

Bell Ringing

Our friendly bell-ringers ring for Sunday services and weddings. We practise **Wednesdays 7–8.30pm**. Please email sandy@bacbr.org.uk

The Need Project

Food and toiletries donations can be left in the church entrance. theneedproject.org.uk

Rectory Gardens

Can you help with the rectory gardens? If so please speak to Phil or the church wardens.

Stay & Play After School Club

Term-time Wednesdays 3.30–5pm, St Swithun's Church Rooms
Multi activities & crafts.
£3 per child + £1 siblings.
Contact Jade

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
p.macaulay@gmail.com

Youth & Children

Junior Church

Usually available for our **9.30am Sunday Service** but not the first Sunday of the month

Bravers

10–14 year-olds Food, Craft, Games, Bible Study & Videos.
Sunday afternoons/evenings in the Church Rooms.

KWB

14–18 year-olds Food & activities such as discussion & study, games, painting and crafts.
Friday Evenings in the Church Rooms.

Important:

Naturally, we have to be careful about who we appoint to Children's ministry, but if you would like to help with any of these groups please speak to Rev Phil or one of the 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

St Swithun's Church, Sandy November 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

5 Nov	Exodus 6:1–13 Plagues and Passover	Preacher Phil Macaulay
12 Nov	Exodus 14 Through the Waters No 11am service – Civic Remembrance Service 11.45am	Preacher Andrew Holford
19 Nov	Exodus 17:8–16 Praying Fighting and Peace	Preacher Tim Bull, Diocesan Director of Vocations
26 Nov	Exodus 19:14–20:21 Freedom and Covenant	Preacher Jane Godley
3 Dec	First Sunday of Advent – Combined Communion Service at 10am	Preacher Bishop Alan

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

Craft & Chat

Fortnightly Fridays
(3 & 17 November) from 7.30pm,
St Swithun's Church Rooms
£3. Bring your own craft or learn a new one. Refreshments.

Coffee Morning

Saturday 4 November
10am–12noon, Church Rooms
Drop in for a cuppa and cake.

Remembrance Services

Saturday 11 November 10.50am
Royal British Legion vigil, Bedford Rd Memorial; **Sunday 12 November 8.15 and 9.30 services** followed by **10.50am** wreath laying at Memorial; **11.45am** Church Remembrance Service

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 18 November, 1–4pm
Plenty of stalls and refreshments to enjoy at the Christmas Bazaar. Please sign up to run a stall, or donate raffle/lucky-dip prizes, bottles for the tombola, cakes, gifts and good-quality soft toys to Lynsey Sheppard or Karen Varley.

Shoebox Sunday

Sunday 19 November
Pack a shoebox with toys, clothes and toiletries, with a £5 donation for Operation Christmas Child and bring to church on Sunday 19 Nov.

The Real Advent Calendar

The UK's only Fairtrade Advent calendar comes with a free 24 page Christmas story-activity book and supports charitable causes. The order form is available by the church noticeboard. Sign up by 19 November, price £4.50.

Sponsored Bell Ring

Saturday 25 November, 9am,
St Swithun's Church
The bellringers at St Swithun's are holding a sponsored peal to raise money for new lights, an emergency light, a new curtain rail and other essential work needed in the church ringing chamber and tower. Tower captain Steven Akhurst says: "We are ringing in a group a method with roughly 5040 changes, which can take up to 3 hours to complete. This is going to be my first peal in more than 20 years of ringing." The sponsor form for Steven & the team is available in the church.

Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust

The annual sponsored walk raised £420 with half being returned to St Swithun's Church. Many thanks to all who participated including our two youngest walkers, those who sponsored and to Carol and David who greeted visitors with refreshments all day. Jean.

Christmas Services

Sunday 3 December 10am Christmas Tree Festival combined communion service, Bishop Alan; 4pm Christmas lights switch-on in town
Sunday 10 December 5pm Family-friendly Mayor's Carol Service
Sunday 17 December 6pm Lessons & Carols traditional service
Sunday 24 December 10am combined communion service; 4pm Crib Service & Nativity; 11.30pm Midnight Communion
Christmas Day 8.15am said communion service; 10am Family Worship
Sunday 11 February 6pm Candlemas Evensong

Christmas Tree Festival

2–5 December

For the St Swithun's Christmas Tree Festival 10th anniversary we need:

- **people to clear the church on Sunday 26 November, 12noon–1pm**
- **people to decorate a wooden outdoor tree** – can you produce one of 10 trees telling the nativity story along the church path?
- **people to meet and greet and serve refreshments** while the church is open on **Saturday 2 & Sunday 3, 12noon–7pm; and Monday 4 & Tuesday 5, 3.30–7pm.** There are sign-up sheets and more information by the noticeboard, or speak to Corinne.

Leprosy Mission

The total raised to date is now up to a fantastic £18,935 towards our target of £21,165 to support three communities who live and work in the Tea Gardens of Bangladesh. Trevor Grant, our local TLM contact and good friend, is retiring at the end of the year and joining us for the final time on Sunday 10 December. There will be a retiring collection for him on 19 November. Other ways to support our project include the following (more details from Colin):

- **Friday 17 Nov** – Quiz Evening in the Church Rooms at 7.30pm. Teams of up to six persons
- **Wednesday 13 Dec** – 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
- **Congratulations to Jane Ranson** who won the Autumn Quiz