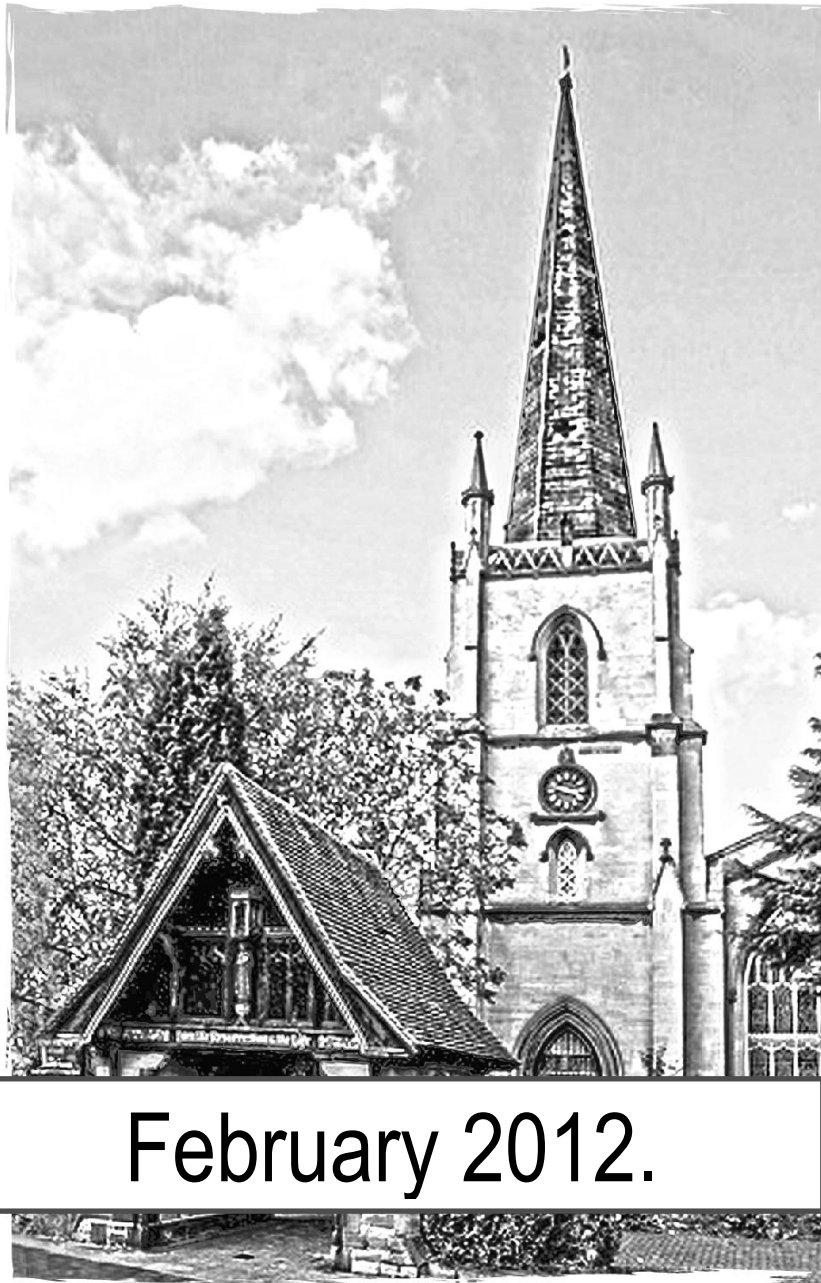


St matthews church

Prayer Diary

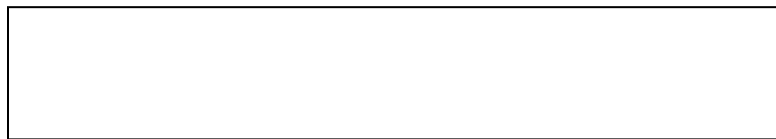


February 2012.

Riches

and

generosity.
Lord of all,
you have
riches indeed
to use and to share,



given us

St Matthew's aims to be an Acts 2 Church,
Valuing Awe, Unity, Generosity, Hospitality and Growth.

not to hoard and hide.
May we put those gifts to your service,
material and spiritual,
practical and emotional,
so that we can truly reflect
the generosity you have shown to us
in sending your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Wednesday, 1st. February: Gift Course Part 2.

Lord we pray that those who attended the first session have had time to reflect on the discussions. May it help new Christians who are just beginning to know of you and to inspire longer term Christians to reflect on their personal commitment. We ask that you guide us to recognise the gifts that you have provided us with and to develop them to be used in your ministry.
Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Sandwell Street.

Thursday, 2nd. February: Home Group Leaders.

Lord we ask that you will be with those who attend the group leaders meeting this evening. Through their discussions we pray that you will continue to support and guide the continuing development of these vital fellowship groups. May their planning have vision and encouragement. We pray that this will also be a present at the meeting today of the vicars of the seven largest churches in our Diocese. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Springhill Road.

Friday, 3rd. February: Peace.

Father we pray that you will be with Colin as he gives his prepared talk to the students of Blue Coat Comprehensive at this morning's assembly. May you speak through him so that your message about Peace can be meaningful to every student there. We too pray for Peace for those students, their and our families, friends, community and precious world. True Peace can only be through the presence of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Sandymount Road.

Saturday, 4th. February: Open Door.

Today is the start again of opening the doors of St. Matthew's for a few hours each day so that people passing can come into our church and feel the presence of you Lord in their daily life. We give thanks to you Lord that you call members of the congregation to be prepared to give their time and gifts to be part of that welcoming team. We pray too for those who organise the Messy church activities this afternoon for they are such a strong part of the welcome that is extended to families with younger children. Amen.
Please pray for the residents of St Matthew's Close.

Sunday, 5th. February: Theme-Living in the Light.

Lord we pray that your Holy Spirit will be felt by all those who attend the all age family service this morning and by the family and family friends of Joseph Atkins who is to Baptist. As they gather round to celebrate the welcoming of Joseph into the light of your love may we all hear the call to living in the light. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Sutton Road.

Monday, 6th February: Care and Residential Homes.

Healing, loving Lord, be with those who are suffering through sickness, distress or depression. Calm and comfort them and give them the peace only you can provide. May those who care for and minister to them be given strength and patience. May the medical and nursing professions be graced with concern for the whole person, just as your Son always was. May hope bring healing and healing bring wholeness. Amen.

Please pray for the residents and staff of Acorns, Maryvale, Gorway House, Crossways and Highview.

Tuesday, 7th. February: Wedding Preparation.

Father, we pray for couples approaching their wedding day, for the careful preparation of practical arrangements, but also in getting ready for the emotional and spiritual challenges that the day itself will bring. We ask that you will be with Kim and Jonathan as they host the marriage preparation for the first time and that they can help to guide couples to achieve happiness through your presence. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Elm Court.

Wednesday, 8th. February: Church Hill Praise Planning.

Lord we pray that you will be alongside those forward planning the delivery of your message at CHP. We give thanks for the commitment of Chris and Amy

as they plan alongside Colin and Liz to deliver a vibrant and relevant way of worship of you, Lord. May we be inspired by your disciples, those who built on the foundations of your Church, those who keep the flame of faith alive and those who serve you now, through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.
Please pray for the residents of Kerry Court.

Thursday, 9th. February: Blue Coat Infants and Junior Schools.

Thank you Lord that Colin is able to go into our local primary schools, Blue Coat Infant and Junior, to speak to the children and staff of the awesome wonder of your love. We pray that the message that he shares is guided by you and all those who listen will hear and their hearts are open to respond. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Springhill Court.

Friday, 10th. February: The Youth Alpha.

We thank you for the Youth Alpha that is underway. Please give wisdom to all those who are leading the meetings. May they be listening for your message and your guidance in all they do and say, and may they deliver the truth about you in a way that is clear and relevant to those who have come along. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Tasker Street.

Saturday, 11th. February: The Asian congregation.

We thank you Lord for the Asian congregation at St Matthew's - for its commitment, its faith, its prayerfulness and its enthusiasm. We ask that you bless that congregation and guide Pastor Fiaz and all its leaders, so that it can continue to honour you among the Asian community. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Midland Road.

Sunday, 12th. February: A new commandment.

Dear Lord, please give us the desire and the ability to love you with all our heart and soul and mind and strength. Help us too to love our neighbours as ourselves. We know we can do neither without you, and we humbly ask that you forgive us when we fall short. Amen

Please pray for the residents of The Ditch.

Monday, 13th. February: The Christian church across Walsall.

Dear Lord we thank you that, each week, over 130 churches meet in Walsall. May they be united in their love for you and their desire to see the good news about you spread through this town, and together may they show your love to all who live here. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Vicarage Walk.

Tuesday, 14th. February: The love of those around us.

We give thanks for the love we receive from our families and friends. We thank you too for the love that is shown to us by those in the church fellowship. Please Lord never let us take that love for granted, but may we cherish it as a true gift from you. Amen

Please pray for the residents of the Town Centre.

Wednesday, 15th. February: May our prayer life develop.

We pray that, as a church and as individuals, we will be really dedicated to praying. We are so grateful for those at St Matthew's who do pray each day for the church, and we ask that we too may be more committed in our prayer life. Help our faith to grow so that, through prayer, we can trust you more, and may we look forward with expectation to your answers to the prayers we offer. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Wednesbury Road.

Thursday, 16th. February: Alison Giblett in Ukraine.

Thank you Lord for being so faithful to Alison Giblett, our missionary in the Ukraine. We give thanks that her prayer groups in Kiev are growing, and that her training seminar went so well just before Christmas. We pray that you show her the work she should be doing and that you keep her well. We pray too for that country. May you bless it and bring it peace and stability. Amen

Please pray for the homes of friends and family who are not in our parish boundary.

Friday, 17th. February: Faithworks and the Night Café.

We thank you Lord for the work that Faithworks are doing in the town, and especially we pray for the Night Café. Please give strength and wisdom to those running that event, and let them feel your arms around them when there are there, guiding them and keeping them physically and spiritually safe. Amen

Please pray for the pupils and staff of St. Mary's the Mount, RC primary school.

Saturday, 18th. February: Those leading our services tomorrow.

Dear God, we are blessed to have such a wide range of services at St Matthew's. Please be with all those who are going to lead the worship there tomorrow. Please let them each place their role into your hands, and we pray that they will all be united by a common aim to meet with you and glorify your name. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Bath Street.

Sunday, 19th. February: Children of God.

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God. (1 John 3 v1)

We thank you so much that we are all your children and that, although a mighty and powerful God, you love us each as a father. Help us to do what is right in your eyes and help us also to love our brothers and sisters in a way that pleases you. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Barleyfield House.

Monday, 20th. February: Gorway Compass, Wolverhampton University.

Lord, we pray for the Christian Union students of the Gorway Compass at Wolverhampton University as they seek to encourage other students from the university to get to know you. Help them to support each other and be with them to guide and strengthen them in their faith as they seek to tell others about you and how important you are in their lives. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Beaconsfield Court.

Tuesday, 21st. February: All Age Service Planning Meeting.

Dear Lord, we pray for those involved in planning our All Age Services who are meeting tonight. May they be inspired to think of new ways and have fresh ideas for these very important services when all the children remain in church to worship you with their families. Help them to continue to make these services interesting and lively so that they appeal to all who attend and so encourage more people to want to meet with you Lord. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Bell Road.

Wednesday, 22nd. February: Ash Wednesday.

Dear Lord, as we start the season of the Lent we think of you as you were tempted in the wilderness in preparation for your sacrifice for us in Jerusalem. Help us to resist temptation and forgive us for all the times that we have let you down by not doing the things you wish us to do. At this time of reflection bring us the blessings of your forgiveness and help us to realise that you love us despite all our faults. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Belvidere Road.

Thursday, 23rd. February: PCC Meeting.

Dear Father, please bless all the members of St. Matthews PCC as they meet tonight. We thank you for all the time and dedication they give to serve you in this way. Guide them all in any decisions they have to make so that our church can move forward in the direction you wish it to follow. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Birmingham Road.

Friday, 24th February: Walsall Street Ministry and Street Pastors.

Dear Lord, we ask that you will be with these two groups as they go out onto the streets of Walsall this evening sharing in a practical way your love for us all. May the words they speak be your words and that they will touch the hearts of all who hear. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of The Broadway.

Saturday 25th February : Liz Burley.

Dear Lord, we thank you for Liz and all the work she does with the children in our parish. We thank you for her hard work, dedication and enthusiasm in everything she does in your name. We ask you to bless her family and thank them for sharing her with us. Please continue to provide her with all the energy, help and inspiration that she needs to continue her ministry in our schools and children's groups. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Beacon Drive.

Sunday, 26th February: Children's Church.

Dear Lord, we pray today for all the children who attend our Children's Church. We ask that they really enjoy their time in learning more about you each Sunday. We thank you for the commitment and dedication of all the leaders and ask that their own faiths will grow stronger as they teach the children. May the children feel your loving presence in church today and encourage them to want to know even more about you. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Spring Court.

Monday, 27th February: Fairtrade Fortnight

Dear Lord, at the start of Fairtrade Fortnight we thank you for the Fairtrade initiative and all the good work it has done. We are sorry that so many farmers in Africa, Asia and South America are exploited just so that we in the West can have cheaper food and clothing. Help us to remember that you are with us always, even in the supermarkets, and show us how we can be more responsible in the goods that we buy. Amen

Please pray for the residents of Beech Court.

Tuesday, 28th February: Carers and Toddlers.

Dear Lord, we thank you for the dedication of the leaders of our Toddler Group, Sara, Rosemary and Liz as they seek to keep the group going during the absence of Jacky and Viv. Please watch over Jacky and Viv and restore their health after their recent serious illnesses. We ask you to bless all the children, parents and carers who already attend this group and pray that more children and parents will want to join. May they enjoy their time in play and fellowship and help the leaders to encourage them all to become part of St Matthew's larger church family and join in other activities within the church. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Edward Court.

Wednesday, 29th February: Lent Lunch Our lent course starts.

Dear Lord, we pray for the speaker and all the helpers who are involved in today's Lent lunch at The Crossing. We pray that many new people will attend these lunches and be moved to want to learn more about you and your love for us. We also pray for our own Lent course that starts today. Please be with all those who attend these events. You know what each of us needs and we pray that those who are seeking your help will receive the reassurance that comes with knowing how much you care for each one of us. Amen.

Please pray for the residents of Elmsdale Court.

