

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 25th February 2018:- The Second Sunday of Lent

Welcome to our Family Service with Baptism this morning, led by the Rector. Thank you to Andrew for playing the music to accompany our songs. There will be children's activities in the Lady Chapel.

We are delighted to welcome friends and family of Kia and Billy Bunning to celebrate the baptism of their son, Thomas (their older son Joseph was baptised here in 2014).

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

The bible reading this morning is:- **Mark 8: 34 - 38**

PRAYER GROUP:

The weekly Prayer Group on Thursday mornings starts this Thursday, 1st March. Meeting at **10.30am** for tea and coffee it will be an informal gathering in the Lady Chapel with an opportunity for quiet, private and open prayer. All will be welcome on any Thursday.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly drop-in coffee morning for parents and carers **is held on Monday mornings during term time, in the church from 9.15am to 11.15am.**

The Village Drop-In is held on Monday afternoons at the Parish Hall, from **1.30 - 3.30pm**, so please call in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a chat. **The Post Office in the Parish Hall is open on Mondays, from 1pm to 3pm** in the small meeting room.

NEWS AND EVENTS:

SNOWDROP WALKS – SUNDAY 11th & 18th FEBRUARY

The Snowdrop Walks were very well supported again this year. On the first Sunday, as the visitors arrived, so did the frequent showers of rain, hail and sleet. Not to be disappointed most ventured out to see the wonderful display of snowdrops before returning to the Church for a welcome cup of tea and the obligatory slice of cake! The weather on the second Sunday was much warmer and drier, with no danger of a snow storm. Over the two days **£1,370** was raised for church funds, much of it donated under the gift aid scheme. Thank you to our hosts David and Sally Duncombe and to all who baked the cakes and helped with the teas.

Next fund raiser is the **PLANT FAYRE**, Saturday 7th April, (11-4pm)

St MARY'S YEAR BOOK 2017:

David Marlow has produced another wonderful Year Book, an excellent photographic review of the church events throughout 2017. The book is on the table just inside the entrance to the church. Thank you to David for all his time and effort taking the photos and compiling the book. He has sent a request for anyone who holds a fund raising event to send any photos to him for possible inclusion in the 2018 Year Book:- david@davidmarlowphotography.com

END OF NEWSPAPER COLLECTION:

Sadly, the paper recycling company can no longer do the collection from Lower Rectory Farm. Newspapers and cardboard should now be recycled via the blue wheelie bins. Thank you to all who have supported this scheme either donating their unused newspapers, or helping with the collection and emptying the containers onto the lorry. And most of all thank you to the Turner family for supplying the container and allowing it to be located at Lower Rectory Farm.

LENT & BIBLE COURSE AND BUCKINGHAM CONFERENCE:

Lent Course - a choice of afternoon or evening sessions starting the week beginning 5th March. It is a **three-week course "Exploring the Beatitudes"**. Full details can be found on the blue sheets on the bookcase, or via the "Lent Course" section of the website.

On a similar theme there is a **Buckingham Area Day Conference with the Bishop of Oxford, Saturday 24th March**, Aylesbury. See the details on the notice boards near the vestry and in the porch.

Bible Course: introductory session to the Bible Course on 28th & 29th March. There will be 7 weekly follow-on sessions after Easter. This course explores the world's bestseller, discovering how the key events, books and characters of the Bible all fit together. Full details on the white flyers available from the bookcase.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 4th MARCH:

There will be a 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, 11.00am at Methodist Church

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