

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

## **24th November:- Sunday next before Advent (Christ the King)**

Welcome to our **Family Service** this morning, led by the Rector. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for refreshments and a chat. We will be using recorded music for three of our hymns today and two will be led and accompanied by Andrew and Margretta Smith.

This Sunday before Advent is commonly known as Stir-Up Sunday and during the service we will be stirring up the ingredients to make a cake, which will be cooked and ready for the Crib Service.

**The readings this morning are:- Colossians 1: 9 – 14**

## **RETIRING COLLECTION:- PHILIPPINES TYPHOON APPEAL**

There will be an extra collection this morning in aid of the Christian Aid **Philippines Typhoon Appeal**. A plate will be available at the door for your donations and there are some special gift aid sheets. The appeal will remain open until after next week's service.

**THE CHRISTMAS FAIR** yesterday was a huge success. Father Christmas fittingly opened the Fair and there was a tremendous pre-Christmas atmosphere at the Parish Hall, which at times was full to capacity. Vicky Howley conducted the High Ash choir who gave a superb rendition of popular songs. Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the event - those who work hard to produce the goods to sell, those who organised and manned the stalls, those who provided the delicious refreshments, those who set up and cleared the Hall, and those who came along to spend their hard earned cash. The magnificent sum of **£1743** was raised towards the running costs of the church.

## **THIS WEEK AND NEXT:**

**Drop-in with the Post Office** will be held, as usual on Monday afternoon, 25th November, at the Parish Hall.

The final **Midweek Holy Communion** Service for this year will be held on **Wednesday 27th November** at **10.30am** at the **Rectory** (please note the change of venue).

**The Thursday Group** will meet for mince pies and a chat on **5th December** at 2.30pm at **51A Lower Way**.

## **NEWS AND EVENTS:**

**THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE.** Thank you to Edward Maley who kindly made all the arrangements for this service. The collection for **The Poppy Appeal** raised £450, of which just over £300 was given under the Gift Aid scheme.

**THE CHANGE TO THE PATTERN OF SERVICES.** At the recent Wardens' Meeting it was agreed that the pattern of services be discussed at the Wardens and PCC Meetings in January, with the hope that any **change would be implemented in March.**

**From the comments received for Great Brickhill,** it was clear that the Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion (currently on the first Sunday of the month) should continue on one of the two weeks when the Rector will not be committed to taking the service.

There were also a number of requests that Evensong should continue – however there was a feeling that Evensong should not be held in the winter months (January and February).

The Rector and Wardens are going to draw up a timetable for the services for the year, for what is currently the Second Sunday of the month. It was decided that for the first two months of the New Year Evensong will not be held. There will be a service of Morning Worship on 12th January and on 9th February the Prayer Book Service of Mattins will be held.

**THE CHARITY EVENSONG** will be held on Sunday 8th December. There will not be a morning service that day. The chosen charity for this Christmas will be The Lodge Trust which is located in Rutland and exists to make a Christian provision for adults with learning difficulties. Mary Maley will be giving a short talk about the work of the trust – her daughter Sarah Lily is one of the 29 residents.

### **SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 1st DECEMBER:**

**There will be a said Holy Communion (BCP) Service at 11.00am** in Great Brickhill, led by the Rector.

Other Services across the Benefice:

**Bow Brickhill:-** Advent Carol Service at 4.00pm

**Little Brickhill:-** No Service

**Stoke Hammond:-** Christingle Service, 4.00pm

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