

St Matthew's Parish Church is part of the
Walsall Team Ministry

RECTOR *off duty Monday*

Rev Colin Gibson - Tel 62 40 12
E mail - ct.gibson@tiscali.co.uk



CURATE: Rev Paula Smith

Tel 07 82 82 86 167 E mail—
revdpaula@tiscali.co.uk (*off duty Friday*)

DIOCESAN ASIAN MISSIONER—*off duty Monday*

Rev Luther Fiaz Samuel - E mail revlufs@hotmail.com

Tel 63 18 14

PRAYER GUIDE - Marian Masters

Tel 62 38 28

CENTRE MANAGER

Adrian Perks Tel 626039

Email: stmatthewsmanager@tiscali.co.uk

Church Secretary - Mrs Maureen Yardley

PARISH OFFICE

Tel 62 60 39

Open - Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 10 - 2pm

E mail—stmatthewscentre@tiscali.co.uk.

Items for mini-mag before noon Wednesdays - please!

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Joan Nock - Manor Hospital contact Tel 63 98 90

Keith Masters - emergency admissions to Hospitals

Tel 62 38 28

and Rev Paula Smith for Pastoral Support

Bishop Alan's Farewell

✓ All tickets for Bishop Alan's leaving service have unfortunately now been allocated.

✓ If you would like to make a contribution to Bishop Alan's leaving present please send a cheque, made payable to LDBF, to Jonathan Hill, Presentation Fund, St Mary's House, The Close, Lichfield WS13 7LD.

Children's Society stall - help wanted

The Children's Society are running a stall on Walsall Market on 25 April to catch the St George's Day celebrations. They need saleable items, priced as the donors think fit, and volunteers to run the stall. If you may be able to help please contact Allan Baldwin on 01827 897954 / 07714412040 / aab@chidsoc.org.uk

Roger Harper's new novel

Remember the Rev'd Roger from his days in Aldridge and at Church Hill Praise? His new novel *A British Crash* will be launched on Friday March 20, 6.30 - 8.00pm at St Martin's Church Hall. Please let him know if you are coming for catering on roger.harper@bluevonder.co.uk or 01922 611484.

From The Rector

Ways of Praying - Lent Course session 3

Our second session of the Lent Course was thoughtful and challenging as we thought about living and praying the Christian life at work. We were a bit hampered by hiccups with the technology and the heating, but the Reverend Olwen Smith's contributions were full of insight. There seemed to be even more people that in week one!

Please join us for forthcoming sessions even if you did not manage to get to either of the first two. For all remaining sessions we are back in the Centre on Wednesday nights at 7.30pm. Here is the programme:-

- 18 March *Intercessory Prayer* Christine Jackson
- 25 March *Creative Prayer* Carol Athorne
- 1st April *Prayer and Healing*
the Reverend Jeremy Oakley

Last chance to sign up for the Electoral Roll!!!

The AGM is coming up in April and in preparation for this we have to update our Electoral Roll, taking off the names of people who have left or died and adding any new members who wish to join. The Roll is only open for a short time for this purpose and **will be closed from this weekend** until the AGM has taken place. This is because only those listed on the Roll are entitled to vote at the AGM. So if you want to take part, act now and sign up!

Membership forms are available at the back of Church. To join the Roll you need to be over 16 and baptised into the Christian faith and either to live in the Parish or to have attended St Matthew's for at least six months.

AGM Nominations

The Nominations book for the posts of Churchwarden, PCC members and DCC members is now at the rear of church. Elections to these posts will take place at the AGM on 22 April. Please consider carefully and prayerfully whom to nominate or whether you wish to stand for election yourself.

Children's Activity Box

There is a Children's Activity Box on the table in the welcome area at the rear of church which parents with children are invited to use during all age services or Church Hill Praise. At Family Communion Services children aged 5+ are very welcome to join Children's Church. In the box you will find pens and pencils and various activity sheets which are appropriate for children age 5+. Please help yourselves and put back pens and pencils after use. Thank you.

Advance reminder - Clocks go forward in two weeks



LENT

St Matthew's - Walsall

Making Christ known
www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk

Mini Mag

Sunday at St Matthew's

March 15th - Third Sunday in Lent

8-00am	Holy Communion - Rev A Smith
10-00am	All- Age Communion Service Preacher: Rev Andy Smith
12noon	Shortened Holy Communion with The Rector
3-00pm	Asian Community church in Centre Preacher: Pastor Fiaz
6-30pm	Church Hill Praise with Rev Paula Smith



A Warm Welcome to St Matthew's today!

St Matthew's has a hearing loop system. To use it please turn your Aids on to "T"

During our 10-00am morning Service there is a Crèche available for the 0-5's in the Children's Chapel. Junior school children will leave for the Centre

After the 10am Service you are invited to stay in Church for coffee, tea, squash and biscuits etc.

A chance to meet people in Fellowship.



Child Protection Training

On Saturday 9th May a Child Protection Training event will take place in St Matthews Centre between 10am and 3.30pm. Attendance is essential for all those holding CRB clearance, those who are involve directly with children at St Matthews (eg. creche and Children's Church leaders-Asian Church children's group leaders, bell ringing captain/helpers) and anyone who is involved in work or ministry which may bring them into contact with children (eg. baptism and marriage preparation, pastoral care). Please bring a packed lunch. Drinks will be provided. See Liz Burley if you need any further information.

PRAYERS -

Making Christ Known

For us to respond over appeals made for help
For Blue Coat school considering whether
Muslim girls may wear the headscarf.
Rt Rev Alan Smith taking up his new
appointment as Diocesan Bishop of St Albans
For our Children's church and its leaders



For the World

For justice and peace in Northern Ireland
For all affected by the recession
For victims of the shootings in Alabama and Germany

All in Care / Nursing Homes or housebound

Kath Morgan, Jenny Christopher, Ted & Dorothy
George, Flossie Smith, Ruth Whittall, Hazel Breeze, Syl-
via Smallwood, Vera Oakley, Freda Page, and for those
caring for them.

Our Missionary Links

For the Diocese of Matlosane in S Africa
For our Walsall Pregnancy help group
For Paul Evans and the Christian community in Harare

Those in hospital or ill at home

Bessie Griffiths, Ben Fiaz, David Maguire, Priscilla Mary,
Tom Gibson, Anne Boyle, Margaret Kent, Loraine
Mayes, Eunice Allen, Baby Briar, Baby Max, Betty Cal-
laghan, David Rice, June Hartshorne, Win Kempson,
Mandy Jones, Doreen Smith, Rod Tonks, Dennis Oak-
ley, David Smith, Michael Dunn, Rita Chilton Mike
Walton, John Page

The Family and Friends of the recently deceased

For those remembered this week in our Book of Remem-
brance Book and all those killed serving in our Forces

LOVE LIFE - LIVE LENT- Transform your world 40 Top Tips to get better - £1 from Wesley Owen

Speaking about a disease that afflicts the Western World
at Wednesday's Lent Lunch at St Paul's, the Rev Mark
Kinder revealed a list of 40 Top Tips (one for each day)
that have been endorsed by Archbishops of York and
Canterbury.. Here are just a few

Tip10 - Leave a pound coin or token in a shopping trol-
ley where it can be used - (the recipient may feel moved
to do the same)

Tip 20 - Buy something from a charity shop and re-
verse haggle (tell them their prices are just too low
and insist on paying more)

Action 38 - Treat yourself by buying a Fairtrade
Easter Egg

The Week Ahead

MONDAY March -16th

2-00pm Craft Group in Blue room of The Centre
7-30pm Town Centre Ministry meeting in Centre

TUESDAY March 17th- St Patrick's Day

8-45am Morning Prayer
10-11am Mayfield School visit to church

WEDNESDAY - March 18th

9-00am Carers and Toddlers
10-00am Holy Communion (BCP) - Rev P Smith
12noon Town Centre Lent Lunch at St Paul's
Speaker Rev George Fisher - (see notice)
7-30pm Ways of Praying Programme in Centre
Speaker Christine Jackson (see notice)

THURSDAY - March 19th

8-45am Morning Prayer
7-30pm D.C.C. meeting in CHURCH

FRIDAY - March 20th

8-30am Blue Coat Comprehensive School Service
7-30pm Youth meeting in the Centre
7-30pm 'ROCK' musical at Central Hall - see notice

SATURDAY - March 21st

10-00am Prayer Hour in Prayer Chapel (all welcome)

St Matthew's Asian Congregation

Wish to thank all those who joined in our Celebrations on
March 8th. It was a great time of sharing, fellowship and joy.
It was a truly memorable and enjoyable evening.
Special thanks to:-

- Rev'd Colin Gibson for his powerful message for the Asian Church
- Michael and Ann Hazzard for providing three Urdu Bibles a gift to the people who took part in the Bible reading plan
- St Matthew's church for providing a Chalice for use in Asian congregation's Communion Services
- To all who worked hard on presentations and updates of Website & Webradio
- Ladies for cooking and arranging delicious meal

Series of Study on the Holy Spirit

During Lent is season a series of study on the Holy Spirit is going on every Sunday on "The person and work of the Holy Spirit"

Sunday March 15th at 4-00pm will be a Communion Service with Pastor Fiaz preaching

Please take this Mini Mag home with you to keep you informed of what is going on and DO PLEASE READ IT!

Services next Sunday March 22nd - 4th in Lent

8-00am Holy Communion: Marian Masters
10-00am Family Communion
Preacher: Marian Masters
3-45pm Evening Prayer
Speaker: Michael Hazzard
4-00pm Asian Church in Centre -
Preacher: Rev Luther Fiaz
6-30pm Church Hill Praise with The Rector



CHURCH NOTICES

Town Centre LENT LUNCHES - 'Hot Topics'

These very popular occasions are on every Wednesday in Lent in the Upper Room at St Paul's from 12 noon up to the Service at 1-10 pm (to 1-30pm) with a different speaker each week. Proceeds help meet the needs of the homeless at the Glebe Centre.

The speaker this week is the Rev'd George Fisher - "Does the Church have a future?"

GOOD FRIDAY WALK of WITNESS

April 10th - A great deal of planning for this is required and the organisers are looking for help for the following.

Stewards to help marshal the crowds. First aiders to be available just in case. One or two fit young men to shadow the organisation and implementation of the crucifixion so that next year they could take over from the pensioner who has been doing it for many years. And musicians

Can you help Children's Church?

Do you have a portable CD Player (complete with speakers) that you no longer use? Would you be prepared to donate it to Children's Church for use in their weekly meetings so that they can play songs, listen to stories and use background music for their activities? If you can help please call Liz Burley on 0121 354 1099.

CHRISTIAN MUSICAL

A Performance of Roger Jones musical "ROCK" will be given on Friday March 20th at Central Hall Methodist Church with a professional singers and dancers and a huge Choir. Tickets are available from Michael Hazard and Ann Walton.

"Rock" is based upon the life of Simon Peter and his life. Well worth going too!

LADIES GROUP

A reminder that our Dinner which was cancelled owing to the exceptional bad weather last month has now been re-arranged for Tuesday 31st March (details same as original booking)