

## **The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill**

**SUNDAY 2 January – The Second Sunday of Christmas, celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord**

**We would like to wish you a Happy New Year.**

Welcome to you all for our **United Benefice Service of Holy Communion** this morning, and especially to Sister Hazel who is leading our worship, together with the Rector who is preaching the sermon.

You are very welcome to stay for coffee and a chat after the service.

The bible readings for this morning are:

**Isaiah 60 vs. 1 – 6; and  
Ephesians 3 vs. 1 - 12.**

The Holy Gospel reading is **Matthew 2 vs.1 – 12.**

### **DATES FOR YOUR NEW DIARY**

**Thursday Group** recommences its programme on **Thursday January 20th** with a New Year lunch. Usual meetings begin on **Thursday, 3rd February** and the **Lent Lunches and Bible Study** begins on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March**. More details of the Lent Course will follow soon. Contact Betty Kinsey on 261836 for details.

**Midweek House Communion** recommences on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January** at 10.30am at Knightleys, Heath Road.

The next **PCC meeting** will be held at Green Farm at 8pm on **Thursday 20th January**.

### **NEWS**

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of **David Jenkins**, the Church Warden at St Mary Magdalene, Little Brickhill. David's funeral was held at St Mary Magdalene on Friday. We would like to send our prayers and good wishes to David's family.

### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES & EVENTS**

Due to the heavy snowfall the **Carol Singing** around the village was delayed until the evening of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Well done to the band of singers and collectors - despite the limited area that they

were able to cover in the time available, they managed to raise £235.35 towards church funds.

**The Nativity** was able to go ahead last Sunday despite the cold and snowy conditions. Thank you to all who helped with the organisation, and to all the musicians and those who took part. There was a lovely picture of the stable and the Holy Family in this week's MK Citizen, together with an article about the occasion.

**The Sponsor a Light** in aid of St Mary's 2000 raised £65. Thank you to Emily Hudson for writing the messages of dedications into the Memorial Book.

The total collected for **Nuevo Reto** was £892 – this includes the collection at the “Evensong for Kay”, the donation in recognition of Kay's work for the PCC and St Marys 2000, and the donations from the Christmas Greetings Card Tree. £500 was sent out in advance with Charlotte Pritchard when she visited the orphanage in October. A report from Charlotte is on the notice board by the tree and is also available on the website. The balance is being sent out. The additional money will be used to help with the forthcoming school fees. Charlotte has asked us to pass on thanks from everyone at Nuevo Reto to all at “Santa Maria” in Great Brickhill.

Both the **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve** and the service of **Holy Communion on Christmas Day** were very well attended. Thank you to all who helped to decorate the church, to the choir, and to Jerry and Paul for playing the organ. Also thanks to Robin for again producing the Carol Service Sheets.

Almost 50 photos have been added to the church website to cover recent events. Do visit the site at [www.brickhillchurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillchurches.org.uk) to view the four new Photo galleries covering the recent snow scenes, the Nuevo Reto, the Nativity and the Christmas decorations / flower arrangements around the church.

**Thank you, also, to the Bell ringers** who rang for all the services over Christmas.

**Next Sunday, 9th January** there will be a service of **Morning Worship at 9.30am**, led by Jeremy and **Evensong at 6pm, led by the Rector.**

*Christine* (261527) [christine.agambar@btinternet.com](mailto:christine.agambar@btinternet.com)  
*Julia* (261213) [msturner@btopenworld.com](mailto:msturner@btopenworld.com)