

# March Services across the Benefice

## 1st March : Lent 2

8.45am	Holy Communion	Salford Priors
10.30am	Café Church	Bidford
10.30am	Family Service	Salford Priors
6.30pm	Evensong	Exhall

**1st Reading:** Genesis 12: 1-4a | **2nd Reading:** Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17 | **Gospel Reading:** John 3:1-17

### Collect

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## 8th March: Lent 3

8.00am	Holy Communion	Temple Grafton
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am	Holy Communion	Salford Priors
10.30am	Village Praise	Binton
10.30am	Muddy Church	Salford Priors
5.00pm	'Breathing Space'	Salford Priors

**1st Reading:** Exodus 17: 1-7 | **2nd Reading:** Romans 5:1-11 | **Gospel Reading:** John 4: 5-42

### 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**

## 15th March: Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday)

8.00am	Holy Communion	Exhall
10.00am	Holy Communion Mothering Sunday	Bidford
10.30am	Mothering Sunday service	Salford Priors

**1st Reading:** 1 Samuel 1: 20-end | **2nd Reading:** Corinthians 1: 3-7 | **Gospel Reading:** John 11: 1-45

### 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**

## 22nd March: Lent 5

8.00am	Holy Communion	Wixford
10.00am	Holy Communion	Bidford
10.30am	Holy Communion	Salford Priors
11.00am	Village Praise	Exhall

**1st Reading:** Ezekiel 37: 1-14 | **2nd Reading:** Romans 8: 6-11 | **Gospel Reading:** John 11: 1-45

### 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

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**

## 29th March: Palm Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion	Binton
10.30am	Group Service	Bidford

**1st Reading:** Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-end | **2nd Reading:** - | **Gospel Reading:** Matthew 21: 1-11

### 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**

**Mon 30th March: Holy Week** 6.30pm Holy Communion Bidford

**Tues 31st March: Holy Week** 6.30pm Compline Bidford

**eco tip:** *Do it Fair! With the world in a tailspin, fairness isn't a given. But the power to get there is in our hands. Together, our actions have a positive impact on real people's lives. Fairer futures, fairer treatment. Fairer futures. That's Fairtrade. It's not just a label it's a movement. So, whatever you do and however you do it: Do it Fair.*

**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.**

# For Your Prayers This Month:

"In this season of Lent, we say to our desires, "You are not my master" and we turn to God who is." **Canon J.John**



"My heart says of you, 'Seek his face!' Your face LORD, I will seek." **Psalm 27: 8**

Loving and Almighty God please hear our prayers:

- We pray protection over Olena's family when she returns to Ukraine to bring her husband back here between 2nd – 5th March. We pray that they will settle in a home in Pershore and be made welcome.
- We lift to you those who are facing surgery: Mark and Andrew, and thank you for the skill and dedication of the surgeons and nursing staff.
- We pray for families coping with difficult decisions; fatigue; heartbreak; anxiety and illness; that your love and your peace may comfort and surround them. Julie S, Sarah G, June, Margaret (Alan's mum) Doreen, Sylvia and our friends from Ukraine
- We pray your hand of healing upon those battling with Cancer: Karl, Eric, Karen, Derek, John, Cathy and thank you for the miracles of healing which we have witnessed. May they continue for Walter, Isabelle and Eloise-Zoe.
- Loving Father, may we see miracles of healing for Joanna, Bethany, Rhiannon and Alex Waring, that their quality of life may be greatly improved.

In the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

**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.  
9:30am every Tuesday in the Church Room.

## Contact Information:

<b>Assoc. Minister</b>	Revd Sheila Bridge	07754 784251	<a href="mailto:minister.stmatthews@heartparishes.org.uk">minister.stmatthews@heartparishes.org.uk</a>
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Group website: [www.heartparishes.org.uk](http://www.heartparishes.org.uk)

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



[www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchsalfordpriors](https://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 March

**Journey towards Easter - Tuesdays - 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March, 10.30am**



Join the Lent group at St Laurence's as we journey towards Easter in the presence of Jesus. For more details, email Rev Helen.

**First Friday of each month, Fri 6th March, 9:30-11:30am**

Join us at St Laurence's for Friday Fellowship: 9:30 Prayer, 10:00 Tea and Coffee, 10:30 Discussion.

Everyone is welcome! More details email Rev Helen.



**Saturday 7th March, 9-10.30am**

Women's breakfast at Tall Trees Retreat, Cleeve Prior. £7.50 per person.

Tasty food, discipleship, and discussions.

Email - [mandyenglish.me@googlemail.com](mailto:mandyenglish.me@googlemail.com) to book



**Sunday 8th March, 10:30am**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 5-7pm**

SPYING Youth group at St Matthew's Church room.

**Saturday 14th March, 9.10am**

The Men's Shed breakfast: Come for a chat and enjoy the company!

Meeting at Osco's, Blenheim Nursery, Stratford Rd, Bidford

To book, please email [johnahead@icloud.com](mailto:johnahead@icloud.com) by 13th March,

stating any dietary requirements.



**Tuesday 17th March, 2.30pm**

Mother's Union at St Laurence's Church Hall, Bidford.

Everyone welcome. Contact [c.leahy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:c.leahy@yahoo.co.uk) for further information.

**Saturday 21st March, 2-4pm**

Messy Church at St Laurence's, Bidford.

Free! All families with children welcome. No need to book.



**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 6.30pm**

Holy week - St Laurence's Church, Bidford



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