

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 13th May

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER and Rogation Sunday and CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Rogation Days are the three days before Ascension Day, when prayers are offered for God's blessing on the fruits of the earth and the sea.

Welcome to our **Services of Morning Worship and Evensong** today. Morning Worship is led by Jeremy and Evensong is led by the Rector. You are warmly invited to join us after Morning Worship for refreshments.

The readings this morning are: **Acts 10 vs. 44 - 48; and John 15 vs. 9 – 17.**

The readings this evening are: **Isaiah 55 vs. 1 – 11; and Revelation 3 vs. 14 – 22.**

THIS WEEK

Midweek House Communion will be held at Betty's home at **10.30am on Wednesday 16th May, at 10.30am.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

Christian Aid Week, 13th – 19th May. Thank you to all those who have kindly agreed to help with the **House-to-House Collection.**

A SPECIAL DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

On **Sunday, June 3rd** our church will be celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. There will be a special service of sung Holy Communion at 11am, led by Sister Hazel, with Colin Griffiths preaching the sermon. It will be lovely to welcome Sister Hazel back into our midst again and I am sure that you will all wish to be here to greet her. The service will be followed by a ceremonial tree planting in the churchyard by Sir David Duncombe, our Patron and the 'unveiling' of the new churchyard seat that has been donated to us by Great Brickhill Parish Council to mark the Jubilee. The choir will sing, the bells will be rung and we will be serving refreshments. Everyone is warmly welcome to be there.

NEWS

The Annual Meeting and Elections

The Great Brickhill Church Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday 24th April. The written Annual Reports and Accounts for 2011 had been available in advance of the Meeting. Updates were presented on the many aspects of our Church life. Anyone who has not yet received a copy of the Annual Report can collect a copy from the bookcase near the entrance to the church, or can download the Report from the website.

Following uncontested elections:-

Christine Agambar will continue in the role of sole Church warden, there being no nomination for a second Warden.

The following were elected as members of the P.C.C.

Simon Bennett, Phillipa Cook, Robin Dawson, Rosie Dawson, David Duncombe, Jeremy Hopkinson, Kay Seaman, Julia Turner and Joy Wilson.

Clare Amies and Valerie Beardmore Baldwin continue to serve as our Deanery Synod Representatives, for the second of their three year period.

The first meeting of the newly elected P.C.C. will be on **Tuesday 29th May in the Church at 8.00pm.**

The Annual Meeting concluded with Compline.

The list of **Sidesmen** is being revised - if anyone would like to help with this role of welcoming people into the church as they arrive for a service, then please contact Phillipa Cook on 261521 or at neilacook@aol.com

PARISH MEETING

A report from the PCC was presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 1st May. A copy of this report has been uploaded onto the benefice website, in the Great Brickhill section on the "Annual Meeting and Report 2012" page. For a hard copy of the report contact Phillipa Cook (261521).

NEWSPAPER COLLECTION

The recent collection of 6 tonnes of waste cardboard and newspapers raised £364.80 for church funds. Thank you to all who helped to load the collection lorry and to Frank for organising the regular collection of paper and card.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Following changes announced in the Budget we have to change the wording used on Gift Aid Envelopes. We have a short period when we can use up the older envelopes and, if you have envelopes at home, please could you return them to the Church so that we can use them up before they are no longer valid. I have ordered new envelopes with the revised wording on them but, since each envelope costs approximately 5p we don't want to waste any.

A (VERY) SMALL GARDEN

By the West Door of the church you will notice the introduction of two small gardened plots either side of the door. A new Community Gardening Club based at High Ash School is tending these. It is their first project and the garden will last through the summer and then the grass turves will be reinstated.

MUSIC IN QUIET PLACES

The annual season of concerts in local churches commences again with the first concert to be held in Brill Church on Saturday 19th May, with a programme of Mozart, Verdi and Handel. Programmes with details of each concert are now available in the church on the bookcase by the door.

In Great Brickhill next Sunday, 20th May, at 9.30am there will be a celebration of **Holy Communion**, led by the Rector.

At Stoke Hammond there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 8.30am, at Bow Brickhill there will be Evensong at 6pm and at Little Brickhill there will be a Family Service at 11.15am.

Christine Agambar (01525 261527) christine.agambar@btinternet.com

To contact the Rector by e-mail: rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

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