

WELCOME

to the Heart of England Benefice.

Bidford on Avon · Binton · Exhall · Salford Priors · Temple Grafton · Wixford



What's on in March?



Saturday 16th March, 2-4pm:

Messy Church at St Laurence's Church, Bidford!
No need to book. FREE entry (donations welcome).
For more info, email: c.leahy@yahoo.co.uk

Friday 22nd March, 12.30pm:

The Mother's Union is hosting a bring and share lunch in St Laurence's church.

This is for everyone: members, non-members, women and men, to get together, chat, and enjoy each other's company. Contact Caroline Leahy by email c.leahy@yahoo.co.uk to let her know if you are coming along, so she can plan accordingly.



Good Friday, 29th March, 10:30am-12:00pm:

Come along to St Matthew's Church for family-friendly Messy Easter fun. Crafts, activities, songs, puppets, hot cross buns, and refreshments.

Saturday 6th April, 9am-1pm

Jumble Sale at St Laurence's Church Hall. Plenty of general jumble, nearly new, bric-a-brac, kitchenware, plants etc. Refreshments and home made cakes.

There may even be a tombola! Admission FREE.

Quality donations accepted. Contact Judith 01789 773328 or Midge 01789 490234.

Saturday 6th April, 10am-12pm

Coffee Connect at St Matthew's Church. Enjoy refreshments and cakes with friends.

You can find information on our services for March inside this sheet, or visit us online for more information.

heartparishes.org.uk | stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk



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.



Worshipping God
Making new Disciples
Transforming Communities



March Services and

3rd March 2024: The Third Sunday of Lent

| | | |
|---------|----------------|----------------|
| 8.45am | Holy Communion | Salford Priors |
| 10.30am | Café Church | Bidford |
| 10:30am | Family Service | Salford Priors |
| 6.30pm | Evensong | Wixford |

1st Reading: Exodus 20.1-17

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.18-25*

Gospel Reading: John 2.13-22

Collect

Eternal God,

give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord,

grant your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Optional reading*

10th March 2024: The Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion | Temple Grafton |
| 10.00am | Holy Communion | Bidford |
| 10:30am | Holy Communion & Muddy Church | Salford Priors |
| 10:30am | Village Praise | Binton |

1st Reading: Exodus 2.1-10

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 1.3-7 *

Gospel Reading: Luke 2.33-35

Collect

God of love,

passionate and strong, tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God,

as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Optional reading*

cross the Benefice

17th March 2024: The Fifth Sunday of Lent

| | | |
|---------|-----------------|----------------|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion | Exhall |
| 10.00am | Holy Communion | Bidford |
| 10:30am | Family Service | Salford Priors |
| 5:00pm | Breathing Space | Salford Priors |

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31.31-34

2nd Reading: Hebrews 5.5-10*

Gospel Reading: John 12.20-33

Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for
you:
give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Optional reading*

24th March 2024: Palm Sunday

| | | |
|---------|----------------|----------------|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion | Wixford |
| 10.00am | Holy Communion | Bidford |
| 10:30am | Holy Communion | Salford Priors |
| 11:00am | Village Praise | Exhall |

1st Reading: Mark 11.1-11

2nd Reading: Psalm 118.1-2, 19-end

OR

1st Reading: Isaiah 50.4-9a

2nd Reading: Philippians 2.5-11*

Gospel Reading: Mark 14.1-end of 15

Collect

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

**Optional reading*

For Your Prayers This Month:



Matthew 7:7-8: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened."

Jesus tells us to go on asking, go on seeking, go on knocking.

We thank you Father for answered prayer:

- Sergii's family have been granted visas. Sergii's niece is recovering from surgery in Kershon and hopes to soon join the family in Poland before they make the move to safety.
- Helen Bowen will take up her new post as Headteacher at Salford Priors School after Easter.
- The work on our church roof is progressing and we pray and trust that the outstanding finances will come in to complete the work.
- Your Holy Spirit has inspired those who attended the Activate conference.
- The Explore course is enabling conversation about God and the bigger issues of life.
- We continue to ask for improvement in health and quality of life for those awaiting appointments and operations: Roger Huggins, Bethany Morriss, Rhiannon Simmons, Alex Waring, Alan, Peter Dixon, Joanna Travers.
- And those recovering and those needing your healing touch: Michael Macdonald, Doreen Blundall, Eloise Zoe, Anna, Terry Singlehurst, Sylvia Muller.
- We thank you Father for our vicar Sheila, our Family Link Worker Sarah and our Administrator, Amy. Strengthen and enable them by your Holy Spirit.
- We ask for your hand to be upon the selection of a new Rector for our benefice of Bidford-on-Avon, Binton, Exhall, Salford Priors, Temple Grafton and Wixford. Also upon the selection of a new headteacher for Bidford School and the newly appointed head at Dunnington School.

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 in St Matthew's Church.

We meet every Tuesday morning at 9.30am to pray for ourselves, our church and community, and the wider world. It's an opportunity to join with others in a place of quiet as we lift to our Heavenly Father those issues weighing on our hearts.

Contact Information:

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Rector | <i>Vacancy</i> | - | - |
| Assoc. Minister | <i>Revd Sheila Bridge</i> | 07754 784251 | <i>Sheila.heartparishes@gmail.com</i> |
| Asst. Clergy | <i>Revd Michael Godfrey</i> | 07725 878530 | <i>Rev.michael.godfrey@gmail.com</i> |
| Asst. Clergy | <i>Revd Canon Adrian Leahy</i> | 07454 739755 | <i>revaleahy@gmail.com</i> |
| Asst. Clergy | <i>Revd John Ganjavi</i> | 07753 619789 | <i>johnganjavi@btinternet.com</i> |
| Reader | <i>Mrs Judith Meehan</i> | 01789 773328 | <i>J.meehan@bidford.onl</i> |
| Reader | <i>Mr Allan Steven</i> | 07816 783382 | <i>voll0802@gmail.com</i> |
| Administrator | <i>Mrs Amy James</i> | 07747 213501 | <i>amy.heartparishes@gmail.com</i> |
| SP Family Link Worker | <i>Mrs Sarah Folkes</i> | 07930 913643 | <i>sarah.heartparishes@gmail.com</i> |
| Prayer Requests | <i>Mrs Denise Andreo</i> | 07791 347651 | <i>deniseandreo@gmail.com</i> |

Group website: www.heartparishes.org.uk

St Matthew's website: www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk



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