# **Chippenham Churches**

Chippenham contains a number of churches, a brief list of which follows

## **Church of England**

#### Saint Andrew

Saint Andrew's parish church is believed to have been built on the site of an Anglo Saxon church. Many features of the present church are Norman (with the chancel arch being completed in c.1120). There are a wide variety of features on the different facets of the church. The church spire was completed in 1633 although the 8 bells currently present were not added until 1734 and the back-lit clock and chimes in 1858. The church registers date from 1578. There was a Victorian era restoration of the interior of the church in 1875 - 1878 and again in the 1990s.

#### · Saint Nicolas

St. Nicholas church was built in 1779 and replaced an older medieval church that had previously stood on the same site. The church was designed by John Wood the Elder of Bath. The church registers date from 1730.

#### · Saint Paul

St. Paul's church was built in 1854/5 by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and was consecrated on 18 April 1855 and has registers dating from then.

#### · Saint Peter

St. Peter's original build started in 1885 and opened on 19 November 1886 as a stone and red brick building. The church was replaced by the current church in 1968. The newer St Peter's is a modern design six sided design with a copper roof and a fibre glass spire and no internal supports.

## Roman Catholic

- · The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- · Saint Mary

Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church was originally situated in Saint Mary's Place and was built in 1855. A new church was built on Station Hill in 1935 which replaced the original on 29 February 1936.

## **Non-Conformist**

- · Bethel Pentecostal Church
- · Central Methodist

Central Methodist church was built in 1909 to mark the centenary of Methodism in Chippenham. It was originally called Monkton Hill Methodist Church but was renamed after it joined parishes with that of The Causeway Methodist Church that closed in the late 1980s.

- Chippenham Christian Fellowship
- Dayspring Church for North Wiltshire
- · Elim Pentecostal Church

## - Emmanuel Evangelical Church Chippenham

Founded in April 2005, EECC is affiliated to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches and currently has a Sunday congregation of 80-100.

- · Ladyfield Evangelical Church
- · New Testament Church of God
- · Oasis Church

Founded April 2004 by Pastors Ralph and Heather Burden of the Assemblies of God, the Oasis Church focuses on younger worshippers, meeting on Saturday evenings and featuring rock-based worship. Most of the congregants are under 50. The church regularly hosts well-known rock musicians.

## · The Old Baptist Chapel

Old Baptist Chapel opened on 10 June 1804 but was not registered until 1810. The internal baptistry was added in 1818.

- Religious Society of Friends
- Salvation Army

Salvation Army Citadel was originally opened in 1903 in Bath road but was later sold to Pictons. The Salvation Army moved into the Co-op hall in Foghamshire.

#### Sheldon Road Methodist

Sheldon Road Methodist Church was originally built in 1901 but was changed in 1932.

## · Station Hill Baptist

Station Hill Baptist Chapel was built in 1855

### United Reformed

Tabernacle United Reformed Church was first built in 1770 but was replaced in 1826 and refitted in 1889. The church had substantial internal renovations in the 1990s.

## **Closed Churches**

- Cepen Park Methodist church closed in 2005 it held services in two local schools.
- Causeway Methodist Chapel opened in 1896 replacing an older chapel on the same site. The older chapel is believed to have been built in around 1835 and still stands to the rear of the newer building (and served as a school room for it). Causeway Methodist Chapel closed in the late 1980s although the buildings remain.