



St Michael's & St Andrew's

Parish of Cofton Hackett & Barnt Green



@chandbgparish



<http://standrewscofe.org.uk/>



www.facebook.com/standrewsbarntgreen

Weekly Newsletter 23rd December 2021 – Our next Newsletter will be on 6th January 2022

Services

We are looking forward to welcoming people to our Christmas services at St Andrews.

During these services we will do our best to minimise the risk of COVID 19 spread. Therefore:

- We strongly encourage people to do a lateral flow test on the day of the service, unless you have recently recovered from COVID 19. Please only attend if the result is negative.
- Please wear a face mask, fully covering your mouth and nose, unless you are exempt or under 12.
- Please use hand sanitiser on entry.
- Please dress in warm clothes as we will keep the doors open.
- Please do not attend if you have COVID symptoms.
- Please leave the building promptly after services to avoid clustering; stay to greet each other outside.

Friday 24th December Christmas Eve

St. Andrews 3.00pm Diddy nativity

St. Andrews 4.30pm Carol service (also shown live on zoom)

St. Andrews 6.30pm Carol service (also shown live on zoom)

St. Andrews 11.00pm Midnight Communion with Area Dean Phelim

Saturday 25th December Christmas Day

St. Andrews 10.00am Christmas Communion with Bishop Ann. Also shown live on Zoom

Sunday 26th December

There are no services

Sunday 2nd January Epiphany

St Andrews 9.30 Morning worship lead by Pip Simkiss with Alex and Mari Walker, our Mission partners in S Africa

Also shown live on Zoom

Thursday 6th January

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 9th January 1st Sunday of Epiphany

St Andrews 9.30am All Age all In Service lead by Caroline Mara and team also shown on Zoom

Foundry 3.00pm Nature Walk - Starting at Cofton New Village Hall a walk to St Michaels.

Log-in details for forthcoming Zoom services and events are as follows:

Weekly Prayer Meeting Sat. 9.00am: meeting ID: **824 7307 6926**, password **letuspray**. It is important to pray for the work of the church and for our parish so please join us, even if you've not been to anything like this before. You don't have to pray out loud if you don't want to!

Sunday Worship 9.30am is our main to which all ages are very welcome: meeting ID **295 293 9790** password **standrews**. To join by phone call 0203 481 5237. When asked enter meeting ID 295 293 9790. If asked for participant ID press #. Password is 894070. You'll then hear the service.

Thursday Morning Fellowship for those who cannot come to the meditation service. It begins with worship and reflection at 10.00am followed by time to chat at 10.30. It's a lovely fellowship and it would be great to see new faces. Meeting ID **815 6897 6189**, password **coffeebean**.

Services in Church

Sunday 9:30am - St. Andrews

- 1st Sunday Communion
- 2nd Sunday All Age-All In
- 3rd Sunday Communion
- 4th Sunday Morning Worship
- 5th Sunday Morning Worship

Note: Services also shown on Zoom

Sunday 3pm - Cofton Village Hall

- 2nd Sunday Foundry
- 4th Sunday Foundry

Sunday 4pm - St. Michaels

- 3rd Sunday Evening prayer

Sunday 3 to 4:30 pm – St. Andrews

- 1st Sunday Messy Church

Thursday 9:30 to 10:15am – Parish Centre

- Meditation Service

Update on getting a Vicar

The candidate visited our Parish and was interviewed a couple of weeks ago. It may take a little time before we know the outcome. Please continue to pray for the candidate and for the interview team - Gwen Onyon, Brian Partridge, Area Dean Phelim, Archdeacon Jenny, and Calvert Prentice.

Our Prayer for the recruitment of a new vicar:

*Loving God, we thank you for the church in Cofton Hackett and Barnet Green,
and for calling each of us to be a part of the Body of Christ in this place.*

*We are grateful for all that you have done amongst us in the past,
and look forward to the new things you will do in future*

Help us all to play our part in the ministry, service, and outreach of your church

Guide the PCC as they prepare to recruit a new vicar.

And, in your time and in your way, bring to us the woman or man whom you are calling to serve as vicar here.

We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, the Servant King. Amen.

News and information

Help wanted - Worship Teams

Worship teams play a vital part in our church services. Many hands make light work, and it is a great way to contribute towards church life. There are roles to suit everyone: welcome on the door, taking up the offertory and elements (Covid permitting), bible readings and leading prayers. Please would you come forwards to join us. Speak to one of the wardens or Mike Powell – powell@kendalendfarm.plus.com 0121 445 2803

Wedding at St Michaels

We just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone for their help and support in the run up to, and during, our wedding. We are incredibly grateful for the kindness we have been shown and wanted to pass our gratitude on to all at St Andrew's and St Michael's; we have always felt so welcomed by you all and we were touched by your thoughtfulness in sending a card. We look forward to seeing everyone soon! Kindest regards, Emma and Jack

BIBLE READERS

Bible Readers are needed for services over Christmas! It would be most helpful for people to offer to read at our Christmas services - those leading the services cannot anticipate who will be likely to come to each one, so please let us know!

4.30pm Christmas Eve Candlelit 4 short readings for Narrator & Bible Reader

6.30pm Christmas Eve Candlelit 4 short readings for Narrator & Bible Reader

11.00pm Christmas Eve Communion At least 1, possibly 2 readings Rev Phelim O'Hare (Our Area Dean) leading

10.00am Christmas Day Communion Possibly 1 reading Bishop Anne, Bishop of Aston coming to celebrate Communion.

Please contact Douglas Allenby for 4.30 Candlelit and Lesley Brown for the others. Thank you.

Climate Crisis Action

At Christmas there is usually a lot of packaging. Please think about the best ways to reduce landfill waste:

- Reduce packaging and use recyclable materials
- Make sure that everything allowable is put into your green bin
- Larger Supermarket sites, and Catshill Coop, now recycle flexible plastics such as crisp packets, carrier bags and clean pet food pouches. A typical list is on this link (other supermarkets are also recycling these materials).

<https://www.about.sainsburys.co.uk/sustainability/plan-for-better/our-stories/2021/flexible-plastics>

Shakin' and Stampin'

Cards arriving, one by one,

Stamp collecting having fun

Its stamp season,

love and understanding,

Merry Christmas everyone,

Merry Christmas, thanks a ton.

Next month when it's all over please leave your Christmas card stamps in the porch in St Andrews or with Nicola. Just tear them out or clip with a 1cm border – either way Birmingham City Mission will be very grateful.

Poppies

'Poppies' Our monthly Bereavement Support Group Come and find friendly mutual support over a cup of tea. We will end our time together with a short service with space to remember our loved ones together. The group meet on the third Thursday of each month at 2pm – 3pm. We meet in The Wheel, St Catherine's Church, St Catherine's Road, Blackwell, B60 1BN Contact Rev Sheri Gidney sherigidney@gmail.com 0121 445 1185 for more information.

4pm Sunday Evening Service

The 4pm Sunday evening service is a traditional pattern service held at St Michael's. The churchwardens are expanding its appeal to the older generation by offering a lift to people who do not wish to drive there and back in the darkness. We are getting together a list of volunteers who will pick up and return people to their homes before and after the service. People wishing to go will be required to book this service for each of the Sundays involved, namely

Sunday 16th January

Sunday 20th February

Sunday 20th March

This car service will only be available until the end of March, as the clocks change to British summer time after 27th March

Those wishing to book a lift must contact any of the following only

Geoff Hall 445 4023

Peter Talbot 445 1131

Nicola Denning 447 7097 (Leave a message before 4th January)

Rejuice!

There is now a supply again of fresh (Braeburn) apple juice- 'Refujuice'- being sold in aid of the work of Bromsgrove and Redditch Welcomes Refugees (BRWR). Support them and give yourself and others a locally sourced health tonic this Christmas! Bottles @ £3 each or 4 for £10. Speak to Geoff or Sue Hall 0121 445 4023.