



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 2025. Happy Christmas! Next newsletter Thursday 8th January 2026

Services

Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve

St Andrews 3pm Crib Service
St Andrews 4.30pm Family Carol Service
St Andrews 6.30pm Carol Service
St Michaels 11pm Midnight Communion

Thursday 25th December Christmas Day

St Andrews 9.30am Family Christmas Communion

Sunday 28th December 1st Sunday of Christmas

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 4th January Epiphany

Parish Centre 9am First Church
St Andrews 9.30am Holy Communion
St Andrews 6pm Watering Whole

Thursday 8th January

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 11th January 1st Sunday of Epiphany

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship Second Church
St Michaels 4.30pm Holy Communion

Thursday 15th January

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 18th January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

St Stephens 9.30am Joint Service at St Stephens
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)

5-8's Lego Club – Weekly on Mondays 3.30 to 4.45 (Term time)

14-18's Youth with Lickey Church,

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 fortnightly. The next few dates are 8th January, 22nd January, 5th February. 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

Food Bank

The Pantry@ St Stephen's Our families are so thankful for the help provided by the generous giving of the congregations of St Stephen's, St Andrew's and St Michael's and to the volunteer pantry team and surplus collectors.

At the moment, could we please ask for donations of cleaning products and washing up liquid along with the usual milk, cereal and meat tins. We have loads of tuna but popular ones are tinned curry, meatballs in tomato sauce, tinned hot dog sausages, chilli, sausages with beans/spaghetti.

As always we send our very grateful thanks for everyone's generosity. Wishing you a very blessed and peaceful Christmas and New year.

New Year's Eve Party!

December 31st marks our annual (not quite) New Year's Eve party! We'll meet in the Parish Centre from 3-6pm.

- Bring some food for a bring and share dinner
- Bring along a game to play with others
- Everyone welcome aged 0-100 (or older)!

We may not have marching bands nor Jools Holland's Hootenanny; we haven't got fireworks to let off nor a spectacular light show but we do have something much more special – the gift of friendship! And we can celebrate as friends together and have fun with one another.

And afterwards? You can either go to bed (the vicar's favoured option) or carry on partying elsewhere until the clocks chime midnight and 2026 arises (the vicar's wife's favoured option!)

Homegroup

Would you like to follow up the Sunday sermon, look at it and discuss it with others. If that's you come and join us any Wednesday evening starting on January 7th. Each Wednesday will stand alone. Meeting at Mike Powell's home, Kendal End Farm. Give Mike or Rosemary a ring if you're interested. We'll start with a drink at 8 pm, discuss the sermon, give time for prayer and reflection and aim to end by 9.30. love to see you.

Birmingham City Mission

A big thank you to those who delivered Christmas presents in time for Christmas. They will have really helped struggling families.

Monday Fellowship

We start the new calendar year with a familiar speaker on Monday 12th January 2026 at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre. Philip Bowen, a retired Deputy Headmaster, will be giving us one of his excellent talks entitled 'All political careers end in failure.' We will be interested whom he nominates and whether he projects any current government minister likely to be added to his list. Should be a very good talk.

For your Prayers

Please pray for Jean Taylor, who is recovering from her hip surgery.

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

Compliments of the Season from Phil Ately

A sincere thank you to all of you who have left used stamps this year for Birmingham City Mission. The shoe box stays in St Andrews all year round so if you have missed the Christmas period don't worry - it's never too late. You can leave it to us to cut round the stamp or if you are clipping your own stamps, please remember to leave 1cm of backing all around the stamp. The stamps are sold by weight so that generous centimetre is very helpful! HNY.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM GRANTHAM

Rob and Philippa Fieldson send their love to everyone who remembers them, and wish you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas. They have sent a family newsletter (including grandchild photos!), copies of which are on the noticeboards in both churches.

First Church

Please come and join us on Sunday 4th January 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

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 15th January 2026 - 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 me before the date so we can organise activities more easily.

Many thanks

Board Games

These are now underway in the Parish Centre Lounge on a regular rotation between afternoon and evening sessions.

The future dates are:

Afternoon 2pm : 20th January, 17th February.

Evening 7pm: 6th January. 27th January.

New players welcome anytime

Coffee Morning

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

Climate Crisis Action

Nowadays, just about everything is recyclable and we have plenty of options to ensure we can achieve this. Look at what you currently chuck straight into the bin and work out if there's any way you can start to up your recycling game. Looking for your local recycling hubs is a good idea, as they'll have bins for everything, from clothing to electronics.

Cleaner Vacancy

There is a vacancy for a cleaner at the Parish Centre and Churches, please contact Marian Reavenall or Jill Newton for further details, or leave a message on the office number 0121 447 7097.

Newsletter

If you or anyone you know would like to receive this newsletter, by email every week, please contact Nicola.

Watering Whole

The Watering Whole is next on 4th January at 6pm. All Welcome to join in a time of informal worship and prayer. Reflect on God's goodness and find space to pray through anything of concern either individually or corporately. We hope its a time of spiritual refreshment from the stresses of the world to bring us God's peace. Isaiah 35:6-7: He will give us Springs in the Desert! If you want to know more please ask Douglas or Philippa Allenby or why not just come along.

Barnt Green Friends Meeting House Films for 2025

Come and join us at Friends Cinema for its free film shows on: Boxing Day, December 26th at 3pm Wallace and Gromit star in a comedy film featuring a giant rabbit, 7pm A comedy set in an American school where pupils with nowhere to go stay over for the festivities

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 contact our Vicar, Rev Andy Hobbs on 0121 445 1269