

# Monthly Prayer Gathering for October



# St Matthews

helping local people follow Jesus Christ

## Psalm 51

*For the director of music. A psalm of David.  
When the prophet Nathan came to him after  
David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.*

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.
- <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.
- <sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived  
me.
- <sup>6</sup> Yet you desired faithfulness even in the  
womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- <sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.

- <sup>10</sup> Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- <sup>13</sup> Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
so that sinners will turn back to you.
- <sup>14</sup> Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O  
God,  
you who are God my Saviour,  
and my tongue will sing of your  
righteousness.
- <sup>15</sup> Open my lips, Lord,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- <sup>16</sup> You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring  
it;  
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- <sup>17</sup> My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart  
you, God, will not despise.
- <sup>18</sup> May it please you to prosper Zion,  
to build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- <sup>19</sup> Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the  
righteous,  
in burnt offerings offered whole;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

## A Time of Thanksgiving

What can we thank God for over the last month?

## Praying for People

- Pray for housebound members of our church especially Diana Aidam, Dorothy Aimes, Vi Chambers, Thelma Fogarty, Frances Ross, Rob Thurgood and Freda Tuke.
- Pray for Chris Hayler recovering following a fall.
- Pray for those who are unwell or have long term health conditions especially Tony Freeman and Janet Freeman as she cares for him.
- Pray for those in our church who are caring for a friend or a member of their family.

## Praying for St Matthew's Church

- Give thanks for our partnership with All Saints Lindfield and the joy of being able to visit them last Sunday evening.
- Give thanks for all God has been teaching us through the bible book of proverbs.
- Give thanks for the generous donations for the foodbank at our harvest service.
- Give thanks that the work on the church roof is now complete and the first phase of the work on the church centre is about to start.

- Pray for newcomers to church settling into church life.
- Pray for Smarties, Roots and Glow Club, our midweek groups for children and young people.
- Pray for Families Together on Sunday 13 October looking at the wise and foolish builders.
- Pray for collective worship this term at St Pauls CE Academy on creation.
- Pray for a positive time of fellowship at the bring and share lunch on 20 October.
- Pray for an upcoming bid to the Communities Landfill Fund for the refurbishment of the church centre which needs to be submitted by 4 October. Pray for Matthew finalising the documentation.
- Pray for Tom Morgan and Bob Tilley preparing the draft 2025 budget.
- Pray for the church architect as he prepares his report on the state of the buildings and gives us a 5-year maintenance plan.
- Pray for the PCC as we continue to develop our vision for 2025-2028.

### **Praying for St Ethelburga's Church**

- Give thanks for the recent St Leonards CE Primary School visit to learn about the church building.
- Give thanks for Ruth Hine's ministry to children and please pray for our upcoming bid to the diocesan mission fund for a grant to employ a part time childrens and families worker.
- Pray for Messy Church on 20 October looking at Peter walking on water.
- Give thanks for the recent offer from someone to buy the St Leonard's Church site. Please pray for this person as they carry out site investigations.

### **Praying for the Christian witness in our town**

- Praise God for the testimonies of the 13 candidates who were recently confirmed by Bishop Will at the Hastings Deanery Confirmation.
- Pray for the Diocesan finance meeting and deanery synod being hosted by St Matthews on Monday 14 October.
- Pray for Kings Church planting a new church in central St Leonards which will be meeting at St Mary Star in the Sea school.
- Pray for the different parachurch organisations (e.g. CAP, Foodbank, TLG) where churches are working together in mission and evangelism.
- Pray for churches currently without a minister or where the minister will shortly be leaving.
- Pray for Hastings Cluster group of the Sussex Gospel Partnership.
- Pray for our five church schools.

### **Praying for our Country and World**

- Pray for areas of conflict in the world especially Gaza, Yemen, Lebanon and Ukraine. Pray for restraint, peace and cease fires.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment for all world leaders.
- Pray for our MPs, our cabinet ministers and the Prime Minister. Pray especially for Christian MPs in parliament.