

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 4th December 2016:- The Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome to our Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion this morning led by the Rector. We hope that Sister Hazel may also be here with us. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat.

The readings this morning are:-

Isaiah 11: 1 - 10; Romans 15: 4 - 13; Matthew 3: 1 - 12

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly weekly drop-in coffee morning, 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!

Village Drop In and Post Office. Our Post Lady, Paula, retired on 24th October. Swanbourne no longer have anybody to attend the outreaches and therefore we no longer have a Post Office on a Monday afternoon. Drop In will continue, so please call in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a chat. Swanbourne are talking to Royal Mail to try to get another Post Office to take over in the future.

Thursday Group. The final fortnightly meeting of the year will be held this coming **Thursday, 8th December**. All are welcome to attend at 2.30pm for a cup of tea and a chat. **Please note that there is a change in venue - it will now be held at Furze Hill, Ivy Lane**. In order to have an idea of numbers, anyone wishing to attend is asked to phone Betty (261836).

Next Saturday – Christmas Coffee Morning (see details overleaf)

NEWS AND EVENTS:

CHRISTMAS CHARITY APPEAL:

This year's appeal is for "**SolarAid**" a charity, helping to provide **solar lights to transform peoples' lives in Africa**. More information can be found on the display near the main door, or visit:- www.solar-aid.org. Anyone else who would like to contribute, please use one of the **special Gift Aid sheets** and return it with your donation to Phillipa Cook (Green Farm) **before 18th December**. Cheques are payable to "Great Brickhill PCC".

“FEED THE HUNGRY” CHARITY:

This year's consignment of “Fish ‘n Chip” baby vests and beanies have just been delivered to the Salvation Army in Louth, Lincolnshire where it will be collected for its onward journey to those infants in desperate need. Recently the vests have been sent to Bulgaria, Athens and Syria. Shipments get sent abroad several times a year so it is good to know that the garments reach their destination very soon after they are completed. May we thank all those who knitted garments, or provided wool, so very much for all their very valued contribution, and report that a wonderful 374 vests and beanies were delivered this year. As you can imagine the need will always be there so every item is very much appreciated. If anyone would like a different pattern to make for a change, please just ask Rosie:- Tel: 01525 261425

CHRISTMAS EVENTS & SERVICES:

There is a **sheet available on the bookcase** giving details of all our Christmas activities and services but please note:-

The Coffee Morning, next Saturday 10th December in the church from 10.00am to 12 noon:- **Christmas Cake Raffle; Tombola; Bric-a-brac; Gill-y-Anne Art.** Please sort out any unwanted gifts or items you can spare, plus bottles, jars, tins etc.

Carol Singing around the village in aid of general Church funds on **Saturday 17th December, from 4.00 to 7.00pm.** All welcome - singers and collectors meet at The Three Trees at 3.50pm.

Sponsor a Light on the Christmas tree, which will be at the entrance to the church. Dedication sheets are available just inside the church next to the Commemoration Book into which the messages will be transcribed. Suggested donation £5.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER:

There will be a service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) here at 9.30am, led by the Rector. Other Services:-

Bow Brickhill:- Christingle Service in the School at 11.00am

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- Carol Service at 4.00pm

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