

# WELCOME

to the Heart of England Benefice.

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




## What's on in May?

**Saturday 4th May, 10am-12pm**

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

**Sunday 12th May 10-11am**

Muddy Church and SPYING youth village litter pick.

Sign up by scanning the QR code here  or visit: [stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk](http://stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk)

Meet at 10am at the playground near TOPS or 10.15am at Church (all walking and moving abilities welcome).

Litter sticks, risk assessment, bin bags, map and allocated litter picking area provided.

**Saturday 18th May, 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](mailto:c.leahy@yahoo.co.uk)

**Wednesday 22nd May, 2pm:**

A special meeting with a talk from Rosie Lee, one of the Mothers' Union representatives, about the diocesan trip to Kapsabet in Kenya. Meeting in St Laurence's Church at 2pm

We'll also be enjoying afternoon tea together.

This will be a very interesting and inspiring meeting. All welcome!

Contact Caroline Leahy 07811 244279 for more information.

**Sunday 26th May, 12-6pm & Monday 27th May, 10-5pm**

Arts & Crafts Festival at St Laurence's Church.

A two-day exhibition and sale-of-work by local artists and creatives.

Under 18's can also get involved - a great opportunity to exhibit your creative work!

For more information, contact Tereza: [B504CM@gmail.com](mailto:B504CM@gmail.com)

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

[heartparishes.org.uk](http://heartparishes.org.uk) | [stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk](http://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**



# May Services across

## 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024: The Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

**1st Reading:** Acts 10.44-end

**2nd Reading:** 1 John 5.1-6

**Gospel Reading:** John 15.9-17

### Collect

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:  
help your Church to obey your command  
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

### Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:  
may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.. **Amen**

## 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024: The Seventh Sunday of Easter

8.00am	Holy Communion	Temple Grafton
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10:30am	Holy Communion & Muddy Church (10am - meet at play area)	Salford Priors
10:30am	Village Praise	Binton
5.00pm	Breathing Space	Salford Priors

**1st Reading:** Acts 1.15-17, 21-end

**2nd Reading:** 1 John 5.9-13

**Gospel Reading:** John 17.6-19

### Collect

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

### Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

# Cross the Benefice

## 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024: Pentecost

8.00am	Holy Communion	Exhall
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10:30am	Family Service	Salford Priors

**1st Reading:** Acts 2.1-21

**2nd Reading:** Romans 8.22-27

**Gospel Reading:** John 15.26-27, 16.4b-15

### **Collect**

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire;  
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,  
revive your Church with the breath of love,  
and renew the face of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter  
by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation  
the way of life eternal:  
open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.. **Amen**

## 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024: Trinity Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion	Wixford
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10:30am	Café Church	Salford Priors
11:00am	Village Praise	Exhall
6:30pm	Compline	Wixford

**1st Reading:** Isaiah 6.1-8

**2nd Reading:** Romans 8.12-17

**Gospel Reading:** John 3.1-17

### **Collect**

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,  
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,  
that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:  
hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in  
your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

alternative reading(s). When it is a Communion service, a gospel reading is usual.

# For Your Prayers This Month:



*"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."* **Hebrews 4: 16**

Heavenly Father, we come to you with our prayers of thanksgiving and need.

- We give thanks for the skills of our surgeons and those involved in research to overcome diseases.
- We give thanks for our doctors and nurses and all those working in care and we pray for a sensible work/life/remuneration balance for them as well as for our teachers.
- We ask your protection over Helen Bowen at Salford Priors, Monica Gamble at Dunnington who have taken up their posts as headteachers and Andrew Morris, newly appointed head at Bidford.
- We pray for clear direction for the Salford Priors food pantry.
- Would you move the hearts of those with musical talents to come forward to help us in our worship.
- We ask for your hand to be upon the selection of a new rector for this benefice and the vacancies in the Alcester Deanery.
- We thank you for our vicar Sheila and pray your blessing on her as she leads the next EXPLORE course.

We pray for all those recently bereaved:

**Jane** (Mandy's cousin), whose husband Michael Macdonald died last week.

Please hold in your prayers:

**Ruth** who has a chest infection and cracked rib, and her husband, **Glenn**, who will have a scan in May.

**Rhiannon**, whose seizures continue. Pray for an early appointment with her specialist to sort her medication.

**Beth**, diagnosed with FND and waiting for appointments for specialised physio & with neurology CBT in Oxford.

**Sue Lawrence** (Evesham) needs healing and strengthening.

Penny Prewer's brother, **Christopher Snelson** is receiving 24 hour care in a nursing home.

Thank you that **Peter Dixon** has a fresh referral to a specialist.

**Doreen**, that her results will show all clear.

**Elaine. Alex Waring. Terry Singlehurst. Eloise Zoe** and sister, **Anna. Alan** (Margaret Kibblewhite's son).

**Joanna Travers. Sylvia Muller.**

For peace and stability for **Jack** and for all **Julie's family**.

Loving Heavenly Father, we lift to you all those who are anxious about family and friends mentioned above.

**For inclusion in the Prayer List, please direct your requests to Denise Andreo:**

**Call: 07791 347651 or email: [deniseandreo@gmail.com](mailto:deniseandreo@gmail.com)**

## Weekly Prayer Meeting

Please join us for our short, informal weekly prayer meeting at St Matthew's Church.

Every Tuesday at 9.30am in the Church Room.

## Contact Information:

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

**Group website: [www.heartparishes.org.uk](http://www.heartparishes.org.uk)**

**St Matthew's website: [www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk](http://www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk)**



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