

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 9th December – The Second Sunday of Advent.

Welcome to our two services today and especially to all friends and visitors for the **Charity Evensong this evening**, when we will be supporting Willen Hospice through our donations. Morning Worship is led by Jeremy.

Everyone is invited to stay after Morning Worship for refreshments and a chat. After Evensong we will be serving mulled wine and mince pies.

The readings this morning are:

Malachi 3 vs. 1 – 4;
Luke 3 vs. 1 – 6.

THIS EVENING, THE ANNUAL CHARITY EVENSONG will be held here in Great Brickhill at 6pm. This year Willen Hospice will be the beneficiary of your donations, both at the Evensong and also from the donations given with the Christmas Card Tree. Please encourage your friends and neighbours to come. Sung Evensong (without a sermon), will be followed by a short organ recital and the opportunity for the church community to say thank you to the choir, organists and bell ringers who enhance our worship throughout the year. We will also hear a short talk given by Revd. Steve Barnes, the Chaplain at Willen, who will reflect his year at the Hospice. Wine and refreshments will be served during the evening. Please come.

Please use the Willen Gift Aid envelopes for your donations this evening.

The readings this evening are:

Isaiah 40 vs. 1 – 11;
Luke 1 vs. 1 – 25.

CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, GREAT BRICKHILL

Everyone is warmly invited to join us at our special services over Christmas. Please invite your friends, neighbours and guests.

In particular, we would especially like to invite everyone to a **Special Family Worship on Sunday 23rd December at 11am.** This service is for children and adults who are young at heart and we will have food and refreshments, carols and story telling and there will be a chance to help to build the crib for Baby Jesus. Oh! I nearly forgot, the Shepherds are coming with their sheep. If you would like to dress up that would be really great, but you don't have to. The church now has a toilet, although I am not sure whether the sheep know how to use it!

On Christmas Eve there will be a Service of Carols and Readings by Candlelight at 5pm. Please come and join a 'full to bursting' church for some rousing carol singing.

On Christmas Day there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 11am.

If you live in Great Brickhill and are at home between **4 and 7pm next Saturday, 15th December** you may well hear our choir **carol singing around the village.** Listen out for us and a donation for the church would be appreciated.

SPONSOR A LIGHT

There is again an opportunity to Sponsor a Light in aid of St Mary 2000. As last year, the outdoor lights will be on the tower and along the path and will be switched on just before Evensong this evening. Dedication cards are available on the bookcase inside the entrance to the church. The dedications will be transcribed into a special Remembrance Book on display.

THE CHRISTMAS CARD TREE

The tree is ready to receive your greetings. Your donations with the greetings will also contribute to support our chosen charity. Please place your donation in the special envelopes provided and pass them to me or Phillipa Cook to support Willen Hospice. Thank you.

THIS WEEK:

DROP-IN will be held in the Parish Hall **tomorrow, Monday 10th December.** The Post Office and refreshments will be available as usual.

HOUSE COMMUNION will be held at 10.30am on **Wednesday 12th December** at Knightleys, Heath Road. This is the final House Communion of the year.

CAROL SINGING AROUND THE VILLAGE

This year Carol Singing will take place **between 4pm and 7pm next Saturday, 15th December**. All are very welcome to come and sing or help with the collection, but remember to wrap up warmly and bring a torch. The Carol Singing Band will meet up at The Three Trees outside the Old Red Lion at **3.50pm**. For more details contact Phillipa on 261521 or neilcook@aol.com.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 16th DECEMBER

There will be Holy Communion (Common Worship) here at Great Brickhill at 9.30am, led by the Rector

Other Benefice Services on the 16th December:

- Bow Brickhill:- Carol Service at 3 pm.
- Little Brickhill:- Carol Service at 5pm
- Stoke Hammond:- Holy Communion at 8.30am.

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

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

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