

For Your Prayers This Month:



"In this world you will have troubles. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16: 33

- Almighty and Eternal God, thank you for prayers answered and for ongoing miracles of healing.
- Lord, you know the needs of those on our hearts and in our prayers, who need your healing touch: Laura, Walter, Joanna Travers, Alex Waring, Alan (Margaret's son), Sylvia, Terry Singlehurst, Glen, Rhiannon, and Peter Dixon.
 - Give insight and inspiration to those working to heal our NHS.
 - Sheila Penney is recovering from knee replacement surgery, and Peter is recovering following a fall. He has had a pacemaker fitted and his ankle is in plaster.
 - We remember before you those recently bereaved: Sue, Margaret Kibblewhite, the family of Venn Lewis and those others known to you in this community.
 - We give thanks for the provision of jobs to those who had been seeking work.
 - We lift to you our local primary school of Salford Priors and ask you to bless the work of all those who look after the children of this community. Thank you for Helen. Please be with her as she moves on.
 - We pray for the ongoing peace talks concerning Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Gaza. Give wisdom to our prime minister in all the talks for lasting peace, and change the hearts of those in power that they may seek justice and peace and an end to hostilities and war.
 - Be with those deciding how to progress with the need for a new member of clergy for our Benefice.

Father God,

We thank you for your faithfulness to us in this Heart of England Benefice.

**We pray that as we travel together into our shared future,
you will bring a person of your calling to lead us.**

**We pray for that person to be someone close to your heart who will help all of us
to grow closer to you and enable us to become together a brighter reflection
of your love in these communities where we live and worship.**

We ask in the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen

**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. 9:30am every Tuesday in the Church Room.

Contact Information:

Rector	Vacancy	-	-
Assoc. Minister	Revd Sheila Bridge	07754 784251	Sheila.heartparishes@gmail.com
Asst. Clergy	Revd Michael Godfrey	07725 878530	Rev.michael.godfrey@gmail.com
Asst. Clergy	Revd Canon Adrian Leahy	07454 739755	revaleahy@gmail.com
Asst. Clergy	Revd John Ganjavi	07753 619789	johnganjavi@btinternet.com
Asst. Clergy	Revd Dr Steve Bate	07773 583356	sbate@aol.com
Reader	Mr Allan Steven	07816 783382	voll0802@gmail.com
Administrator	Mrs Amy James	07747 213501	amy.heartparishes@gmail.com
SP Family Link Worker	Mrs Sarah Folkes	07930 913643	sarah.heartparishes@gmail.com
Prayer Requests	Mrs Denise Andreo	07791 347651	deniseandreo@gmail.com

Group website: www.heartparishes.org.uk

St Matthew's Church Website: www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk



www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchsalfordpriors

WELCOME

to the Heart of England Benefice

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



What's on in April

Tuesdays, 7.30-9pm

'The God Story' Midweek Meet-up at St Matthew's Church Room.

Saturday 12th April, 9-10.30am

St Matthew's Men's Breakfast Group

Meeting at Osco's, Blenheim Nursery, Stratford Road, Bidford

To book, please email johnhead@icloud.com by 11th April, stating any dietary requirements.

Tuesday 15th April, 2.30pm

Mother's Union: 2pm at Bidford Church Hall

Catherine Carr will be talking about Mary's Meals,

a charity proving food to children in the poorest parts of the world.

Everyone welcome... members or non members, men and women.

Friday 18th April, 10am

Good Friday Walk of Witness, starting at St Joseph's Church, Quinney's Lane, Bidford.

All welcome.

Saturday 19th April, 2-4pm

Messy Church, Easter Special at St Laurence's, Bidford.

Free! All families with children welcome. No need to book.

Saturday 26th April

Women's breakfast at Osco's. Tasty food, discipleship, and discussions.

Email sarah.heartparishes@gmail.com

to enquire about future events.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the **Annual Arts & Crafts Festival** at St Laurence's Church on the May Spring Bank Holiday Weekend, Sunday 25th 12 - 6pm and Monday 26th 10-5pm.

We are looking for volunteers to cover door duty, raffle, cake and the cafe.

Please see Andrew Pitt if you can help.

Saturday 10th May 10.30am-4.00pm

Introducing Ignatian Spirituality, A day retreat led by Donna Worthington

at Church of the Holy Ascension Mappleborough Green B80 7DJ

Book via QR Code or email Mappleborough-Churchwarden@ardenmarches.co.uk

Sunday May 18th 4pm

Confirmation service at St Matthew's - please talk to Rev Sheila if you would like to be confirmed (or baptised and confirmed)

**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 Across the Benefice

At Family Services or Café Church, worship leaders are free to choose alternative reading(s).
When it is a Communion service, a gospel reading is usual.
St Matthew's Church is following a Bible Study programme from January – May.

6th April: The Fifth Sunday of Lent

8.45am Holy Communion	Salford Priors
10.30am Café Church	Bidford
10.30am Family Service	Salford Priors (Luke 3.21-22)
6.30pm Evensong	Wixford

1st Reading: Isaiah 43.16-21 | **2nd Reading:** Philippians 3.4b-14 | **Gospel Reading:** John 12.1-8

Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

13th April: Palm Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion	Temple Grafton
10.00am Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion & Muddy Church	Salford Priors (Luke 23.26-43)
5.00pm 'Breathing Space'	Salford Priors

1st Reading: Luke 19.28-40 | **2nd Reading:** Psalms 118.1-2, 19-end

Collect

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

17th April: Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Holy Communion	Salford Priors
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1st Reading: Exodus 12.1-4[5-10] 11-14 | **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 11.23-26

Gospel Reading: John 13.1-17, 31b-35

18th April: Good Friday

11.00am All age Messy Church Workshop	Salford Priors
2.00pm Hour at the Cross	Bidford

1st Reading: Isaiah 52.13-53 | **2nd Reading:** Luke 23.13-49

20th April: Easter Day

6.00am Sunrise Service	Salford Priors
10.00am Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion	Temple Grafton
10.30am Holy Communion	Binton
10.30am Holy Communion	Salford Priors (Luke 24.1-12)
11.00am Holy Communion	Exhall

1st Reading: Acts 10.34-43 | **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15.19-26 | **Gospel Reading:** Luke 24.1-12

Collect

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

27th April: The Second 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 5.27-32 | **2nd Reading:** Revelation 1.4-8 | **Gospel Reading:** John 20.19-end

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**