

For Your Prayers This Month:

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace." Colossians 3: 15



Dear Lord and Loving Father, we thank you for:

- The funding for the ongoing work in St Matthew's churchyard to enhance and make it an area of nature conservation and a place for people to come and meet with you.
- The Cursillo study weekend at The House of Bread in Shipston from 1st May. Would you meet with each of the pilgrims and serving team there and be with them on their journey thereafter.
- The four-week courses that Sheila is running from the end of April: Hearing God for Yourself and Finding Hope for the World. Would you protect Sheila and be in all the planning, drawing those to you who are seeking deeper faith.

Gracious and merciful Father, we lift to you:

- Isabelle, 5 years old going through rigorous cancer treatment. We pray that the side effects of the treatment will not affect her too severely; we pray for her family Abi, Chris and Helen; we pray for all those looking after her care and treatment and we pray for a miracle of healing in Jesus' name.
- Doreen who is very poorly and now also has shingles despite the vaccination. Loving Father as you will and as you know have mercy.
- Those going through bereavement: the family and friends of Graham Smith, Margaret, Sue, Sarah.
- Help us, as one body, to spread your Peace. **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:

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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 May

Tuesday 5th, 12th & 19th May

'Hearing God for Yourself' Join us at 7.30pm, St Matthew's in the Church room.

Saturday 9th May, 9.10am



The Men's Shed breakfast: Come for a chat and enjoy the company!
Meeting at Osco's, Blenheim Nursery, Stratford Rd, Bidford.

To book, please email: johnahead@icloud.com by 8th May, stating any dietary requirements.

Saturday 16th May, 9-10.30am

Women's breakfast at Tall Trees retreat, Cleve Prior. Tasty food, discipleship, and discussions.
Please contact: mandyenglish.me@googlemail.com

Saturday 16th May, 2-4pm

Messy Church at St Laurence's, Bidford.

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



Tuesday 19th May, 2.30pm

Mother's Union at St Laurence's Church Hall, Bidford.

The talk is from the Tazar Empire to to Gorbachev's Perestroika -A family history by Elena Godfrey.
Everyone welcome. Contact: c.leahy@yahoo.co.uk for further information.



Friday 22nd May, 10am

Hour of Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come at St Laurence's Church

Arts and Crafts Festival - spring Bank holiday.

Sunday 24th May 12-6pm & Monday 25th May 10-5pm at St Laurence's, Bidford
A two day Exhibition & sale of work by local Artists and creatives.

Sunday 24th May, 5-7pm

SPYING Youth group at St Matthew's Church room.



Tuesday 26th May, 10am- 2pm

Magical May Halfterm - Discover the magic of nature! At St Matthews Church

We wish to acknowledge two grants from **Benefact Trust and the DAC Building for Missions fund** which contributed towards recent critical roof and guttering repairs at St Matthew's Church.

THANK YOU



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.



May 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.

3rd May: 5th Sunday of Easter

8.45am Holy Communion	Salford Priors
10.30am Cafe Church	Bidford
10.30am Family Service	Salford Priors
6.30pm Evensong	Binton

1st Reading: Acts 7.55- end | **2nd Reading:** 1 Peter 2.2-10 | **Gospel Reading:** John 14.1-14
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**

10th May: 6th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion	Temple Grafton
10.00am Holy Communion - followed by APCM 11.15am	Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion, Muddy Church & SPYING litter pick	Salford Priors
10.30am Village Praise	Binton
5.00pm 'Breathing Space'	Salford Priors

1st Reading: Acts 17.22-31 | **2nd Reading:** 1 Peter 3.13-end | **Gospel Reading:** John 14.15-21

Collect

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Thursday 14th May: Ascension Day

12pm Holy Communion	Bidford
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17th May: 7th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion	Exhall
10.00am Holy Communion & Baptism	Bidford
10.30am Cafe Church	Salford Priors

1st Reading: Acts 1 6-14 | **2nd Reading:** 1 Peter 4.12-14, 5:6-11 | **Gospel Reading:** John 17 1-11

Collect

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

24th May: Pentecost

8.00am Holy Communion	Wixford
10.00am Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion	Salford Priors
11.00am Village Praise	Exhall
6.30pm Compline	Wixford

1st Reading: Acts 2 1-21 | **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13 | **Gospel Reading:** John 7.37-39

Collect

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

31st May: Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion	Binton
10.30am Group Service	Salford Priors

1st Reading: 2 Corinthians 23.11- end | **Gospel Reading:** John 3.1-17

Collect

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

eco tip:

Let your grass grow during the month of May to help early season pollinators have access to lawn flowers that otherwise would not have had a chance to bloom?

