

## The Need Project



This ongoing and increasing ministry relies on the love, prayers and generous donations from the church community. It urgently needs household cleaning products, larger-size nappies, coffee, squash, UHT milk, canned, bottled and packeted food stuffs and toiletries. Donations can be left in the box in the church entrance. NEED provision is available for anyone who is struggling to make ends meet for whatever reason. Please speak to a church warden who will refer you to the NEED project coordinators. [theneedproject.org.uk](http://theneedproject.org.uk)

## St Swithun's Flower Group

If you would like to sponsor the Church flowers for a birthday, anniversary, or any family celebration, please contact **Trixie Cooper**. We would also welcome sponsorship for one month of flowers during the coming year. If you would like to join our small group of eight, you would be very welcome.

## 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)

## 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.

## 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)

## 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.

**Contact Rev Phil Macaulay**  
(day off: Friday) Assistant Curate  
07977 849670  
[p.macaulay@gmail.com](mailto:p.macaulay@gmail.com)

# St Swithun's Church, Sandy March 2024 Notice Sheet



*Church Wardens:* Colin Osborne, Jennifer Watson 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

3 Mar	<b>David Series:</b> David & Goliath, 1 Samuel 17: 32–51	Preacher <b>Forces Chaplain Terry Wright</b>
10 Mar	<b>Mothering Sunday</b>	Preacher <b>Jane Godley</b>
18 Mar	<b>Passion Sunday</b> <b>David Series:</b> David, Bathsheba and Uriah 2 Samuel 11: 1–17	Preacher <b>Beth Davey</b>
24 Mar	<b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>Jesus, Son of David</b> 2 Samuel 7: 5–16	Preacher <b>Phil Macaulay</b>
31 Mar	<b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>8.15am Holy Communion and 10am Communion service</b>	Preacher <b>Archdeacon Dave Middlebrook</b>

**Holy Communion Service Wednesdays at 10.30am** in Church  
**Home group bible study Tuesdays at 6.30pm**

\*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

# World Day of Prayer 2024

This year's World Day of Prayer service is being held at **Beeston Methodist Church** on **Friday 1 March at 2pm**.

## Lent Services & Lent Lunches

### Deanery Lent Services:

'Mark's Gospel: Encounters with Jesus' on Sundays at 6pm

- **3 March (Biggleswade)** – Bishop Richard
- **10 March (Moggerhanger)** – TBA
- **17 March (Blunham)** – Graham Buckle

### Deanery Lunches:

Lent lunches offer an opportunity to meet with others over a simple lunch of bread and cheese with a hot drink and donate to an important aid charity. They are taking place at Sandy Baptist Church rooms from 12noon to 1.30pm on the following Fridays:

- **1 March** – hosted by St Swithun's Church, Sandy
- **8 March** – hosted by Shalom Community Church, Moggerhanger
- **15 March** – hosted by Sandy Baptist Church
- **22 March** – hosted by Sandy Methodist Church

## Easter Services

- **Thursday 28 March 7pm** Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
- **Friday 29 March 12noon–3pm** Good Friday Quiet Vigil
- **Sunday 31 March 8.15am & 10am** Easter Sunday Holy Communion (two services only)

## New Rector

We are very pleased to announce that our new Rector is the **Reverend Jodie Brown**, currently Curate at St Peter's and St Michael's in Hall Green, Birmingham. Jodie grew up in nearby Gamlingay and will be joined in Sandy by her husband James and daughter Beatrice. Her Licensing at St Swithun's will be by the Bishop

of St Albans on the evening of **Wednesday 10 July**. We look forward to welcoming them.

## Annual Report

The PCC is putting together the Annual Report for 2023. If you would like to submit a short report on the group you lead please let **Stephen Snow, PCC Secretary**, have it by **Sunday 17 March**.

## Coffee Mornings

**Saturday 2 March and 6 April 10am–12noon, Church Rooms**  
Drop in for a cuppa and cake.

## Craft & Chat

**Fortnightly Fridays (8 & 22 March) from 7.30pm, St Swithun's Church Rooms**  
£3. Bring a craft or learn a new one. Refreshments available.

## Easter Monday 'Pilgrimage'

Each year hundreds of people from across the diocese gather at St Albans Cathedral on Easter Monday for a picnic and

Holy Communion Service. Phil is going this year on 1 April, and all are welcome to join him (via your own transport) with your own picnic on the cathedral green around 1pm, and we can go into the Cathedral about 2.30pm for the 3pm service.

## Easter Sunrise Pinnacle Prayer

Come rain or shine, Christians from around Sandy will gather at the top of Cambridge Road on Easter morning and walk up the hill together at 6.30am in time for the sunrise and to pray and worship together. Please talk to Deirdre to find out more.

## Leprosy Mission

**Our 2024 Project** – To help build and equip two consultation rooms in the new Outpatients Department planned for Muzaffarpur Hospital in India, where we have pledged to raise **£20,760**. Contact Colin about any of the following:

**World Leprosy Day** – Many thanks to everyone who supported this. Envelopes continue to be received and to date £484 has been raised.

**Swimathon** – Our gallant team of five young people plus one Mum completed 116 lengths, raising £550, of which 50% is for our project.

**Spring 'What's My Line' Quiz Competition** – Quiz sheets still just £1 each available from 1 March from Elinor Groom and Colin.

**Quiz Evening** – Friday 15 March at 7.30pm at the Scout HQ (now full).

**Tour of the Lodge** – Sunday 21 April at 2.30pm – speak to Colin.

**China Express** – This year's dinners are on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May and bookings can now be made with Colin.

**Daily Stall** at 2 Leeds Smith Drive, 10am–4pm (weather permitting).