

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 5th JANUARY 2020: The Epiphany

Welcome to our Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion this morning led by the Rector when we will celebrate the Epiphany. We hope that Sister Hazel is able to be here with us.

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

The readings this morning are:-

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6; Ephesians 3: 1 - 12; Matthew 2: 1 - 12

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

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 13th January will be the first session of the new 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. Tomorrow, Monday 6th January will be the first Drop-In after the Christmas break.

The Prayer Group is held at 11.00am in church on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The next meetings of the Prayer Group will be held on:- Mondays 13th & 27th 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).

NEWS AND EVENTS:

The Christmas Services & Events:-

As previously reported the Advent Fair on 1st December was a great success. Thank you to everyone who helped, especially Val and Gill who coordinated all the arrangements. With additional receipts the Fair raised the magnificent sum of £1,251.90.

High Ash held their end of term School Christingle Services in the church on 16th December for the younger children and 17th December for the older children.

Carol Singing around the village took place on Saturday 21st December. Thank you to the singers and collectors and to the Cricket Club and Old Red Lion for their hospitality. A total of **£358** was raised.

Thank you to all who helped with or played a part in **The Village Nativity** on Sunday 22nd December, especially the Holy Family of Jason, Jo & Olivia and to Andrew for providing the music. The Cricket Club proved a wonderful venue, with thanks to Lee and Karen Roff for all their help and support, and providing the refreshments.

Thank you to all those who helped with the preparation or took part in all the Christmas services and to those who decorated the church so beautifully. The traditional **Christmas Eve Carol Service** was as wonderful as ever. Thanks to the choir and to Jerry Breslin for their magnificent contribution to the musical content of the service.

There was a lively, festive atmosphere in the church for the post-Christmas **Candles and Canapes evening** on 27th December, a very enjoyable post-Christmas occasion. The donations received on the night came to £240.

THE FOOD BOX:

The Food Box in the church porch is 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.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 12th JANUARY:

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

Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Family Service at 11.00am

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- Morning Worship at 9.00am

Julia Turner – Warden (07714 028785)

juliaturner.jt@icloud.com

Phillipa 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