



## St Michael's & St Andrew's

Parish of Cofton Hackett & Barnt Green



@chandbgparish



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



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### Weekly Newsletter 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

#### Services

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

St Andrews 4.30pm BCP Holy Communion

#### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

St Andrews 9.30am Holy Communion

Parish Centre 3pm Messy Church

St Andrews 4.30pm Evening Prayer

#### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

St Andrews 4.30pm Holy Communion

#### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February Candlemas

Parish Centre 9am First Church

St Andrews 9.30am 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](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

##### Climate & Nature Bill Hangs in the Balance: Please email Your MP

The Climate and Nature Bill is the only piece of UK legislation to fully address the climate and nature crisis. The bill will now be considered by the UK Parliament with a second reading on Friday 24 January 2025. At that second reading, 102 MPs need to vote for the Climate and Nature Bill in order for it to progress, otherwise it fails – **will you contact your MP to ensure that they plan to attend the bill's second reading on Friday 24 January, and that they vote in favour of the bill?** Details are on the attached notice. Thank you from the Eco Group.

##### Barnes Close

Find some peace and quiet and time with God each month. First soul day is January 20<sup>th</sup> 10 o'clock start. Bring your craft and lunch. Led by Helen, the warden. Barnes Close Please see Rosemary for a lift or directions.

## 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.

- Thursdays 23<sup>rd</sup> January and 13<sup>th</sup> February - 10:00 to 13:00 – Contact Mike Powell - [powelmi50@gmail.com](mailto:powelmi50@gmail.com)
- Saturdays 18<sup>th</sup> January, 8<sup>th</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> March – 10:00 to 13:00 - Contact Douglas Allenby - [da@landscape-matters.co.uk](mailto: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

## T4U shoeboxes.

We will be continuing to run Super shoebox Saturday in 2025. To try and relieve the pressure in the Autumn we want to revive the monthly collections. This month we will be collecting stationary. Look for reduced Christmas bargains. The collection box is in the church foyer. Thank you.

## Thursday morning fellowship

Thursday morning fellowship on zoom is moving to a fortnightly meeting so no meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>. If you've not joined before do join us on Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup> 10 pm. Follow the log in details. No meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> January. Next meditation will be on Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Book Club

The book club is meeting bimonthly on the last Thursday of the month at 2pm in the Parish Lounge. Next meeting is on January 30<sup>th</sup> so you still have time to read the Secret River by Kate Grenville. New members are always welcome. We would love some male readers..

## Fellowship Group

Our first meeting of the new calendar of 2025 takes us back in time and brings us up to the present time. It is entitled Time and Transport through the ages. We go from the invention of the wheel to Concorde, High Speed Trains and fast motor cars. It will be at our usual time of 2.30pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 in the Parish Centre. Our talk will be given by a professional entertainer Richard Harding and it should be a good opening number for the new year. Come and enjoy our usual friendship between ourselves and after the festivities of Christmas food, a nice cup of tea and a biscuit will be welcome.

## For your Prayers

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

## Coffee Morning

Please come and join us every week at our Coffee Morning on Fridays in 2025 from 10.30 to 12 . If anyone can help with some of these sessions please contact Andy or Nicola in the office.

## Watering Whole

'Watering Whole' will take place at St Andrew's at 6pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

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.

## Climate Crisis Action

It's important not to block radiators with furniture and bleed your radiators regularly to prevent air being trapped inside, which will leave cold spots at the top. Bleed your radiators to keep them working effectively as this ensures that hot water can circulate freely inside them. You only need to do this a couple of times a year, but it's worth checking before the cold hits. Move any furniture away from the radiators. If possible, keep your radiators completely unblocked so they radiate their heat into your rooms more easily. You could also consider installing radiator reflectors. These panels sit behind the radiator, directing heat away from the wall and out into the room.

## Food Bank

**The Pantry@ St Stephen's.** We continue to be able to help many pantry client families thanks to 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. We gave out 20 goody bags for Christmas which went down really well. Our users are so grateful for your ongoing help, support and loving care. If you are able to contribute this week, we would love some **tinned meals (such as minced beef, chicken in sauce, chilli, ravioli, meatballs, etc), long life milk, cereals, and squash** and we always need toilet rolls, instant noodles and mash, pasta sauce, microwave rice, tinned potatoes and vegetables, household cleaning products, toiletries, sugar, tea and coffee. *No need for baked beans, tinned spaghetti, soup, pasta, or sanitary products at the moment, thank you.* Thank you so much, your gifts are really appreciated.

## 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) .

### **First Church**

Please come and join us on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 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).

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

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

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January. 7pm. You must remember this; one of the best Humphrey Bogart films set in French Morocco during Nazi occupation.

### **You'll never guess.....**

Q - What have The Vicar of Dibley, Garden Wildlife, the band AC/DC, 2<sup>nd</sup> World War stories and the Royal Observatory in Greenwich got in common?

A - They will all feature on Royal Mail special stamps in the next 6 months.

Please save these, and any others, you receive for the Birmingham City Mission. Leave 1 cm approximately of backing paper - remember the stamps are sold on by weight so don't over-trim! Thank you.

### **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](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) .**