

St Matthew's Newsletter 9th August 2026

Message from the Vicar

Dear friends,

I was saddened to hear about a recent fire at St Andrew's, Jarrom Street in Leicester. The fire took place the night before the funeral of a former churchwarden, and the coffin was in church when the fire broke out – thankfully it was removed safely, but the church has been very badly damaged.

Like us, St Andrew's is an Anglo-Catholic parish church. It has seen significant growth in recent years, and whilst I have never visited I have heard a lot about the good work that they do in an urban area with many challenges.

Just a few days after the fire, the Vicar of St Andrew's, Fr Johannes Arens, announced that services would be continuing as usual, but relocated to the church hall. He commented 'the whole community is in shock, but we are discovering our own "Blitz Spirit". We will rebuild our beautiful church'. In the meantime, the church in that part of Leicester continues – for the church is not just a building, but the people who gather together to worship.

Let us all pray for our brothers and sisters at St Andrew's in this time of uncertainty and disruption. If you would like to donate to support their Fire Recovery Fund, you can do so through the following link: <https://givealittle.co/c/standrewsfirerecoveryfund>

With my prayers,

Father George

This week's Services

Sunday 9th August – The 10th Sunday after Trinity

10 am Parish Mass and Sunday School

All are Welcome to Tea, Coffee, and biscuits which will be served in the Lounge and Family Room after the Service.

Tuesday

7:30 pm Phone-in Service

Wednesday

7 pm Mass in the Chapel

Thursday

10 am Mass in the Chapel

11 am Messy Church

Friday

10 am Mass in the Chapel

Sunday 16th August – (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

10 am Parish Mass and Sunday School

All are Welcome to Tea, Coffee, and biscuits which will be served in the Lounge and Family Room after the Service.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Fr. George

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Ann Harrison (Parish Administrator)

Parish Office (open weekday mornings)

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Churchwardens:

Janet Cook Tel. 07957 282433 Email: janet@dandjcook.co.uk

Tim Bartlett Tel. 07957 415887 Email: tabartlett64@gmail.com

Dates for your Diary

Friday Coffee Mornings

All are welcome for Coffee/Tea and Cake in The Lounge

Every Friday 11am – 1pm

Bereavement and Friendship Group

If you've suffered a bereavement or are feeling isolated and lonely come and meet other who know how you are feeling. Every Monday, 1:30 to 3:30 pm in The Lounge.

Book Club.

The next meeting on Wednesday 2nd September. The book for August is "The Fortnight in September" by R C Sheriff. If you love reading and would like to join us over a cup of tea/coffee you are warmly invited to our next meeting.

Messy Church, in the Summer Holidays, Thursdays 13th and 20th

August are the last two Messy Churches of the Summer Holidays. We run from 11am to 1pm.

There will be a working party to trim the hedge outside church on **Saturday 15th August**, starting at 10am. All volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

On **Sunday 13th September** at 4pm St Matthew's is hosting a deanery confirmation service, with churches from across central and north Birmingham invited to present candidates to be confirmed. If you have not been confirmed and would like to be, this would be a fantastic opportunity to do so. Please speak to Fr George for more information.

Early notice of a new date for St. Matthews Christmas Fair. This year it will be moving to Saturday 6th December

NOTICES

Messy Church continues over the next few weeks of the summer holidays, every Thursday from 11am-1pm, and is attracting lots of new people to St. Matthews, If you would like to volunteer, please speak to Fr George or Janet Cook.

A reminder that we welcome contributions towards the cost of flowers, perhaps in memory of a loved one. Please place any donations in the pot on the table.

Contributions of food for the **FOODBANK** are always welcome. Please give as generously as you can and place any items in the basket by the door.

Our church relies on the generosity of visitors and worshippers. If you would like to make a contribution to the ministry and mission of St Matthew's but don't have any cash, there is a contactless card reader on the table by the front door.

Please put your request for prayers during the intercessions on the sheet on the table.

If you could offer a lift to someone to Church, please let us know.

We are buying a memorial stone to commemorate Fr Michael Westlake's time at St. Matthew's. Contribution towards the cost of this would be gratefully received.

In addition to our regular facebook page [here](#) we now have an Instagram page [here](#)

Scripture Readings for This Week

Sunday 9th Aug (10th Sunday after Trinity)

	Matthew 14.22–33
Monday 10th Aug	Matthew 17.22–end
Tuesday 11th Aug	Matthew 18.1–5, 10, 12–14
Wednesday 12th Aug	Matthew 18.15–20
Thursday 13th Aug	Matthew 18.21–19.1
Friday 14th Aug	Matthew 19.3–12
Saturday 15th Aug	Luke 1.46–55

A Collect for Sunday 9th Aug

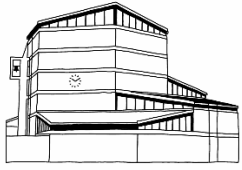
Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

St. Matthew's Prayer List,

Please Pray for The Sick and Those in Need:

Please contact Margaret Cox if you would like to add anyone to our prayer list.

Sat:	Barbara Linley, Andrew & Gail Walker, John Hope, Barbara Hayward
Mon:	Fr Barry Smart, Revd Frank and Margaret Finch, Bali Dhugga, John Duncombe, Pam Millard
Tue:	Jayne Middleton, Loretta Charles, Bernadette O'Sullivan, Lorna Wild, Barrie Greenwood
Wed:	Shirley Woodley, Eileen Eveson, Jean Hayes, Irene Roberts
Thu:	Dai & Lal Gravell, Shirley and Ray Hollins, Mark Hawkins Ann Edwards, Mark and Shiv Furnell
Fri:	David & Anne Gadd, Barbara Dring, Sue & Tony Kyte



ST MATTHEW'S
PERRY BEECHES