjourney.org