

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2016:- The Sunday Next Before Lent

Welcome to our Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion – we are delighted that Revd Val Plumb, recently appointed Joint Area Dean, is back with us this morning to lead the service. We hope that Sister Hazel may also be able to join us.

Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat.

The readings this morning are:-

Exodus 34: 29 - 35; 2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4: 2; Luke 9: 28 - 36

THIS WEEK:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly weekly drop-in coffee morning, especially welcoming parents and carers of young children is held **every Monday morning during term time in the church from 9.15am to 11.15am. All welcome – not obligatory to bring a child with you!**

Drop-in with the Post Office will be held on Monday afternoon, 8th February at the Parish Hall.

Ash Wednesday, 10th February. There will be a United Benefice service of Said Holy Communion at Stoke Hammond at 10.30am.

Thursday Group will continue to meet through Lent. The next meeting will be **this week 11th February at 30 Pound Hill – 2.30pm** for a cup of tea and a chat. All are welcome to attend.

NEWS & EVENTS:-

LENT GROUPS

The Lent groups will start the week beginning 15th February. There will be a 5-session **Wednesday or Thursday midweek evening course held at venues across the benefice.** For those who wish to go to a day-time course there is the opportunity to go to **Stoke Hammond on Tuesday afternoons.** All will be welcome to join in any of the sessions at any of the venues.

The course **“The Psalms – Prayers for Today's Church”** reflects on the psalms in general (and five psalms in particular). White fliers giving full details of all the dates and venues are available for collection from the bookcase or download the information from the **“Lent Courses”** section of the website – address overleaf.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES:

The formal wording for the Gift Aid declaration has changed. If anyone has any of the old version of the envelopes, could they please return them to the church so that they can be used as soon as possible. If anyone wishes to keep envelopes at home then do please take away some of the new version. (The wording for the new declaration is above the "Full Name" line, rather than at the bottom of the envelope as in the old version). It is important that we use up the old envelopes whilst they are still valid.

COFFEE MORNING:

There will be Coffee & Cakes in the church at 11.00am on Saturday 20th February. This is an opportunity for us to say thank you to all those who support St Mary's, and to all who contribute their time on the various church rotas. All are invited to attend – if you are able to join us please contact Val Baldwin by 17 February – details below.

E-NEWSLETTER:

The latest e-newsletter was sent out a few days ago, giving a summary of recent events held and details of upcoming events. If you would like to be included in the circulation list please send your e-mail address to Phillipa Cook:- pjcook6@gmail.com

SNOWDROP WALKS:

The first fundraising event of the year is the annual Snowdrop Walks, which will take place on the **NEXT TWO SUNDAYS, 14th and 21st February** between **2pm and 4pm**. Please come along to this very popular event and bring your friends with you. Teas will be available in the church – if anyone could **help with baking some cakes**, please contact Betty Kinsey (261836).

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 14th FEBRUARY:

There will be a service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) at 9.30am in Great Brickhill, led by the Rector.

Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Family Service for Valentine's Day, 11.00am

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- Holy Communion at 9.00am

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The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk