



St Michael's & St Andrew's

Parish of Cofton Hackett & Barnt Green



@chandbgparish



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



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Weekly Newsletter 7th November 2024

Services

Sunday 10th November 3rd Sunday before Advent

St Andrews 10am Remembrance Service

St Michaels 4.30pm BCP Holy Communion

Thursday 14th November

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 17th November 2nd Sunday before Advent

St Andrews 9.30am Holy Communion.

Parish Centre 3pm Messy Church

St Michaels 4.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 21st November

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 24th November Sunday next before Advent

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship/Toy service

St Michaels 4.30pm Holy Communion

Thursday 28th November

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 1st December 1st Sunday of Advent

Parish Centre 9am First Church

St Andrews 10am Holy Communion

St Andrews 6pm Watering Whole

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

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

14-18's Youth with Lickey Church, contact 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

Church Social Activities

I hope you kept Saturday 30th November free and are able to join us at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre for a lovely evening of fun, food and fellowship. As it's St Andrew's Day there will be a Scottish theme for the evening but all nationalities are welcome! We will be providing a Scottish beef casserole, salmon quiches and vegetarian haggis with lots of jacket potatoes. We would like you to bring some more food including nibbles, vegetables, salads or desserts please to share. There will be no ticket cost but donations towards the main food would be welcome on the night please. Bring your own drinks and have a really fun evening. Expect some light entertainment and if you have any ideas or are prepared to share any Scottish experiences, recite any Scottish poems, show any Scottish photos etc. then please contact Mike Powell or myself. Please complete the booking sheets in either church so that we have an idea of numbers. Hope to see you there - Judith

Malawi quiz.

A big thank you to everyone who supported the quiz in any way on Saturday. At present we have raised £350. Might be a bit more to come in. This will help in resourcing teachers to improve the level of their teaching.

Super Shoe box Saturday November 9th

Come and join us on Saturday, fill boxes, buy cake. If you can't come on Saturday I will be selling cakes and biscuits after the service on Sunday. Please bring cash with you. Thank you

Monday Fellowship 11th November

At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, the First World war finally came to an end after a terrible sacrifice of young talent in the previous four years of warfare. Cemeteries across Northern France and Belgium are a reminder of the terrible tragedy of this war as are the poppies sold to the public at this time of the year.

Local historian, retired deputy headmaster, and excellent local speaker Philip Bowen will tell us the story and the effect of 190 boys from Bromsgrove School who gave their lives in such a fruitless waste of youth. It is coincidence that Remembrance Day falls on the same day as Monday Fellowship and therefore gives us the chance to hear a talk about such a tragic loss.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

As it is now October, it must be time to think about the Christmas Choir! All are welcome – you don't have to be able to read music, but you do have to be able to attend the rehearsals and services. We will be singing two pieces which are in two parts (Soprano and Alto/Men), so it shouldn't be too much of a challenge! Please note that if you would like to sing you need to let me know as soon as possible so that I can decide whether the numbers are enough to make this viable. (If you give me your email as well, I can send music copies and recordings of the separate parts for the two pieces so that you can do some homework in advance.)

Dates are as follows: Rehearsal: Sunday 8th December at 10.50am (after the morning service) at St Andrew's

Rehearsal: Sunday 15th December at 10.50am (after the morning service) at St Andrew's

Service: Sunday 22nd December at 6pm at St Michael's

Service: Tuesday 24th December at 6.30pm at St Andrew's

Please let me know if you wish to join the choir – I look forward to hearing from you. Katie Leaver (07792 056183 / katieleaver@outlook.com)

Watering Whole

'Watering Whole' will take place at St Andrew's at 6pm on Sunday 1st December.

It's an opportunity to spend an hour and a quarter: stilling our souls, listening and or singing worship music, praying and reflecting as the Holy Spirit leads. The aim is: To be refreshed! as we make this space to meet with God we can address issues in our own hearts, bring our needs to God and be strengthened in our faith individually and together. **All are welcome** to this informal service.

Working parties at St Michaels

There are always lots of jobs to be done, both big and small! We will continue working to a plan designed to further improve the biodiversity, open up hidden areas, and tidy up some of the grave areas.

- Thursday 12th December - 10:00 to 13:00 – Contact Mike Powell - powelmi50@gmail.com
- Saturday 23rd November – Contact Douglas Allenby - da@landscape-matters.co.uk

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

Book club

You are welcome to join our friendly book club on Thursday November 28th. We now meet in the afternoon. 2pm till 4pm in the parish centre. We will be talking about The child on platform 1 by L L Thompson. You can get it on kindle or I have a copy you can borrow. See Rosemary if you're interested

For your Prayers

Please Pray for Bill Davis as he recovers from his treatment, and for Christine and his family who are looking after him. Bill Davies sends his gratitude for the cards and good wishes he has received; they are much appreciated.

Message from Stuart and Laxmi – We had a really encouraging pre op appointment today. Where we met various people involved, we give thanks for that. Please remember Laxmi in your prayers in the coming week as we await her kidney transplant in Friday 15th.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to be included in our prayers please drop a note to Nicola in the Parish Office.

Christmas Stamps.

I know I know - you may not want to think about Christmas just yet but Royal Mail do! On Guy Fawkes day they issued their special stamps for Christmas 2024. To celebrate the significance of cathedrals in our spiritual, cultural and social lives their stamps bear wintry images of 5 of our most striking architectural marvels - Liverpool, Armagh, Bangor and Westminster. The 5th cathedral, Edinburgh, is featured on the 2nd class stamp and would certainly add a touch of class to your Christmas cards. Finally another big thank you for the stamps left in the shoebox in the porch of St Andrews this week. These all go to Birmingham City Mission - who are very appreciative of your support.

Coffee Morning

Please come and join us every week at our Coffee Morning on Fridays 10.30 to 12 . If anyone can help with some of these sessions please contact Andy or Nicola in the office.

First Church

Please come and join us on Sunday 1st December 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.

Barnt Green Friends Meeting House Films for 2024

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

Saturday 16th November 19.00 Tchaikovsky's most successful ballet featuring a sleeping princess by the Royal Ballet (Dolby Surround 7.1 sound)

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 .

Food Bank

The Pantry@ St Stephen's We help a large number of pantry client families who are grateful for the food that we are able to supply through the generosity of the congregations of St Stephen's, St Andrew's and St Michael's and through the waste food donations from local supermarkets collected by our amazing volunteers. If you can help this week, we would love some **tinned meat meals (such as minced beef, chicken in sauce, chilli, ravioli, meatballs, etc), microwave rice, sugar, instant noodles and tinned potatoes** and we always need cereals, instant mash, squash, pasta sauce, long life milk, tinned vegetables, toilet rolls, soup, baked beans, tuna, household cleaning products, toiletries, tea and coffee. *No need this week for tinned spaghetti, pasta, or sanitary products.* Thank you so much for your faithful support, it is really appreciated.

Climate Crisis Action

Organise a Secret Santa - Given the current cost of living crisis, the amount of gifts that we need to buy can soon add up. Rather than gifting everyone in your extended family or friend group, why not operate a Secret Santa?

It means that you can spend that bit more on one person instead of having to budget for several different people. It also adds a fun element as everyone unwraps their gifts and tries to work out who their Secret Santa was.

SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

Please note that Diane Milford (our Parish Safeguarding Officer) has a dedicated telephone number (**07547 267746**) and a dedicated email address (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 or contact our Vicar, Rev Andy Hobbs on 0121 445 1269 or email hobbsrev@gmail.com .