

For Your Prayers This Month:



“Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord” Psalm 31:24

Gracious and loving Father God, we thank you that you hear us when we pray in faith.

- Thank you that Ollie has now secured a job. We pray for those known who are still seeking work.
- We thank you for miracles of healing, especially the wonderful ways we’ve seen you answer prayer for our loved ones.
- We lift to you those whose needs have been long-term and who need your healing touch, and for appointments to come through: Joanna Travers; Alex Waring; Alan (Margaret Kibblewhite’s son); Sylvia; Terry Singlehurst; Glen.
- Sheila Penney has had her knee operation and we ask for good healing. Thank you for the surgeons and those working in care.
- We remember in our prayers those recently bereaved: the family of Venn Lewis; Sue; Margaret Kibblewhite.
- We pray for stability for our local primary school of Salford Priors and ask for strength for all those working there, caring for the children. Thank you for links forged with our church.
- As we wait for a new rector for this benefice, we thank you for Sheila and Sarah and for retired clergy who support the work of our local churches.
- Would you give wisdom and holy humility to those in power as we pray for the situations concerning Ukraine and Russia, and Gaza and Israel.

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	-	-
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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 March

Tuesday 4th March, 7.30-9pm

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

Saturday 8th March, 8.30am

St Matthew’s Men’s Breakfast Group
Meeting at The Vineyard, Abbots Salford. £10.
To book, please email johnahead@icloud.com



Tuesday 11th March, 6-7pm

‘The Parable Keeper’ at St Matthew’s Church, Salford Priors
Join us for a special performance for the whole family.
Theatre company ‘4Front’ will be exploring many of Jesus’ parables
with energetic songs and interactive storytelling.
Tickets £3 per person. Scan QR code to prepay.



Saturday 15th March, 2-4pm

Messy Church, St Laurence’s, Bidford.
Free! All families with children welcome.
No need to book.



Mothers’ UNION
Christian care for families

Tuesday 18th March, 2pm

Mother’s Union: 2pm at Bidford Church Hall
Vivien Gillman will be talking about
the children’s home in India she supports.
Everyone welcome... members or non members, men and women.

Saturday 22nd March, 9-10.30am

Women’s breakfast at Tall Trees (NOW FULLY BOOKED)
Tasty food, discipleship, and discussions.
£7.50 per person.
Email sarah.heartparishes@gmail.com
to enquire about future events.



**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.**



March 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 will be following a Bible Study programme and using different readings from January - May.

2nd March: Next before Lent

8.45am Holy Communion	Salford Priors
10.30am Café Church	Bidford
10.30am Family Service	Salford Priors (<i>Following Jeremiah 32</i>)
6.30pm Evensong	Exhall

1st Reading: Exodus 34.29-end | **2nd Reading:** 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2

Gospel Reading: Luke 9.28-36 [37-43a]

Collect

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table
reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

9th March: The First Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion	Temple Grafton TBC - check website for updates
10.00am Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion & Muddy Church	Salford Priors (<i>Mark 1.1-12</i>)
10.30am Village Praise	Binton
5.00pm 'Breathing Space'	Salford Priors

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26.1-11 | **2nd Reading:** Romans 10.8b-13 | **Gospel Reading:** Luke 4.1-13

Collect

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

16th March: The Second Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion	Exhall
10.00am Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am Café Church (Family Service)	Salford Priors (<i>Luke 4.1-30</i>)

1st Reading: Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18 | **2nd Reading:** Philippians 3.17-4.1 | **Gospel Reading:** Luke 13.31-end

Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

23rd March: The Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion	Wixford
10.00am Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion	Salford Priors (<i>Reading Matthew 5.1-12</i>)
11.00am Village Praise	Exhall

1st Reading: Isaiah 55.1-9 | **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 10.1-13 | **Gospel Reading:** Luke 13.1-9

Collect

Eternal God,
give us insight to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

30th March: The Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion	Salford Priors (<i>Reading Ephesians 3.14-21</i>)

1st Reading: Exodus 2.1-10 | **2nd Reading:** Colossians 3.12-17 | **Gospel Reading:** Luke 2.35-35

Collect

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen