



Welcome to St Matthew's Perry Beeches

Parish Mass

Sunday 26th July 2026 (St James)

TODAY'S HYMNS:

Introit:	296
For all the saints	
Gradual:	510
Will you come and follow me	
Offertory	312
Ye watchers and ye holy ones	
Communion:	440
Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness	
Recessional:	507
We have a Gospel to proclaim	

The Collect

Merciful God, whose holy apostle St James, leaving his father and all that he had, was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ and followed him even to death: help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world, to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay; 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

A reading from Acts 11.27-12.2

At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword.

Psalms 86.11-18

Response: Those who go out with weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

**Those who go out with weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves**

Then they said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them'.

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

Those who go out with weeping, carrying the seed,

will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out with weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**Those who go out with weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves**

A reading from 2 Corinthians 4.7-15

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew 20.20-28

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

Post communion prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Everyone is welcome to coffee/tea and biscuits in the Lounge and Family Room after the service.

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.

Services this week

Wed: 19.00 Mass (Chapel)

Thu: 10.00 Mass (Chapel)

Fri: 10.00 Mass (Chapel)

Next Sunday: 2nd August (Trinity IX)
10am Parish Mass and Sunday School

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

If you have any notices that you would like to be added to the next pew sheet, please speak to Fr George.

You can continue to make contributions to the food bank by putting any goods in the basket by the door.

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

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of flowers, please place any donations in the pot on the table

St Matthew's is hosting a deanery confirmation service on Sunday 13th September at 4pm, 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.

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

There will be a Christmas Fair planning meeting after the Parish Mass on 2nd August.

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.

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

Vicar: Fr George Reeves
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