

For Your Prayers This Month:



“May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with Hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15 v 13

Loving Heavenly Father,

- We thank you that Alexi and family now have a home of their own.
- We pray that Beth and Oli’s house sale completes soon, that Oli soon finds work and that Beth’s health will allow her to continue in her part-time job.
- Please strengthen Ruth and her family as they wait for specialist appointments.
- Thank you that Debi’s sister, Pauline’s health continues to improve.
- We pray for Jean’s daughter, Hayley, to have a diagnosis and relief from pain. Also for grand-daughter, Natasha.
- Penny needs relief from chronic fatigue and improvement in her eyesight now that she’s had surgery.
- Father God, you know the needs of these that we lift to you in prayer: Sue Lawrence (Evesham) in her bereavement; Walter and his family; Alex Waring; Margaret’s son, Alan; Wendy & Mark; Joanna Travers; Eloise-Zoe; Sylvia Muller; Terry Singlehurst; and all of Julie’s family.
- Thank you for the Explore course. May those taking part experience your love and peace as they seek you.
- Would you inspire those working together to bring a new rector to this benefice.
- We pray for our teachers and staff at our local schools of Salford Priors, Dunnington and Bidford.
- Thank you for blessing us with Sheila and Sarah and all those faithful servants who serve this benefice and community.

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 at St Matthew’s Church. 9:30am every Tuesday in the Church Room.

Contact Information:

Contact Information:			
Rector	Vacancy	-	-
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Group website: www.heartparishes.org.uk

St Matthew’s Church Website: www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk



www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchsalfordpriors

WELCOME

to the Heart of England Benefice

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



What’s on in December

Please join us at our special services and events throughout Advent.

Sunday 1st December

- 10.30am Family Christingle Service at St Matthew’s, Salford Priors
- 6.30pm Advent Evensong & Refreshments at St Milburga’s Wixford

Saturday 7th December

- 10am-12noon Coffee Connect Christmas Special with children’s crafts

Sunday 8th December

- 5.00pm Blue Christmas Service at St Matthew’s, Salford Priors (arrive at 4pm for refreshments)

Saturday 14th-Sunday 15th December

- 12noon-6pm Christmas Tree Festival at St Laurence’s, Bidford
- Community Choir | Raffle | Refreshments
- Adults: £4 | 12-17yrs £1 | Under 12s free

Sunday 15th December

- 10am Holy Communion with Christmas Trees at St Laurence’s, Bidford
- 3pm Carol Service at St Giles’, Exhall

Wednesday 18th December

- 7pm Carol Service at Binton

Saturday 21st December

- 3pm Bidford Village Nativity Walk, starting at St Joseph’s RC Church and ending at St Laurence’s

Sunday 22nd December

- 10am Carol Service at St Laurence’s, Bidford
- 4pm Carol Service (family friendly) at St Matthew’s, Salford Priors

Tuesday 24th December

Christmas Eve

- 3pm Nativity at St Peter’s, Binton
- 4pm Crib Service at St Laurence’s, Bidford
- 4pm ‘Follow the Star’ Family Nativity at St Matthews, Salford Priors
- 9.30pm Holy Communion at St Milburga’s, Wixford
- 9.30pm Holy Communion at St Matthew’s, Salford Priors

For a full list of services throughout December, visit:
www.heartparishes.org.uk/church-services/latest-news/



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.



Services across the Benefice 1-22 December

At Family Services or Café Church, worship leaders are free to choose alternative reading(s).
When it is a Communion service, a gospel reading is usual.

1st December 2024: Advent

8.45am Holy Communion Salford Priors
10.30am Café Church Bidford
10.30am Christingle Family Service Salford Priors
6.30pm Advent Evensong & Refreshments Wixford

Individual church/minister choosing readings for today.

Collect

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

8th December 2024: 2nd Sunday of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion (weather dependent) Temple Grafton
10.00am Holy Communion Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion & Muddy Church Salford Priors
10.50am Village Praise & Remembrance Exhall
5.00pm 'Breathing Space' Salford Priors

1st Reading: Malachi 3.1-4 | **2nd Reading:** Philippians 1.3-11 | **Gospel Reading:** Luke 3.1-6

Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that,
when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th December Noon-6pm
at St Laurence's Church, Bidford-on-Avon
Community Choir | Raffle | Refreshments
Adults £4, ages 12-17 £1, Under 12s free



15th December 2024: 3rd Sunday of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion Exhall
10.00am Holy Communion (with Christmas trees) Bidford
10.30am Café Church (Family Service) Salford Priors
3.00pm Carol Service Exhall

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-end | **2nd Reading:** Philippians 4.4-7 | **Gospel Reading:** Luke 3.7-18

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**

22nd December 2024: 4th Sunday of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion Wixford
10.00am Carol Service Bidford
4.00pm Carol Service Salford Priors

Individual church/minister choosing readings for today.

Collect

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Upcoming Services:

24th December: Christmas Eve

3.00pm Nativity Binton
4.00pm Crib Service Bidford
4.00pm 'Follow the Star' Service Salford Priors
9.30pm Holy Communion Wixford
9.30pm Holy Communion Salford Priors

25th December: Christmas Day

10.00am Holy Communion Bidford
10.30am Holy Communion Binton
10.30am Holy Communion (by extension) Temple Grafton
10.00am Family Service Salford Priors
11.00am Family Communion Exhall

29th December: 1st Sunday of Christmas

8.00am Holy Communion Binton
10.30am Group Holy Communion Service Salford Priors

1st Reading: Isaiah 65.17-25
Gospel Reading: Luke 2.1-14

1st Reading: Isaiah 52.7-10
2nd Reading: Hebrews 1.1-12
Gospel Reading: Luke 2.8-20

1st Reading: Colossians 3.12-17
Gospel Reading: Luke 2.41-52

