

St Matthew's Newsletter 30th August 2026

Message from the Vicar

Dear friends,

The summer is almost over, and soon the schools will be reopening for the start of a new year. I must admit that I love the transition from summer to autumn; as a child, this was always a time of new beginnings, and this is reflected in the church calendar too. Whereas the summer is fairly quiet as we journey through Ordinary Time, the autumn is filled with significant dates. St Matthew's Day, Michaelmas, Harvest Festival, All Souls and All Saints, and Remembrance Sunday all lie ahead between now and the start of Advent.

Over the next few months, we will be hearing from several visiting preachers, starting this Sunday with The Revd Amy Tan who will be joining us as our celebrant and preacher. We will also be holding a Parish Planning Day on 10th October to think together as a church about what we want the future of St Matthew's to look like, and I would encourage all of you to come along to take part in those discussions.

New beginnings are rarely dramatic, but instead are usually gradual processes of change. This autumn, let each of us pray that God may show us how he is 'doing a new thing' in our individual lives, and in the life of our church, and how we can play a part in this.

*Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
Isaiah 43.19*

With my prayers,
Father George

This week's Services

Sunday 30th August – The thirteenth 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 Healing Service

Wednesday

7 pm **Mass in the Chapel**

Thursday

10 am **Mass in the Chapel**

Friday

10 am **Mass in the Chapel**

Sunday 6th Septembr – (The fourteenth 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.

CONTACT DETAILS:

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Churchwardens:

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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

Berevment 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 of the Book Club is 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.

There will be a Mass today at 4pm at St Mark's, Kingstanding as Fr Philip Calvert celebrates 20 years as their Vicar. Fr George will be attending and it would be great if some of us from St Matthew's could also join him to represent our church and to give thanks for Fr Philip's ongoing ministry.

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.

October 4th will be St. Matthew's Harvest Supper, followed by a bring and share lunch

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

NOTICES

We welcome The Revd Amy Tan to St Matthew's today as our visiting celebrant and preacher. Amy is a priest in the Diocese of Birmingham and is currently serving on a placement in Asia. We are delighted that she can be with us here at St Matthew's today.

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

Scripture Readings for This Week

Sunday 30th Aug (13th Sunday after Trinity)

	Matthew 16.21–end
Monday 31st Aug	Luke 4.16–30
Tuesday 1st Sept	Luke 4.31–37
Wednesday 2nd Sept	Luke 4.38–end
Thursday 3rd Sept	Luke 5.1–11
Friday 4th Sept	Luke 5.33–end
Saturday 5th Sept	Luke 6.1–5

A Collect for Sunday 30th Aug

Almighty God,
who called your Church to bear witness
that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;
through him who was lifted up on the cross,
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

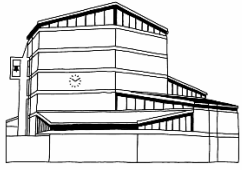
Amen

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, Graham Staton
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