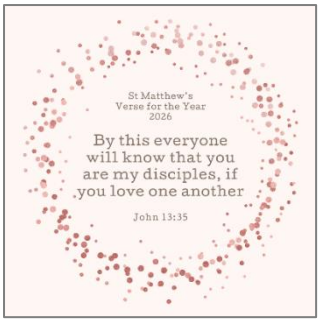


From

St Matthew's Walsall - Bulletin
Sunday 15 November 2026

Worshipping God
Equipping His people
Growing His Kingdom
Serving Walsall

Sun 15 Nov	8.45am	- Parish Communion
	10.00am	- Service Bell Ringing
	10.45am	- Morning Praise & Children's Church
	1.00pm	- Asian Congregation
	6.00pm	- Quarter Peal
	6.30pm	- The Evening Service (Centre)
Mon 16 Nov	10.00am	- Homegroup (Centre)
Tues 17 Nov	10.00am	- Places of Welcome
	11.00am	- Memory Café (Centre)
Weds 18 Nov	11.00am	- Funeral of Brenda Franklin
	3.30pm	- JAM After School Club (Centre)
	6.00pm	- Guides (Centre)
	6.30pm	- Bell Ringing
	6.30pm	- Christmas Community Choir (Centre)
	7.30pm	- Community Choir (Centre)
Thurs 19 Nov	9.30am	- Stay and Play (Centre)
	12.30pm	- Sensory Play for Babies (Centre)
	2.00pm	- OWLs (Centre)
	7.00pm	- Music Ministry Team Rehearsals
Fri 20 Nov	8.00am	- Blue Coat Academy Assembly
	9.00am	- Church Cleaning and Flowers

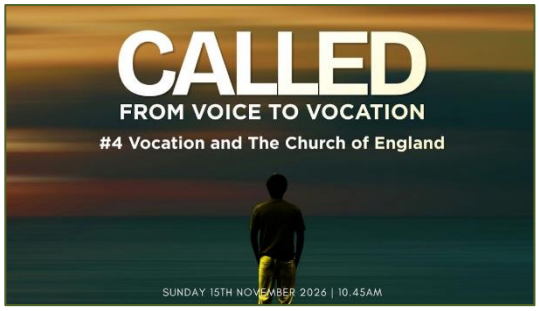
Further ahead

21 Nov	- Apollo Academy Orchestral Concert
26 Nov	- Blue Coat Academy Prize Evening
27 Nov	- Blue Coat Academy Holy Communion Service
6 Dec	- Children's Church Christmas Party (Centre)
	- Civic Carol Service

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

Prayer requests – Please still keep in your hearts and prayer those who have been affected by conflicts around the world.

Please continue to pray Sue Webster's nephew Paul's wife Jane, for Joan Cartridge, Joan Nock, Sue Webster, Maureen Platt, Iris Taylor and Iris Mallaband.



10.45am service

We are delighted to welcome Revd Canon Nick Smeeton, the Diocese of Lichfield's Strategic Programmes Director, to our service this **Sunday 15 November**. Rev Nick will be preaching on 'Called om voice to vocation 4: Vocation and the Church of England' so please do come and listen to his wise words, or catch up at our You Tube channel.

The wonderful music of youth

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. Do not miss this marvellous orchestra!

Baptisms by immersion

On **Sunday 22 November** we are planning baptisms by immersion. If you haven't been Baptised or Christened, and would like to be baptised by immersion, please speak to Rev Jim as soon as possible.

Confirmation

There will be a confirmation service held at All Saints, Streetly on **Sunday 10 January** at 10.00am. If anyone would like to be confirmed, please speak to Jim as soon as possible as the relevant paperwork will need to be completed well before Christmas.

Church toilets update

Engineers are coming to repair the toilets from **Monday 16** to **Thursday 19 November**. Because this will involve digging up the floor and a great deal of disruption, Tuesday's Places of Welcome and Wednesday's Bible Study have both been cancelled. However, Brenda Franklin's funeral will proceed, as planned, on **Wednesday 18 November** at 11am.



Children's Church Christmas party

The Children's Church Christmas Party will be on **Sunday 6 December**. The children will start in church for the Civic Carol Service and leave, when it is announced, with Children's Church leaders and Blue Coat staff for the party in the Centre. There will be games and a small gift at the end. The children will be brought back around 12 noon, so please could parents wait in church for them to return.

The Evening Service over Christmas

See the poster to the left with the changes to the Evening Service in the run up to Christmas.

Churchyard Gold award



We are proud and delighted to let you know that we have been awarded a Gold churchyard award this year – to top our Silver last year. This couldn't have be achieved without the enthusiastic support and constant labours of our amazing volunteer team. Well done to you all, and thank you for your ongoing hard work!

St Matthew's charitable giving 2026

Every year the Church Council aims to give away 10% of its regular income. This year we would like the whole church to take part in deciding which charities to support. Over the next two weeks, everyone is invited to submit up to two charities for consideration. This should be up to one UK charity and up to one overseas charity. To submit a charity for consideration, please pass details (on paper or via email) to Rev Jim with your name, the name of the charity(ies) and any additional helpful information you can give (e.g. a website or paragraph about the charity's work).

Everyone attending church on **29 November** will then be invited to vote in a private ballot for the different charities nominated. The money will be shared between the three most-voted-for overseas charities and the four most-voted-for local charities. If you have any questions about this process please speak to Rev Jim.



MOVEMENT!

Youth groups and youth are invited to - a night of passionate prayer and worship together with hundreds of young people from across the Black Country! This is a space to celebrate all that God is doing in this generation, spend time in His presence and pray for our towns, schools, families and friends.

It will be held at Revival Fires, Dudley, DY1 3AL on **Friday 27 November**, with doors open from 7pm and the event ending at 9.30pm. Youth leader (18+), Youth (11-17) & Young Adult (18-21) tickets are all available* (*all Youth & Young adults are to be booked with a Youth Leader or parent who will be responsible for them for the duration of the event). For tickets, to go: https://www.trybooking.com/uk/HCKF



Piano, free to a good home!

There is a piano and stool ready to go free to a good home. You need to be able to collect it from a storage unit near Junction 10, and for more information, please speak to Jim or Priscilla on 07984 626637.

Don't miss Together Festival 2027 – Tickets now available!

Together Festival 2027 will be taking place on **12 June 2027** at Himley Park – one day, one church, all together! So much to see and do makes it unmissable! You can get tickets at https://www.trybooking.com/uk/event/122199/tickets?sessionId=1048196&sectionId=202432 (You can pay only the booking fee to secure your spot and spread the rest in monthly instalments.)



St Matthew's Church Weekend Away 2027 – Bookings are open

Join us for our Church Weekend Away from **Friday 8-Sunday 10 January 2027**.Expect a refreshing time to unwind, deepen friendships, and grow closer to God. This weekend is for everyone in the church family — all ages, abilities and life stages.

We'll be staying at Quinta Hall, a beautiful mansion with 35 bedrooms, cosy lounges and a spacious meeting room. The grounds are huge, with lakes, woodland, a sports hall and plenty of activities to enjoy. We'd love you to be there — why not come along? Sign up from Sunday: www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk/weekend-away

Cathedral world record



The Poppies Project is an 18-month community craft project bringing people together from across Lichfield and the wide r diocese to create a shared act of remembrance. In partnership with The Fabric Vault, the project will culminate in a large-scale (and hopefully record-breaking!) sweeping poppies installation at Lichfield Cathedral for Remembrance 2027.

They hope to create a record-breaking display made entirely from community-crafted poppies in red, purple, black and white—honouring those affected by war and those committed to peace.

The installation will be made up of over 100,000 handmade poppies, each one created by a member of the community. Each poppy colour carries its own meaning:

- **Red -** remembering victims of war and conflict
- **Purple -** remembering animals affected by war
- **Black -** remembering African and Caribbean communities
- **White -** remembering those committed to peace

Each poppy will form part of a larger whole - a shared artwork that brings together many voices, stories and acts of creativity.

Individuals, schools, community groups and organisations are all invited to take part, contributing handmade poppies to a collective artwork that reflects memory, hope and community. For more info: https://www.lichfield-cathedral.org/what-s-on/poppy

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Pastoral Care Coordinator: Ros Clewes 07990 242466
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