

Friday 25 ...and finally for Blue Coat Juniors, giving thanks for the Christian witness of many of the staff and the lovely atmosphere of the school, praying too for Liz Burley's regular after school clubs.

Saturday 26 Give thanks for Adrian and the excellent job he is doing at the St Matthew's Centre. Pray for new strategies to attract bookings in these recessionary times and for improving links with our community users – how can we reach out to them in God's love?

*...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love. (Eph 3:17)*

Sunday 27 Have you noticed how Children's Church has been quietly growing lately? Give thanks for all the new children and their families and pray for more growth! Pray for Liz Burley and all who work with our children.

Monday 28 Our Monday Craft Group is an excellent source of profit and fun! Pray for the group to continue to provide great fellowship for its present members and to attract new ones. Please keep Joan Nock in your prayers as she recovers from her recent hip operation.

**February Missionary Focus: Paul & Lesley Evans**

Paul and Lesley are recently back from an action-packed tour of the Falkland Islands.

- Give thanks for many opportunities to witness in various locations all over the islands.
- Please keep praying that the hard spiritual soil of the Falklands will be broken up and people will turn more deeply to the Lord.

Paul is now in Zimbabwe.

- Please pray for stamina as he copes with difficult living conditions there – constant cuts in electricity and water supplies.
- Pray for his preparations for teaching courses at Harare Theological Seminary. It's really hard to prepare lectures on a computer when the power keeps cutting out!
- Also pray that HTS will provide inspiring future leaders who will make a profound impact on their struggling country.



# Prayer News



**February 2011**

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

Sunday 6 Pray for twins Frankie and Steph, baptised today, for mum and dad Alex and Ian and all their family and friends.

Monday 7 Pray for everyone who took part in Messy Church on Saturday, asking that God would continue to bless them and lead them closer to himself and that our relationship with them will grow.

Tuesday 8 Our wardens are meeting tonight. Give thanks for all their hard work and pray that we may find the right people to come forward as new wardens in future.

Wednesday 9 Baptism preparation is a tremendous source of witness in our church. Pray for Liz as she meets young families tonight and at other times and shares with them what it means to say, "I turn to Christ."

Thursday 10 Give thanks for the young people on our confirmation course! Pray that we will lay down good foundations for future discipleship together, through God's grace.

Friday 11 Walsall's Christian bookshop and resource centre, the Hub, is coming up to its first anniversary soon. Pray that it will continue to flourish and be a blessing to the whole borough.

Saturday 12 Please continue to keep Keith and Marian in your prayers, this wonderful couple who have given so much to St Matthew's and to the Lord over many years. Pray for the inner strength to cope with present adversity.

***For this reason I bow my knee before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named... (Eph 3:14)***

Sunday 13 Our guest speaker in today's pulpit swap is Gennie Evans from St John's Pleck – please pray for Gennie and St John's.

Monday 14 On Valentine's Day let us all pray for the state of marriage throughout our country, for the devastation wrought by broken relationships, and for strong Christian marriages.

Tuesday 15 Tonight our all-age service planning group is meeting. Pray for lively and enriching all-age services that will draw children and families closer to God.

Wednesday 16 St Matthew's DCC meets tonight. Please pray particularly for the reordering project as we seek to move it on. Give thanks for those in leadership and pray for them.

Thursday 17 Thursday is the day we have dedicated to pray for our Borough – next week on Thursday prayers will be said in the Town Hall to mark the opening of a new Council session. Please pray for our leaders in very difficult times and with hard decisions to make.

Friday 18 We are so blessed in our home group leaders! Pray that they may continually be encouraged as they fulfil this vital role in pasturing and building up God's people at St Matthew's.

Saturday 19 Let's keep praying for Church Hill Praise. Give thanks for Chris and Amy and their inspirational leadership, and for the faith and passion of all the young people. Pray that this service will be constantly renewed in the Spirit.

***...that according to His riches in glory He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being...(Eph 3:16)***

Sunday 20 We're following the Servant Songs in February – four wonderful poems in the book of the prophet Isaiah that hymn the beauty of Jesus centuries before He was born. Pray that we may all see Jesus with fresh eyes and be drawn deeper into His love.

Monday 21 Every Monday our new worship team under Ray Chamberlain's leadership meets to practise. Give thanks for new members of the team like Tiffany and pray for the Spirit's anointing on all our worship to usher us into God's presence.

Tuesday 22 It's half term and our own Blue Coat Schools are taking a break. Please pray for the staff and those in leadership, for some creative and refreshing time off...

Wednesday 23 ...and please continue to pray for Blue Coat Comp, for fresh vision and direction for the governing body as they seek out fresh developments for the future of the school...

Thursday 24 ...also for Blue Coat Infants now that head teacher Janet Davies has announced she is going to retire soon. Janet is a hard act to follow! Pray for the right person to be found...