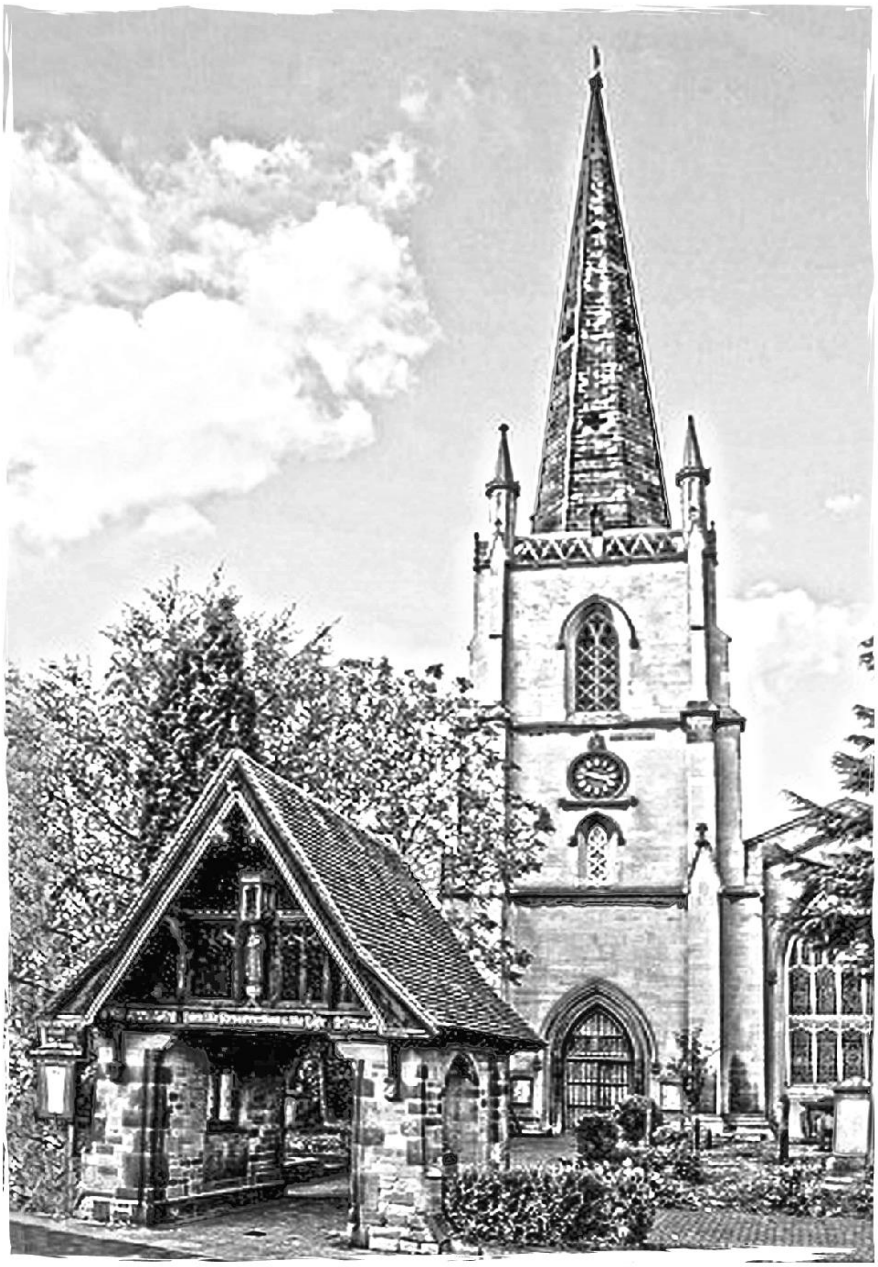
St matthews church



December 2026

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

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another." (John 13:35)

Tuesday 1st December
Our clergy and publicity
Dear Father, at this busy time of the year we pray for Jim and all those who lead services at St Matthew's. Please give them the strength and energy to conduct all the extra services that take place this month. May their words reach out to people who only attend our services at Christmas that they might wish to learn more about you, Lord, and want to attend other services. Please help these people to take the first step. We also pray that our publicity will be effective and that many new people will find out about our services, and wish to celebrate your birth with us here in St Matthew's. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Princes Avenue.

Wednesday 2nd December
The homeless and lonely people
Dear Father, as most of us will be planning to spend Christmas with our families, we think of all those who are homeless and those who are lonely. We know that Christmas is a time when life for these people life can be especially difficult and make them feel even more isolated. Help us to be aware of anyone in this position and to show them that we do care for them, and offer them our friendship and support. We thank you for the kindness and dedication of all the people who work in the care organisations that support the homeless. Father, hear the voices of those who need you and help them to feel your love. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of The Crescent.

Thursday 3rd December
Peace within
Almighty God, give us today calmness within so that tension will go away and help us to be at peace with one another. May we come to you with openness and without fear or reproach. As we have so freely received from you, help us to give freely of ourselves. Amen.

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

Friday 4th December
Confidence and energy
Dear Lord, we pray that our lives may not be full of indulgences and neglect. Help us not to be complacent and self-satisfied with our endeavours and not to not be afraid to help where we see it is needed. Give us the energy and your strength to step out in faith, whenever we can and be confident in our ability to accomplish good works in your name. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Keble Grove.

Saturday 5th December
The real meaning of Christmas
Loving Father, we thank you for your constant love. Help us to put you at the centre of all our celebrations. As we prepare to celebrate your birth, at this very commercial time of the year, help us to remember that you are the real meaning of Christmas, and that by sending your son to live amongst us you showed us how much you really love us. We thank you for this wonderful gift and, as we celebrate His birthday, help us to think of Him as we give and receive gifts. Help us, Lord, to fill this Christmas with you and with your love, peace and joy. Thank you for being with us now and always. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of New College Close.

Sunday 6th December
Children's Church Christmas party / Civic Carol Service
Dear Jesus, we pray today for all the children who come to St Matthew's children's groups, filling their hearts with joy today as they attend their party. We also pray for this evening's carol service and thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus. We praise you for his birth and the hope that he brings to our lives. We pray for your peace to rule in our hearts and minds this Christmas season. Help us to focus on you and your love for us. May we be filled with your joy and peace as we celebrate the birth of your son. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Road.

Monday 7th December
Warden's meeting / All our non-clergy church leaders and helpers
Heavenly Father, we thank you for all the people who work and help in the running of St Matthew's Church. There are so many jobs to be done behind the scenes, and although we pray especially today for our wardens, we also pray for the cleaners and all those who work so tirelessly in the office or on committees to make sure that our church runs smoothly. We also thank you for those people who read the lessons, lead services, lead children's groups, serve in our communion services, welcome visitors to our services and all the many other roles that are so important. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Close.

Tuesday 8th December
Memory Cafe
Dear Father, we pray today for all those attending this meeting. Please bless those with dementia with clarity, peace and comfort. Calm their fears, ease their confusion and surround them with your love. Strengthen caregivers with patience and grace and let everyday be filled with your presence and hope. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Gorway Gardens.

Wednesday 9th December
Carols in the Pub at The Wheatsheaf
Heavenly Father, as we begin to celebrate the birth of your son through song and prayer, be with those who gather to sing carols at the pub closest to St Matthew's Church. At this annual event, much joy is shared by regular worshippers with the pub regulars. May the true meaning of Christmas vibrate throughout. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Highgate Road.

Thursday 10th December
JAM / Blue Coat Academy governors
Loving Father, we pray for blessings upon the children and leaders who come together to celebrate and learn about Jesus in their lives. May the governors of the Academy find this meeting both informative and useful in their support for the school and going forward into the challenges of 2027. Amen.

Pray for churches in the Walsall Deanery: St Gabriel's Church.

Friday 11th December
The Beacon
Loving Father, we give grateful thanks for this centre in Walsall. Those who have addictions through alcohol and drugs can find help here for rehabilitation away from these issues. The skilled staff give a sensitive understanding for the clients and their families. We pray also for the residents at the Seasons Rehabilitation Centre who come into St Matthew's on a Sunday; may they find peace and comfort in the words they hear. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Magdalene Road.

Saturday 12th December
Deck the Mall
As the carol singers continue on their journey through Walsall, stopping at The New Art Gallery, The Light Cinema, The Crossing and The Table, may they be like the shepherds, hearing and sharing the good news of the coming birth of Your son, Jesus Christ. May all who hear feel hope and peace this Christmas. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Highgate Avenue.

Sunday 13th December
May there be peace
Lord, there are so many countries and communities at war with each other across our world this time of Advent. Some driven by conflicts in faith and some of greed to take land and have power over their neighbours. We pray that the Christmas message of Peace and Hope can be heard. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Avion Close.

Monday 14th December
Carols in the Pub at The Black Country Arms
We pray Loving Father, that the traditional carols sung with the peoples of Walsall this year will have a lasting effect on all who heard them. We pray that at this last visit to a place outside our church this year, people will come to seek you, Lord, further up the hill to the open doors of St Matthew's Church throughout the coming year. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Follyhouse Lane.

Tuesday 15th December
Blue Coat Academy assembly
As some of the students and staff from the Academy come into the church for their last assembly before the end of term, we pray for their safe keeping during the Christmas holiday. May their time with family and friends be one of peace and time to reflect on the past year and looking forward to the next new year. May the worship in church today have a deep spiritual guidance on their lives. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Vincent Street.

Wednesday 16th December
Guides / Archdeacons' team meeting
Thank you, Lord, for the Guides that meet at our church. May they grow in learning to love their communities and care for the world around them. We pray, too, for the Archdeacons' team meeting. Let that be a blessed time where your will for the area can be clearly seen. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Fair Field Mount.

Thursday 17th December
OWLs
We are so grateful for the OWLs group, and for the fun and support that its members feel. May they have a really enjoyable time today, sharing between them the love and the peace of Christmas. Amen.

Pray for churches in the Walsall Deanery: St Matthew's Church.

Friday 18th December
Federation Christmas Service
As the children from the Junior and Infant schools gather for their Christmas service, amid the excitement and enthusiasm may they see that Jesus is the reason for the festivities. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Belvidere Road.

Saturday 19th December
Holidays
With the schools starting their holidays, we thank you for the term just finished, and the personal and academic development that the pupils have enjoyed. We ask that students and staff alike will have a restful break and return refreshed in the New Year. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Jesson Road.

Sunday 20th December
The Nativity and Carol Services
Dear Lord, with our Nativity service this morning and the Carol Service in the evening, we pray for all who come along today, whatever their age, faith or background. May they feel the wonder of Christmas, may they appreciate that at its heart is the baby Jesus, born all those years ago, and may they realise that Christ, their Saviour, is alive today. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Sandymount Road.

Monday 21st December
The needy
Dear Jesus, as a child born under a cloud of shame, please be with the outcast. As a child born in a stable, please be with the homeless. As a child laid in a borrowed manger, please be with those who have so little. As a child hunted by Herod, please be with the persecuted. As a child who fled to Egypt, please be with the refugee. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Emery Street.

Tuesday 22nd December
Free NHS health checks and the health service
With free NHS health checks today, we pray for all those working over Christmas to keep us healthy. Thank you for their dedication, and may they have chance, amongst all their duties, to enjoy the season. We pray, too, for the sick that they will be caring for. Please comfort them in their suffering and, as they look to the future, we ask that they may experience the hope that Christmas brings. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Emery Close.

Wednesday 23rd December
Joy
May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Mary and Joseph and the peace of the Christ child be with us all this Christmas. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of The Pines.

Thursday 24th December
Christingle / Midnight Communion
Loving Father, on this holy night we thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. Fill our hearts with peace, gratitude and wonder as we await Christmas morning. Comfort all who are lonely or hurting, bring joy to our homes and guide us in your love. Amen.

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

Friday 25th December
All Age Christmas Communion
Lord Jesus, your birth brings light into the dark. Quiet our hurried thoughts today. Help us notice your presence in simple moments, share kindness with those around us and rest in your grace. Amen.

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

Saturday 26th December
Boxing Day
Heavenly Father, we lift up our family and friends, and all who feel distant from the celebrations and busyness of Christmas Day. We think of those for whom Christmas is a difficult time of year. Grant warmth to the weary, hope to the grieving, and peace across the world. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Hanch Place.

Sunday 27th December
Carol Praise Holy Communion / Rock the Manger
Lord, we pray for each and every one attending the Carol Praise, for those unable to come and those yet to know your saving grace. We give thanks that you hold every single one of us in your hand and we pray that as we join together in your presence here, we will take the blessing we receive out into the cold night air, then back into the warmth of our families, and amongst all those we meet day to day so that all our Christmas and days that follow will be truly filled with your Spirit. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Lysways Street.

Monday 28th December
Our lives in faith
Dear Lord, we pray that our lives may not be full of indulgences and neglect. Help us not to be complacent and self-satisfied with our endeavours and not to be afraid to help where we see it is needed. Give us the energy and your strength to step out in faith, whenever we can, and be confident in our ability to accomplish good works in your name. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of New Hall Street.

Tuesday 29th December
Thankfulness
Dear Lord, we thank you that you are always there for us and that we can turn to you whenever we need help. The knowledge of your constant love provides us with a real assurance in our lives. Help us to talk and pray to you, not only in the bad times but also in the good times when our lives are going well, and we need to thank you for all the gifts that you have given us. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Orlando Close.

Wednesday 30th December
King of Peace
As we continue with our precious family time this Christmas, help us not to forget those who are a long way from home, relatives overseas and those affected by worldwide issues. Jesus, King of Peace, we remember Herod's jealousy, lies and violence when you were born. Bring your peace in places of conflict, anger and hatred across the world and right here in our communities. King of Peace, we pray for your Kingdom here, on earth as it is in heaven.

Please pray for the residents of Bath Street.

Thursday 31st December
A New Year
"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland" (Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV)

Jesus, thank you for the gift of a new year – a fresh start. Give us faith to know that no matter what last year looked like, you're still with us. Thank you for the everlasting hope and forgiveness you bring to our lives when we accept you as our Lord and Saviour. Lead us forward in this New Year with new hope on the path you've set before us. Help us to walk with you in 2027.

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