



St Michael's & St Andrew's

Parish of Cofton Hackett & Barnt Green



@chandbgparish



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



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Weekly Newsletter 21st May 2026

Services

Sunday 24th May Pentecost

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

Thursday 28th May

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 31st May Trinity Sunday

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

St Michaels 6pm Holy Communion

St Stephens, Rednal 6.30pm Watering Whole

Thursday 4th June

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 7th June 1st Sunday after Trinity

Parish Centre 9am First Church

St Andrews 9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 11th June

Parish Centre 9.30am Meditation Service

Sunday 14th June 2nd Sunday after Trinity

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship Second Church

St Michaels 6pm Holy Communion BCP

Youth Club – 6.30 to 8pm Monthly on Fridays in St Andrews Church (term time) –Contact Andy Hobbs

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

14-18's Youth with Lickey Church, contact Sheri Gidney

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, 28th May, 11th June, 25th June. 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

Birthday celebration!

Andy will reach his half century milestone this year. To celebrate, you are all invited to his party on May 24th, 3-7pm (you don't have to stay the whole time) for food, fun and games in the Parish Centre. No presents - if you would like to mark the occasion, please contribute to the St. Stephen's roof appeal please use the following account. Name: Parochial Church Council of St Stephens the Martyr. Account Number: 31086790 Sort Code: 40 11 47.

Garden Event - Wednesday 24th June and Thursday 25th June 2pm to 5pm.

At 14 Sandhills Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NR.

Rachel invites you to visit her garden for a mug of tea and a piece of cake. Donations will be welcome for 'Autism in Racing' and 'Macular Degeneration'. With thanks to the Quaker meeting house for allowing use of the car park.

Church Working Parties

Both churchyards are lovely, and a good way of demonstrating our care. 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 and tidy up some of the grave areas. At St Andrews there is tidying and weeding. The next working parties are:

- St. Andrews - Thursday 28th May - 10:00 to 13:00
- St. Michaels – Thursday 9th July - 10:00 to 13:00

Please come and help, everyone is welcome, whatever your gardening abilities. There are tea and biscuits at halftime! It would be ideal if you would contact me before the date so we can organise activities more easily.

Many thanks, Mike Powell

Barnet Green Macular Society Support Group

Our next meeting will be on Friday, 29 May in the Parish Centre starting at 2pm. Colin Millett's talk is "The Wonder of Worcester, A City Heritage success". If you've not heard him before, why not come along as a visitor or even as a new member?

Cost £3 per person. For more information, ring Wendy on 0121 445 1585.

Interested in the consequences of our changing climate?

On 12th June, 6 PM - 8:30 PM, there will be a screening and discussion of the **People's Emergency Briefing** at Parkside Hall. Complimentary light refreshments will be available from 6pm, with the screening commencing at 6:30pm.

The 48-minute film captures key moments from last November's National Emergency Briefing, where leading experts in climate science, health, food security, economics, national security and nature laid out the latest evidence on how environmental change is already shaping everyday life in the UK.

After the film there will be a local conversation about what this means for Bromsgrove in terms of our economy, our resilience, and the choices we face as a town and region. We will discuss potential solutions to the issues raised.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/peoples-emergency-briefing-bromsgrove-tickets-1986973264522> The Eco Group

Birmingham City Mission 60th Anniversary – 60 Bridges walk

Birmingham City Mission has been supporting the people of Birmingham for 60 years. This parish has supported them in many ways over the years. It is one of our parish Mission Partners, a number of people from the congregation volunteer, giving toy service and harvest items, and also foodbank donations.

Mike and Julia Powell will be taking part in the 60 Bridges walk on Saturday 6th June. This will be a daunting 21-mile canal walk from Hanbury Wharf to Gas Street basin. It would be lovely if you could walk with us, for all the route or just a part, and/or sponsor us:

stewardship.org.uk/pages/MikeandJuliaBCM60Bridges Thank you.

Planning application for 115 new homes in Cofton Hackett

Miller Homes (formerly St. Modwen) are going to apply for permission to build 115 new houses on a green field site bordering Cofton Church Lane. There will be a public webinar from **6pm to 7:30pm on 21 May 2026 - tonight**, giving local residents the opportunity to hear from the project team and ask questions directly. If you would like to attend the webinar, please register your attendance. More details about the proposal can be found on this link: <https://millercoftonhackett.co.uk/>

Shoebboxes

May is for more soap, combs and brushes. Keep buying or finding. Filling 300 boxes takes a lot of soap. Don't let the children down. Thank you from T4U

Craft Group

The craft group meets in the Parish Centre Lounge on the 4th Saturday of the month, 9.30-12 noon. Next meeting is May 23rd, 2026.

All knitters, crocheters, and sewers welcome. Bring your own work and enjoy a few hours relaxing in the company of likeminded people, with fellowship and refreshments.

Are you having a sort out? Our crafters would like flannelette sheeting, terry towelling and plastic anoraks that will be cut up and made into sanitary packs. Please leave in boxes in the porch. Thank you. Just turn up or speak to Di White for more information. 0121 445 4298.

Monday fellowship.

The last Monday fellowship for this academic year will be at 2:30 pm on Monday, the 8th of June in the Parish Centre. We shall be travelling many miles from the Midlands as our speaker will be Winnie, who is a Hong Konger! Having lived in a multi-story flat in Hong Kong, she and her husband and two cats now live in a house with a garden in Cofton Hackett. She's entitled her talk 'Under the lion rock, life in Hong Kong'.

As usual instead of biscuits with a finishing cup of tea, we shall will be having strawberries and cream after the talk.

Our following session starts on Monday, the 14th of September at 2:30 pm in the Parish Centre with the talk on the Canals and River trust.

Tardebigge was where the inland waterways trust was first founded.

First Church

Please come and join us on Sunday 7th June 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

For your Prayers

Please pray for Margaret Talbot and her family, her sister Joan passed away on the 7th of May. She had been in hospital six times in the past two years, always following a fall when at her home in Sally Oak. She has required the help of family for providing food, appointments, travel and other necessities. She has been in three different hospitals, the QE, and Sutton Coldfield rehab rehabilitation Centre and lastly Good Hope Hospital during the last three months. She had connections with the church, 11 years ago a stray black-and-white kitten was found in Saint Michael's Churchyard, and she had the companionship of Susie until last year.

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

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.

We would really appreciate semi-skimmed UHT milk, bags of pasta (not wholewheat or spaghetti as we have enough of those thank you) and jars of sauce please. As always we send our very grateful thanks for everyone's generosity.

Extra special stamps

Ernie Wise was born in 1925 and Eric Morecambe was born in 1926. To celebrate these centenaries Royal Mail issued 10 1st class stamps earlier this month featuring some classic scenes. Today another really impressive set of 8 1st class stamps are released with pictures of castles from the four home nations. You may well wish to retain any of these little beauties but if not you know where to put them. Thank you

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.

Board Games

A summer break will be taken during July and August so future dates are:-

Afternoon 2pm 23rd June, 15th September

Evening 7pm 2nd June, 8th September

New players welcome anytime.

Climate Crisis Action

Goodbye single use disposables! Hello, sustainable, reusable, eco-sourced kitchenware.

Single-use disposables are most often made of plastic and Styrofoam. Plastics can take thousands of years to break down. Styrofoam, on the other hand, will most likely be around forever. Both materials are sourced from fossil fuels and both materials are known to contain carcinogens harmful to human health. This is especially true when they are used for hot liquids and food, or microwaved. Focus on reusing containers you have at home instead of buying disposable items. Glass jars are non-toxic, they don't hold on to grease and smells from foods, and they are great with liquids!

Newsletter

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

Barnt Green Friends Meeting House Films for 2026

Come and join us at Friends Cinema for its free film shows on: Saturday 20th June at 7pm. Fictional biography of the composer Mozart with a fabulous score.

Watering Whole

The Watering Whole is next Sunday on 31st May at 6.30 pm at St Stephens, Rednal. A time to reflect on God's goodness and find space to pray through anything of concern either individually or corporately. We aim for it to be a time of spiritual refreshment from the stresses of the world to enter into 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 come along you will be very welcome.

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 .