

## Bell Ringing

Our friendly bell-ringers ring for Sunday services and weddings. We practise **Wednesdays 7–8.30pm**. To find out more, email [sandy@bacbr.org.uk](mailto:sandy@bacbr.org.uk)

## The Need Project

Donations of food, toiletries and Christmas fayre can be left in the designated box in the church entrance. [theneedproject.org.uk](http://theneedproject.org.uk)

## Rectory Gardens

If you are willing to help keep the rectory gardens in good order, please speak to Rev Phil or one of the church wardens.

## Pastoral Care

If you'd like a **home visit** for prayer or even Holy Communion, for yourself or someone you know, please speak to Phil or one of the Wardens.

Do get in touch if you are interested in **Baptism, Confirmation or Weddings**.

Have you sensed a calling to serve more in **Church ministry**? You can always have an informal chat about your story and hopes, and I'd love to pray for and with you.

**Rev Phil Macaulay** (*day off: Monday*) Assistant Curate  
07977 849670 [pmacaulay@gmail.com](mailto:pmacaulay@gmail.com)

## Safeguarding

Church should be a safe place for all, especially children, young people and vulnerable adults. Sandy Stopher is the Parish Safeguarding Officer. Our safeguarding policy is on the notice board and church website: [sandyparishchurch.org/safeguardingpolicy](http://sandyparishchurch.org/safeguardingpolicy)

# St Swithun's Church, Sandy December 2023 Notice Sheet



*Church Wardens:* Anthony Bell, Colin Osborne and Sandra Watson  
*Assistant Curate:* Rev Phil Macaulay

## Worship Services this month

You are welcome to any of the following services:

**Sundays: 8.15am** Said Communion | **9.30am** Sung Communion | **10.40am** Refreshments | **11am** Family Worship

<b>3 Dec</b>	Advent 1: Combined service at <b>10am</b> with Bishop Alan of St Albans	Preacher <b>Bishop Alan</b>
<b>10 Dec</b>	Advent 2: Mark 1:1-8; also <b>5pm</b> Family-Friendly Carol Service with Sandy's Mayor	Preacher <b>Trevor Grant, The Leprosy Mission</b>
<b>17 Dec</b>	Advent 3: John 1:6-8, 19–28; also <b>6pm</b> Traditional Carols and Lessons	Preacher <b>Phil Macaulay</b>
<b>24 Dec</b>	Advent 4/Christmas Eve: Combined Service at <b>10am</b> ; also, Crib Service at <b>4pm</b> and Midnight Communion at <b>11.30pm</b>	Preacher <b>Andrew Holford</b>
<b>25 Dec</b>	<b>8.15am</b> Holy Communion with Phil Macaulay and <b>10am</b> Family Worship with Elizabeth Gammell	Preacher <b>Phil Macaulay</b>
<b>31 Dec</b>	The Naming of Jesus: Luke 2:15–21 <b>11am</b> Christingle Service	Preacher <b>Phil Macaulay</b>

**Holy Communion Service Wednesdays at 10.30am** in Church  
**Tuesday evening prayer at 6.30pm** in Church

8.15am preachers may vary from those listed above. For information about our youth groups, evening prayer services, baptism, confirmation or weddings, please contact Rev Phil on 07977 849670

## Jesus – the light of all people

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.*

*John 1:1-5*



## Christmas Tree Festival 10th anniversary

**Saturday 2–Tuesday 5 December**

For the 10th anniversary of this popular event, the church will become the backdrop for a beautiful display of decorated Christmas trees, created by the community of Sandy. The trees will be crafted by children and youth groups, charities, community groups and local businesses. Some trees are traditional, others are modern and fun. During the four-day event, we can expect to welcome many visitors into the church. Do come and join in the celebrations.



- **Saturday 2, 12noon–7pm** Carols around the piano and mulled wine from 5.30pm with Sandy Community Choir at 6pm
- **Sunday 3, 12noon–7pm**
- **Monday 4, 3.30–7pm**
- **Tuesday 5, 3.30–7pm**

There are opportunities to help by greeting visitors on the door and serving refreshments. Please speak to Corinne.

## Craft & Chat

**Fortnightly Fridays (1, 15 & 29 December) from 7.30pm, St Swithun's Church Rooms**  
£3. Bring your own craft or learn a new one. Refreshments.

## Coffee Morning

**Saturday 2 December**  
**10am–12noon, Church Rooms**  
Drop in for a cuppa and cake.

## Carols at Tesco

**Saturday 11 December 11am**  
Join our carol singers raising money for Crisis at Christmas.

## Christmas Concert

**Wednesday 20 December**  
**7.30pm, St Swithun's Church**  
Let the magic of Christmas begin

with joyful festive music and readings from the St Swithun's Singers. Donations on the door, profits to the church.

## Christmas Bazaar

A big thank you to all who helped out at the Christmas Bazaar on 18 November, and especially to Lynsey Sheppard and Karen Varley for their hard work. It raised a grand total of £1200.

## Sponsored Bell Ring

Congratulations to tower captain Steven Akhurst and the St Swithun's bellringers for raising a magnificent £2400 for improvements to the bell tower. The ringers completed roughly 5040 changes during the 3-hour-long sponsored peal.

## Leprosy Mission

- With just one month of the year remaining, I'm delighted to let you know that we are up to £20,799 towards our target of £21,165 to support three communities who live and work in the Tea Gardens of Bangladesh. There are many ways to support our project, including collecting boxes (more details from Colin):
- **Sunday 10 Dec** – Final visit of our TLM contact Trevor Grant, who is preaching at both 9.30am and 11am services. His wife Liz and Chris Stratta, our new TLM contact, will be joining him
- **Monday 18 Dec** (note change of date) – Outing to Christmas Lights at Wrest Park
- **Daily Stall** (with many Christmas items) at 2 Leeds Smith Drive
- **The Leprosy Mission** shop catalogue at [theleprosymissionshop.com](http://theleprosymissionshop.com)