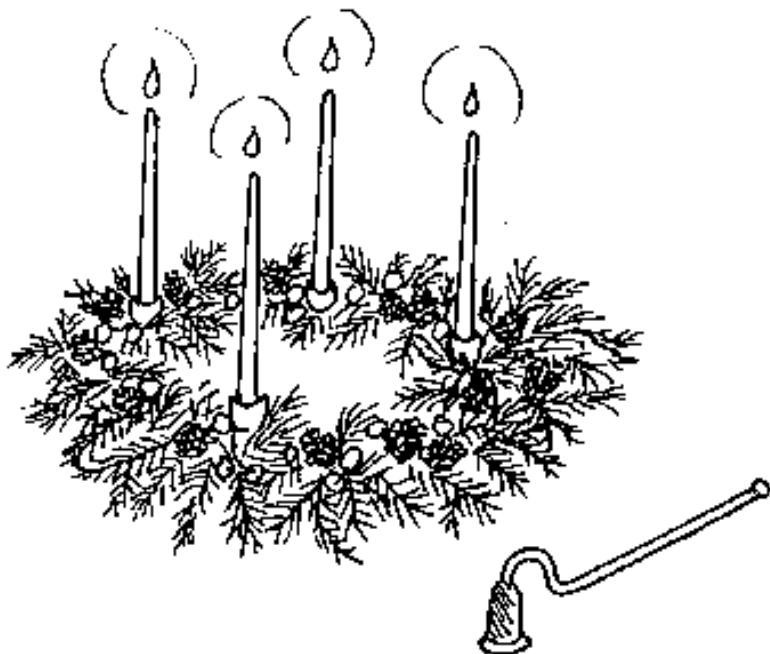


www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk



The Countdown has started!

Services 27 November: Advent Sunday

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 8.00am | BCP Communion |
| 10.00am | Communion + Children's Church and Youth Church |
| 3.00pm | St Matthew's Asian Congregation in the Centre |
| 3.45pm | BCP Evensong |
| 6.30pm | Church Hill Praise |
| 6.30pm | Cluster Healing Service at St Luke's |

Theme – *Coming, Ready or Not!* Mark 13:24-37

This Week...

Mon 28	2.00	Craft Group	Centre
Tue 29	8.45	morning prayer	Church
Wed 30	9.30	toddler group	Centre
	10.00	Midweek communion	Church
	6.00	Brownies	Centre
	7.30	Guides	Centre
Thu 1	8.45	morning prayer	Church
Fri 2	8.45	Blue Coat Comp service	Church
Sat 3	10.00	Prayer Hour	Church
	10.00	Open morning	Church

Notices

Pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* Friday 2 December We have already sold over 300 tickets for this, be quick and buy some while you still can! Adrian at the 10am service today to sell you a ticket while there are some left. Showings 4pm and 7.30pm. Tickets only £5.

Christmas flyers and posters Please take a bundle of flyers and put them through the letterboxes in the streets shown. We also have A4 posters and a few in A3 – would you like to put one up in your window or car, or take them to your corner shop, office or pub. Let's get as many people into St Matthew's as we can for Jesus' birthday!

Raise money for St Matthew's. If you are ordering Christmas gifts online, please use the EasyFundRaising link at the bottom of the home page of the website. Every purchase raises money for St Matthew's and it costs you **nothing**. All major retailers have an agreement to donate a portion of their profit to our church.

Thank you everyone who took part in the Great Pre-Christmas Cleanup on Saturday! The bacon butties were fantastic, don't miss out next time! Also all who came to the Quiz, a great night which raised £16.45.

Crib service rehearsals These will take place on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 Dec, both times at 10am in Church. We need lots of children!

Gift Tags: Michael Hazzard is distributing gift tags for those who want to give a gift to a needy child via the Town Centre Ministry's scheme.

The Rock Book Stall offers value Christian books & gifts from only £1! Used & new Discounted Books – Gifts – Children's Books – Bibles — Cards. Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday in the month 10am-12.

Messy Church needs you Messy Church on 4 December needs the following - boxes large and small, plastic bottles, yoghurt pots, egg cartons etc. No metal or glass please. Put them in the box in church. We also need small cakes and mince pies for our Messy meal. Bring them to the centre from 2pm on 4 December or speak to Liz Burley.

All-age service next Sunday morning. This will include an opportunity to give to the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Please bring some extra money for a retiring collection to support this work.

Join a Street Pastors Prayer Team! Each meets once a month at Bradford Street Centre on a Friday or Saturday from 9.45pm on. Contact Mark Desorgher 07505 121934 mark.des@blueyonder.co.uk

St Matthew's New Year Party Saturday 14 January 7.30. This is going to be great fun! Find out who is on our own New Year Honours List. See Diane Edlin or Anne Tolley if you want to come or help or do a turn!

Parking: double yellow lines have been introduced into the Close without our knowledge or consent. We are investigating...

- After 9 years of not being able to park at church on busy days, the Rector finally has his own parking space! Please leave it free.
- Please be a good neighbour and observe the *Residents Only* parking sign at the south end of the Close by the Centre.

Plan Your Christmas at St Matthew's!

Friday 2 Dec	4pm and 7.30	Panto	Church
Saturday 3	4pm	Messy Christmas	Centre
Thursday 8		Carol Singing in Asda	Asda
Saturday 10	12 noon	Town Centre Ministry carols	The Bridge
Sunday 11	3pm	Memorial Service	Church
	6.30pm	Church Hill Christmas Praise	Church
Thursday 15		Carol Singing in Asda	Asda
Sunday 18	6.30pm	Carol Service	Church
Saturday 24	5pm	Crib Service	Church
	11.15pm	Midnight Mass	Church
Sunday 25	8am	BCP communion + carols	Church
	10am	family communion	Church

No other services Christmas Day

Week 26-31 ***Church and Office closed – no meetings or services***

Sunday 1 Jan	10am	communion (not all-age)	Church
	6.30	Church Hill Praise	Church

No other services New Year's Day

Services 4 December: Advent 2

8.00am	BCP Communion
10.00am	All-age service
12 noon	shortened BCP communion
3.00pm	St Matthew's Asian Congregation in the Centre
6.30pm	Church Hill Praise

Theme – *Coming with Hope, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end*

For Your Prayers...

Give thanks for a great Alpha Course with a real buzz about it and lots of wonderful people. Pray for the next steps as people ask "where to from here?" Thanks too that we have permanent accommodation for Lee at last!

Making Christ Known: Please pray for our Christmas flyers as they go round our parish and throughout the town. Pray for a full house this Christmas!

The World: Keep praying for those caught up in turmoil in the Arab world and especially for Egyptian Christians who are being savagely attacked there.

For Healing: Helen Robinson, Demetra Stefanopoulos, Vivian, Pauline Shepherd, Brian White, Pauline Bayley, William Bates, Patricia Smyth, Barry McEwan, Andrew Taylor, Doreen Hammond, Hazel Joyce, Felicity Clarkson.

Rest in Peace: All named in our memorial book, all those who have lost their lives in Afghanistan.

Contact Us:-

Colin Gibson, Rector ct.gibson@tiscali.co.uk	01922-624012
Pastor Fiaz, Asian Minister revlfs@hotmail.com	01922-631814
Liz Chamberlain, Curate lizchamberlainuk@yahoo.co.uk	01922-443362
Ray Chamberlain, Worship Leader chamboray@yahoo.co.uk	01922-443362
Liz Burley, Family and Children's Worker stmatthewschildrenandfamilies@googlemail.com	07725981956
Lee Norfolk, Youth Worker leenorfolk1988@hotmail.com	07554664571
Church Office - open Mon, Wed, Fri 10am-2pm stmatthewscentre@tiscali.co.uk	01922-626039
Adrian Perks, Centre Manager Mon-Fri 9-4.30 stmatthewsmanager@tiscali.co.uk	01922-626039
Chris & Amy Lane, Church Hill Praise chris_lane1@hotmail.com	01922-615890
John Edlin, Webmaster johnedlin@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk	01922-626520