



St Michael's & St Andrew's

Parish of Cofton Hackett & Barnt Green



@chandbgparish



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



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Weekly Newsletter 30th July 2026

Services

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

Sunday 23rd August 12th Sunday after Trinity

St Andrews 9.30am Morning Worship

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

International students.

Mike and Rachel Hill will be in church on Sunday. Do you host international students or would you like to find out about hosting. It's a lovely thing to do inviting a student whose far away from home, living in hall into your home. They are always so appreciative. We will be gathering after church in the main hall with our drinks and some snacks to share our experiences, to celebrate and encourage one another. Do come and join us

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.

Malawi

Please pray for the head teacher's skill share in Malawi which starts on August 4th till August 14th. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to the football appeal.

Please read Lucy's latest prayer letter. If you haven't bought a football please consider giving £9 so that a school in Malawi can have a football. Grateful for all who have helped. Please pray for the skill share. It will have a huge impact on education in Malawi.

Shoe box appeal.

New month new appeal household items, wooden pegs, candles, cooking implements.

Please come and help after church on August 23rd. Need the cupboards emptying, tables putting out and counting. Many hands make light work and it done quickly. Still need other items. Whatever you spot while you're on holiday will be useful.

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

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 August 22nd, 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.

World Cup Postscript

In June 1966 Edward Short, then Postmaster General, proudly unveiled 3 new stamps to celebrate England staging the football World Cup - 4d, 6d, 1/3. On the 18th August he reissued the 4d stamp embossed with the words 'ENGLAND WINNERS'. Funnily enough this stamp wasn't initially available in Scotland and Wales! Short chose the lowest value stamp so it would be in everyone's reach and over 12m were purchased. Currently they fetch £1 or so on eBay. So if you have some of these stamps you might as well pop them in the box in St Andrews? Alternatively they may be worth retaining as evidence that England did once get over the line!

Climate Crisis Action

Use mulch - increasing temperatures are changing the way people garden. Gardeners and farmers are increasingly using mulch to reduce evaporation. By practising this ancient method, we can increase soil water retention, protect roots from extreme heat and provide plants with more nutrients. We are also choosing more drought-resistant species, such as olive trees, lavender, rosemary, sage and Mediterranean native plants."

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 or contact our Vicar, Rev Andy Hobbs on 0121 445 1269.