

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 22nd April

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome to our Family Service for this **Third Sunday of Easter**, led by the Rector. We also would like to thank Tim Holden for providing the music for the service and Mary Maley for the intercessions during the service. You are warmly invited to join us after the service for refreshments.

The reading this morning is: **Luke 24 vs. 36b – 48.**

THANK YOU to everyone who helped in the Church Spring Clean yesterday. Over a dozen people turned out to give a morning of their time to undertake special jobs inside and outside the church building. If you have a chance you might admire the rebuilding of a section of the dry-stone wall along the path; newly refurbished metal work on the external doors; cleaner windows and banished spiders' webs; and shiny brass.

THIS WEEK

The Annual Church Meeting will be held next **Tuesday April 24th** at 7.30pm in the Church. All are welcome to attend. Coffee will be available from 7.15pm. The meeting will conclude with **Compline**, a short said service of evening prayer.

All papers (Annual Report etc.) are now available for collection from the Church, or to download from the website.

The procedure for the Annual Elections is displayed on the notice in the Church porch. Elections will take place for:

- Two Church Wardens
- PCC Members (the number to be elected is 9, as determined by an Electoral Roll of 51 to 100 people)

A list of all Nominations is posted in the Church porch.

Any parishioner wishing to be added to the Church Electoral Roll should register on the forms available from the Church Warden or from Jeremy Hopkinson (the Electoral Roll Officer), or from the "Electoral Roll" section of the website.

THURSDAY GROUP resumes this Thursday 26th April after the Lent and Easter break. The first meeting will be held at the Rectory when John will tell us about his recent visit to the Holy Land. The meeting will begin at 2.30pm and all are welcome to come and join in.

NEWS

The PLANT FAYRE held on the 14th April was a huge success – we had 579 visitors and were blessed with fine weather. In addition to the stalls held by the professional nurserymen, our very own plant stall was very successful. The event raised £2,934.77 for general church funds. Thank you to all who helped to set up the hall and marquee, to everyone who helped on the stalls and to all those who worked hard all week to provide the refreshments and cakes. A summary of the results can be found in the church porch.

NEWSPAPER COLLECTION - Thanks to all who helped load the lorry last week, and to Michael Turner for organising the band of helpers. Six tonnes of waste paper and card were loaded onto the lorry. We don't yet know how that equates into funds raised to benefit the church.

The Lent Course and donations from the Lent Lunches raised £185, which has been sent to "Combat Stress", a charity which delivers dedicated treatment and support to ex-Service men and women with conditions such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression and anxiety disorders.

Next Sunday, 29th April, at 10.00am there will be a **United Benefice Service of Holy Communion here in Great Brickhill.** The Rector will be using his recent trip to the Holy Land as the theme for the service.

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The address of the benefice website is: www.brickhillschurches.org.uk