



## St Michael's & St Andrew's

Parish of Cofton Hackett & Barnt Green



@chandbgparish



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



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**Weekly Newsletter 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 – No Newsletter next week, resumes 7<sup>th</sup> March.**

### Services

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

**St Andrews** 9.30am Morning Worship

**St Andrews** 4.30pm Holy Communion

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February**

**Parish Centre** 9.30am Meditation Service

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

**Parish Centre** 9am First Church

**St Andrews** 9.30am Holy Communion

**St Andrews** 7pm Watering Whole

#### **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

**Parish Centre** 9.30am Meditation Service

#### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

**St Andrews** 9.30am Morning Worship

**St Michaels** 4.30pm Holy Communion

#### **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

**Parish Centre** 9.30am Meditation Service

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

**St Andrews** 9.30am Holy Communion

**Parish Centre** 3pm Messy Church

**St Michaels** 4.30pm Evening Prayer

**Youth Club** – 6.30 to 8pm Monthly on Fridays in St Andrews Church (term time) –Contact [hobbsrev@gmail.com](mailto:hobbsrev@gmail.com)

**5-8's Lego Club** – Weekly on Mondays 3.30 to 4.45 (Term time) contact [hobbsrev@gmail.com](mailto:hobbsrev@gmail.com)

**14-18's Youth with Lickey Church**, contact [sherigidney@gmail.com](mailto:sherigidney@gmail.com)

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**. There will be a 'waiting room' so please clearly identify yourself. 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 service to which all ages are very welcome. The details are the same as before: 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, we meet on Zoom. 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**.

### News and information

#### **Working parties at St Michaels**

As spring approaches there are lots of jobs to be done, both big and small! We are working to a plan designed to build on all the previous good work. We hope that it will further improve the biodiversity, open up hidden areas, and tidy up some of the grave areas.

- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February – 10:00 to 13:00 – Contact Douglas and Phillippa Allenby
- Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – 10:00 to 13:00 – Contact Douglas and Phillippa Allenby
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April -10:00 to 13:00 – Contact Mike Powell

Please come and help, everyone is welcome, whatever your gardening abilities! It would be ideal if you would contact us before the date so we can organise activities easier. Many thanks

### **St Michaels Churchyard.**

We've now had the Faculty from the Diocesan Advisory Committee to allow the paved footpath project works to proceed. This footpath will go from the existing Church entrance porch and link up with the new ashes burial area. The work is due to start on Monday 19th February, probably taking about 2 weeks to complete, with a wheelchair turning area and then two bespoke bench seats are to follow thereafter. Regards, Jonathan.

### **Deanery Synod**

On Saturday 24th February, St. Andrews has the honour of hosting Deanery Synod. We will need some help setting up chairs at 9:30am and serving refreshments from 10am till 10:30am. If you are able to help, please talk to Andy.

### **Lent Challenge**

The Lenten 40-day period before Easter gives us the opportunity to reflect on the practice of fasting and commit to giving up something that brings a real benefit to nature, and helps address climate change. Why not try our "Just One Thing" challenge? Each week we will suggest different ideas for you to consider. Perhaps would like to buy more locally produced, seasonal vegetables or calculate your carbon footprint? All the details are on the attached sheet. Thank you for taking the time – EcoGroup.

### **For your Prayers**

Can we continue to pray for Anita Steed as she prepares for David's funeral which is on Tuesday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at Wasely Crematorium. If you, or anyone you know, would like to be included in our prayers please drop a note to Nicola in the Parish Office.

### **Barnes Close**

Quiet day at Barnes Close on March 11<sup>th</sup> 10 till 3:30

### **Barnt Green Macular Society Support Group**

Our next meeting is on Friday, 23 February at the Parish Centre, at 2pm. Bob Booth's talk is called "The Sweet Life in Bournville". New members and visitors are always welcome. Cost £3 per person. For more information, ring Wendy, on 0121 445 1585.

### **Monday Fellowship**

The March Monday Fellowship should be very interesting. It is all about Ethiopia, a country that probably very few have visited from North Worcestershire and about a very special hospital. It is also an extremely poor country in North East African. The hospital is based in Addis Ababa, founded in 1974 by two Australian physicians. It is the only hospital in the world totally dedicated to treating women with obstetric fistula and all treatment is free of charge. Come on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March to the parish centre at 2.30pm to hear Peter Jackson give an illustrated talk on the history of the this unusual hospital, followed by a cup of tea and biscuits.

### **Coffee Morning**

Please come and join us every week at our Coffee Morning on Fridays 10.30 to 12. For more information contact Bill Davis.

### **Parish Directory**

It is important that we keep the Parish Directory up to date with correct contact details for everyone. Please would you check your details and contact Nicola in the office if they need updating.

### **Newsletter**

If you or anyone you know would like to receive this newsletter, by email every week, please contact Nicola at [office@chandbgparish.org.uk](mailto:office@chandbgparish.org.uk).

### **St Michaels closure**

St Michaels will be closed in January and February due to weather conditions and organ repairs. Services will be held at St Andrews instead, please see above for details.

### **First Church**

Please come and join us on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March for our service for young families. It takes place in the Parish Centre. Refreshments will be served between 9.00 and 9.15. The format will be: Arrive, Sing, Listen, Pray, Leave, and at 9.45 families can come into church for Communion with Andy. For further information contact Andy at [hobbsrev@gmail.com](mailto:hobbsrev@gmail.com).

### **'Watering Whole'**

The Watering Whole events are a space to come at the end of the week to spend time drawing closer to God - Worshiping through song and sharing scripture, praying into themes as we feel led. Allowing God to speak into our hearts. The vision is that, as we join together in these informal and creative activities we will experience the refreshing presence of God for the healing of our hearts, for increased wholeness and equipping for the weeks ahead. The next one is planned for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm. .

### **Food Bank**

Thank you to all who donate to the food bank. Here are the lists of urgently needed items.

**Urgently needed** Tinned tomatoes, pasta shapes, pasta sauce, rice (500g), baked beans, tinned fish (tuna, mackerel, sardines, salmon), tinned soup, jam/honey, chocolate bars, tinned rice pudding, tinned/carton ready-made custard, liquid/bar soap, gender neutral shower gel and shampoo, washing up liquid

### **Barnt Green Friends Meeting House Films for 2024**

Come and join us at Friends Cinema for its free film shows on:

Saturday 16th March 19.00: In 1931 a Paris Orphan living in the wall of a railway station is wrapped up in mystery involving his late father and an automation. This is a homage to the early filmmaker Georges Melies. Colour and Widescreen.

### **Climate Crisis Action**

When discussing how to make your home more eco friendly, we're not necessarily talking about big or expensive changes. Small steps such as switching your light bulbs to more energy efficient alternatives can make a world of difference. LED bulbs use less electricity than traditional light bulbs, and they also last a lot longer, making them a lot more cost effective for your home .

### **SAFEGUARDING NOTICE**

Please note that Diane Milford (our Parish Safeguarding Officer) now has a dedicated telephone number (**07547 267746**) and a dedicated email address ([safeguarding@chandbgparish.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@chandbgparish.org.uk)) for any safeguarding issues or concerns that people might want to raise with her. The email address will also be used for all future correspondence relating to safeguarding training and DBS checks for our volunteers with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

**Contact Details:** Office Hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am to 1.30pm. Contact Nicola Denning on 0121 447 7097 or email [office@chandbgparish.org.uk](mailto:office@chandbgparish.org.uk) or contact our Vicar, Rev Andy Hobbs on 0121 445 1269 or email [hobbsrev@gmail.com](mailto:hobbsrev@gmail.com) .