

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 8th DECEMBER 2019: The Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome to our service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) led by the Rector. Thank you to Susan Noon for playing the organ for us this morning. 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

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: Please take away one of the pink leaflets on the bookcase giving details of the services and activities throughout the Christmas period.

NEWS AND EVENTS:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly drop-in coffee morning for parents and carers **is held every Monday morning in the church from 10.00am to 11.15am during term time. Monday 16th December** will be the last session before the end of term.

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.

The Prayer Group is held at 11.00am in church on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. **The next meeting of the Prayer Group, the last one of the year, will be held tomorrow, Monday 9th December** resuming in the New Year on **13th January**. **There is an e-mail Prayer Chain** for those who meet together. Anyone who wishes a prayer to be included should contact:- Valerie Kerr (valeriejkerr@hotmail.com) or Mary Maley (mary@maley.org.uk).

THE FOOD BOX:

There is now a Food Box in the church porch to help anyone who is in need of food either in an emergency or longer term. Please collect a green/blue flyer from the book case explaining how the scheme works and please spread the news of this initiative. We have had a very generous donation of food from High Ash School and so do not need any more donations at the moment. However, we have an outlet for any excess food should the supply be greater than the need – surplus items will be taken to The Food Cupboard in Milton Keynes.

ADVENT FAIR, LAST SUNDAY AFTERNOON:

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Advent Fair especially Val and Gill who coordinated all the arrangements. **The Fair raised the magnificent sum of £1215.90** – a breakdown of the total is on display in the church porch. The winner of the Christmas Cake was Steve Elvin; the Ginger Bread House - Freya, c/o Priory Cottage, Church Lane; the Ginger Bread Bird House - Caroline Middleton; the Whiskey - Steve Agambar and Guess the Smarties - Tallia Maidment. David Marlow took some photographs which can be viewed on his website:- www.davidmarlowphotography.com

CAROL SINGING, SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER, 4 – 7pm:

Carol Singing around the village in aid of general Church funds - all are welcome. Singers and collectors meet at The Three Trees at 4.00pm. It would be helpful to let Phillipa know if you would like to sing or help with the collection (261521; pjcook6@gmail.com).

CANDLES AND CANAPES ON FRIDAY 27th DECEMBER:

You are invited to come and share some festive spirit in the church from 6.00 – 8.00pm. Please note that the date recorded on the centre page of the Parish Newsletter was incorrect – it is a post-Christmas event on Friday 27th. Donations on the night. RSVP to:- gillewilson57@gmail.com or vafutcher@hotmail.com

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER:

There will be a service of Morning Worship at 9.30am in Great Brickhill, led by Jeremy. Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Carol Service at 3.00pm

Little Brickhill:- Carol Service at 5.00pm

Stoke Hammond:- Morning Worship at 9.00am

THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, 22nd DECEMBER:

The Village Nativity, 11.00am at The Cricket Club. Come and see an enactment of the Nativity Story with carols and readings - Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem with the shepherds and the Kings. Followed by mulled wine & mince pies.

Julia Turner – Warden (07714 028785)

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Phillipa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)

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To contact the Rector, Revd John Waller:

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The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk