

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 26th February 2017:- The Sunday next before Lent

Welcome to our **Family Service** this morning led by the Rector. Thank you to Andrew and Margretta for playing the music to accompany our songs. The children's activity in the Lady Chapel will be preparing the mixture for pancakes.

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

The bible reading this morning is:- **Matthew 4: 1 - 11**

ASH WEDNESDAY:

On Ash Wednesday 1st March there will be one service in the four parishes, a United Benefice service of Holy Communion here in **Great Brickhill at 10.30am.**

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club tomorrow, 27th February. The child-friendly 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.**

Village Drop-In, tomorrow 27th February. Although there is no longer a Post Office, the Drop-In continues on Monday afternoons at the Parish Hall, from 1.20 - 3.20pm, so please call in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a chat.

NEWS AND EVENTS:

SNOWDROP WALKS:

What a difference in the two weeks of the Snowdrop Walks! The cold and snowy conditions for the first walk was followed by a beautiful afternoon for the second week. How wonderful it was to see so many enjoying the walk among the snowdrops and then having a lovely time in the church. Well done to those serving the tea and cakes for coping so well with the queues. We don't have a record of the number of people attending, but in terms of money raised, last Sunday's total of **£1034.38** surpassed all previous days. With the **£341.50** raised for the first walk the total for the two weeks was **£1375.88 plus gift aid** (£1329 in 2016).

Thank you to David for arranging for the team of bell ringers and to all those who baked the cakes and helped with the teas. But most

of all, thank you to David and Sally for opening up the Manor grounds, without their support this event would not be possible. David Marlow has uploaded photos of the two weekends on his website:- www.davidmarlowphotography.com

St MARY'S YEAR BOOK 2016:

David Marlow has very kindly produced another fantastic St Mary's Year Book featuring photographs he has taken at various events throughout the year. **The new 2016 edition is on display on the small table on the left as you enter the church.** Do take a moment to enjoy looking through the book. This edition and the previous ones are available on the Blurb.co.uk website (search for David Marlow). Individual photos can be seen on David's website:- www.davidmarlowphotography.com. We would like to record our thanks to David for all the time and effort he puts in to taking the photos and then compiling the book for us all to enjoy.

LENT COURSE:

The Lent Course "Pilgrims: Meeting God on the Journey" will start the **week beginning 6th March**. The Sunday readings and theme for the services during Lent will form the subject for the Lent Group the following week - the theme will focus on particular bible stories based on journeys / pilgrimages. There will be an afternoon group at **Stoke Hammond on Tuesdays at 2pm** and an **evening course at venues across the Benefice at 8pm** on Wednesdays 8th & 15th March, Thursdays 23rd & 30th March and Wednesday 5th April. A **Lent Course leaflet** giving full details of all the dates and venues of the Lent Course is available for collection from the bookcase, or download the information from the "Lent Courses" section of the website – address below.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 5th MARCH:

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:- Mattins at 11.00am

Little Brickhill:- Holy Communion at 9.30am

Stoke Hammond:- Family Service at 11am at Methodist Church

Julia Turner – Warden (01525 261213)

juliaturner.it@icloud.com

Phillipa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)

picook6@gmail.com

To contact the Rector by e-mail:

rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk