

WELCOME

to the Heart of England Benefice.

Bidford on Avon · Binton · Exhall · Salford Priors · Temple Grafton · Wixford



What's on in April?

Saturday 6th April, 9am-1pm

Jumble Sale at St Laurence's Church Hall. Plenty of general jumble, nearly new, bric-a-brac, kitchenware, plants etc. Refreshments and home made cakes.

There may even be a tombola! Admission FREE.

Quality donations accepted. Contact Judith 01789 773328 or Midge 01789 490234.

Saturday 6th April, 10am-12pm

Coffee Connect at St Matthew's Church. Enjoy refreshments and cakes with friends.

Sunday 7th April, 3.30pm

Join us at St Matthew's Church for a special celebration to welcome Helen Bowen as the new headteacher for Salford Priors Primary School

Saturday 13th April, 10am-2pm

'Gardens Trust Day' at St Matthew's Church (LIMITED SPACES, pre-booking essential).

To reserve your space, please email: lucy.ji.thirkell@gmail.com

This is a FREE event, with donations gratefully accepted for The Gardens Trust.

All resources provided. Bring own packed lunch and kneeler if required.

Tea/coffee available.

Saturday 20th April, 2-4pm:

Messy Church at St Laurence's Church, Bidford! No need to book.

FREE entry (donations welcome). For more info, email: c.leahy@yahoo.co.uk



Tuesday 23rd April, 2pm:

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

The Mothers' Union local friendship group meets in

St Laurence's Church Hall (opposite the church). Everyone is welcome!

Contact Caroline Leahy 07811 244279 for more information.

Friday 26th April, 7pm:

Upbeat & Friends Present 'Encore!', a concert in aid of Ukrainian refugees living locally.

At St Laurence's Church, Bidford. Cash only bar, refreshments & raffle.

Tickets £10, available by calling 07928 461060 or email: judd.biz@hotmail.co.uk

You can find information on our services for April inside this sheet, or visit us online for more information.

heartparishes.org.uk | stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk

If you are visiting us today or are here for the first time, we hope you have felt welcomed and have enjoyed worshipping here.

Do please introduce yourself to someone after the service.



April Services and

7th April 2024: The Second Sunday of Easter

8.45am	Holy Communion	Salford Priors
10.30am	Café Church	Bidford
10:30am	Family Service	Salford Priors
6.30pm	Evensong	Wixford

1st Reading: Acts 4.32-35

2nd Reading: 1 John 1.1-2.2

Gospel Reading: John 20.19-31

Collect

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

14th April 2024: The Third Sunday of Easter

8.00am	Holy Communion	Temple Grafton
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10:30am	Holy Communion & Muddy Church	Salford Priors
10:30am	Village Praise	Binton
5.00pm	Breathing Space	Salford Priors

1st Reading: Acts 3.12-19

2nd Reading: 1 John 3.1-7

Gospel Reading: Luke 24.36b-48

Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Cross the Benefice

21st April 2024: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.00am	Holy Communion	Exhall
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10:30am	Family Service	Salford Priors

1st Reading: Acts 4.5-12

2nd Reading: 1 John 3.16-end

Gospel Reading: John 10.11-18

Collect

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

28th April 2024: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00am	Holy Communion	Wixford
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10:30am	Holy Communion	Salford Priors
11:00am	Village Praise	Exhall

1st Reading: Acts 8.26-end

2nd Reading: 1 John 4.7-end

Gospel Reading: John 15.1-8

Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

For Your Prayers This Month:



Psalm 121: "I Lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth."

Loving Father, we thank you for answered prayer:

- For Sergii's family who have arrived safely from Ukraine. We thank you for Mandy and Pete who are giving them a home.
- For the completion of the work on our Church roof, and we pray that hearts will be moved to bring in the outstanding finances. We thank you for this safe space.
- For new headteachers, Helen Bowen and Monica Gamble, about to take up their appointments at Salford Priors and at Dunnington. We pray for a headteacher of your choosing for Bidford school. We pray for our local school governors.
- Father, we thank you for our Vicar Sheila, our Family Link Worker Sarah and our Administrator Amy. Would you strengthen and enable them by your Holy Spirit.
- We ask for your hand to be upon the selection of a new Rector for this Parish and the vacancies in this Deanery.
- Would you move the hearts of those with musical talents to come forward to help us in our worship.
- Heavenly Father help those in leadership positions to heal our National Health Service.

We lift to you those who have asked us to pray for them, and their families, and we ask for improvement in health and quality of life for:

Beth who has now had an appointment and diagnosis of FND and waits for neurological CBT in Oxford and for specialised physiotherapy.

Doreen who is having a scan at the beginning of April to ascertain if the cancer is in remission.

Ollie following his accident and is starting to walk again.

Rhiannon Simmons, Sue Lawrence, Alex Waring, Alan, Peter Dixon, Joanna Travers, Terry Singlehurst, Sylvia Muller, Eloise Zoe, her sister Anna, Michael MacDonald, Roger Huggins.
And we ask for stability and peace in the life of **Jack and his family.**

Father God, may your love, which never ends, bring hope, healing and renewal to every heart.

For inclusion in the Prayer List, please direct your requests to Denise Andreo:

Call: 07791 347651 or email: deniseandreo@gmail.com

Weekly Prayer Meeting

Please join us for our short, informal weekly prayer meeting at St Matthew's Church.
Every Tuesday at 9.30am in the Church Room.

Contact Information:

Rector	<i>Vacancy</i>	-	-
Assoc. Minister	<i>Revd Sheila Bridge</i>	07754 784251	<i>Sheila.heartparishes@gmail.com</i>
Asst. Clergy	<i>Revd Michael Godfrey</i>	07725 878530	<i>Rev.michael.godfrey@gmail.com</i>
Asst. Clergy	<i>Revd Canon Adrian Leahy</i>	07454 739755	<i>revaleahy@gmail.com</i>
Asst. Clergy	<i>Revd John Ganjavi</i>	07753 619789	<i>johnganjavi@btinternet.com</i>
Reader	<i>Mrs Judith Meehan</i>	01789 773328	<i>J.meehan@bidford.onl</i>
Reader	<i>Mr Allan Steven</i>	07816 783382	<i>voll0802@gmail.com</i>
Administrator	<i>Mrs Amy James</i>	07747 213501	<i>amy.heartparishes@gmail.com</i>
SP Family Link Worker	<i>Mrs Sarah Folkes</i>	07930 913643	<i>sarah.heartparishes@gmail.com</i>
Prayer Requests	<i>Mrs Denise Andreo</i>	07791 347651	<i>deniseandreo@gmail.com</i>

Group website: www.heartparishes.org.uk

St Matthew's website: www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk



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