

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER 2019: The Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome to our service of Morning Worship led by Jeremy. Thank you to Rosemary Howell 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 35: 1-10; Matthew 11: 2-11**

We were sad to hear the news that Sheila McLoughlin's daughter, Anne has died. The funeral is on 23rd December, 3.30pm at Pentrebychn Crematorium, Wrexham, LL14 4EP.

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. Tomorrow, 16th December** will be the last time that the Coffee Club meets until it resumes next term on **Monday 13th January.**

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. **There will be no Drop-In on Mondays 23rd and 30th December.**

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 will be in the New Year on Monday 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 (valeriejerr@hotmail.com) or Mary Maley (mary@maley.org.uk).

LINK TO HOPE CHARITY SHOEBOXES:

Thank you to all who contributed to this annual appeal – before Christmas **54 shoeboxes from Great Brickhill** will be delivered to families living in dire situations in one of the Eastern Europe countries. Each shoebox will be received with grateful thanks.

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, SUNDAY AFTERNOON 1st DECEMBER:

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 £1231.90** – 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, NEXT 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 Phillippa 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. Donations on the night.

RSVP to:- gillewilson57@gmail.com or vafutcher@hotmail.com

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SERVICES:

Please take away one of the pink leaflets on the bookcase giving details of the **services across the Benefice throughout the Christmas period** to the end of the year. **In brief at Great Brickhill:-**
Sunday 22nd December - The Nativity, 11am at The Cricket Club
Christmas Eve - Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 5.00pm.
Christmas Day - Holy Communion at 11.00am, led by the Rector.
Sunday 29/12 - U.B. Holy Communion, Stoke Hammond, 11.00am.

This is the last Pew Sheet until the New Year and so a note of the services across the Benefice on Sunday 5th January:-

GB:- Said Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am **BB:-** Mattins at 11.00am
LB:- Holy Communion 9.30am **SH:-** Family Service at 11.00am

Julia Turner – Warden (07714 028785)

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Phillippa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)

pjcook6@gmail.com

To contact the Rector, Revd John Waller:

rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk