



St Michael's & St Andrew's

Parish of Cofton Hackett & Barnt Green



@chandbgparish



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



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Weekly Newsletter 23rd July 2026

Services

Sunday 26th July 8th Sunday after Trinity

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

St Michaels 6pm Holy Communion

Sunday 2nd August 9th Sunday after Trinity

Parish Centre 9am First Church

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 9th August 10th Sunday after Trinity

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 16th August 11th Sunday after Trinity

St Andrews 9.30am Holy Communion

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, 6th August, 20th August, 3rd September. 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

Barnt Green Macular Society Support Group

Our next meeting will be on Friday, 31 July in the Parish Centre starting at 2pm, but it is better to arrive earlier. We are delighted that our speaker will be Ms Akshatha Ranganath MBBS, FRCOphth, PG Dip Med Consultant Ophthalmologist - Medical Retina Worcestershire Acute Hospital NHS Trust, and her talk is called "All you need to know about Age-related macular degeneration". AMD is the leading cause of sight loss in the UK, so why not come and learn more from a specialist consultant? New members and visitors are always welcome.

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

Birth Announcement

Happy News !!! The safe arrival of Sienna Georgia and India Penny, twin daughters for Allegra (nee Penny) and Alex Sykes, granddaughters for Jane and Trevor. True blessings.

Toys

Sort out the toy box, you don't need all those soft toys. Think of a child in Ukraine who doesn't have a toy and bring them to church in July. The T4U box is waiting to be filled.

Football

Wherever I go, a football is always a request from the schools! I would love to be able to give each Head a football when they come to the skills-share. However, that requires 92 footballs. A decent quality one within Malawi is very expensive, but I have found someone driving a new car up from South Africa who would be willing to bring them. This means a football will cost £9. If you would like to buy a football for a school, (or more than one,) please donate. It's difficult to explain just how loved it will be! Please go to <https://www.teachbeyond.org.uk/give>, enter the amount and then put Lucy Ward or The Malachi Project as the designation. You can give me money and I can transfer it to Lucy.

This is the message from Lucy for the skill share this year. If you're enjoying the football how about donating a football to a Malawian school. Maybe in the future your ball could produce a famous footballer Thank you

News from Sheri

Lickey Office have announced over this past week that their Vicar Sheri and her husband Dave will be moving from September to take up a new post.

'The Bishop of Birmingham is pleased to announce the appointment of the Revd Sheri Gidney as Priest in Charge of Immanuel Highters Heath, and Interim Priest in Charge of Holy Cross Billesley Common, pending the revitalisation in Billesley Common which will begin later in 2027. Sheri is currently vicar of the parish of Lickey with Blackwell where she has served since 2019. Please pray for all of the parishes involved.'

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.

Church Working Parties

Both churchyards are lovely, and a good way of demonstrating our care for God's world. 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 13th August - 10:00 to 13:00
- St. Michaels – Thursday 24th September - 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

Book club

We had an excellent meeting with good conversation. Do come and join us, The next meeting is Thursday July 30th 2 pm in the Parish Centre. We will be talking about The Searcher by Tana French. Plenty of time to read it.

Car boots and craft fairs.

A big thank you to anyone who has helped with supplies for them. Over the bank holiday I raised £300 which will mend or make a few desks in Malawian Schools. Will be doing more car boots from July so have a sort out and let me know. Happy to collect. Thank you Rosemary

First Church

Please come and join us on Sunday 2nd August 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.

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 July 25th, 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.

Food Bank

At the pantry we are going to try and help our visitors with the cost of children returning to school in September. They have told us that bags and stationery are things they would appreciate help with as we have a swap shop in Rubery which helps them with uniform. If any of the congregation would like to help out then that would be really appreciated.

Other than that, we are always in need of semi skimmed UHT milk, cereals, pasta and rice (not whole wheat please) pasta sauce and tinned veg especially tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, peas and sweetcorn.

As always we are extremely grateful for all the help and support that you give us.

Searching for the Light (aren't we all?)

You may know there are 80 species of butterfly in the UK but did you know there are 2500 species of moth? Furthermore only 2 of these species eat wool. To celebrate these amazing creatures constantly attracted to the flame earlier this month Royal Mail issued a set of 10 stamps featuring moths. Should you receive a stamp featuring an Emperor, a Puss or a Buff-Tip, for example, and assuming you don't wish to retain it, please drop it in the box in St Andrews. Thank you for all recent deposits.

Climate Crisis Action

Don't worry about watering grass, grass is very good at dealing with a lack of water; even if it turns brown it will be able to bounce back when the rains return later in the year. There is no need to water grass, even in a heatwave.'

Water plants in the morning and evening only. For pots, it's best to water first thing in the morning or last thing at night to avoid damaging plants, when the sun shines on water it can act like a magnifying glass, burning the leaves below.

Newsletter

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

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.

Barnt Green Friends Meeting House Films for 2026

Come and join us at Friends Cinema for its free film shows on: Saturday 22nd August at 7pm. The Royal Ballet perform Tchaikovsky's famous ballet involving swans.

Watering Whole

The next Watering Whole is on Sunday 6th September at 6pm at St Andrews. 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 .