

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 19th JANUARY 2020: The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to our Service of Mattins, led by Jeremy and Valerie. Thank you to Jerry for playing the organ for us today. We hope that members of the choir will be with us to accompany our singing. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat.

The readings this morning are:-

Isaiah 49: 1 - 7; 1 Corinthians 1: 1 - 9; John 1: 29 - 42

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.

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. Do come early around 10.45am to enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat with one another and with the young families gathering in the Chapel area. **The next meetings of the Prayer Group will be held on Mondays 27th January and 10th February.** There is an e-mail Prayer Chain for those who meet together. Anyone who wishes a prayer to be included at any time should contact:- Valerie Kerr (valeriejkerr@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.

DATES FOR THE SNOWDROP WALKS:

This year's Snowdrop Walks will be on Sundays 9th & 16th February.

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, SUNDAY 26th JANUARY:

There will be a Family Service here at 11.00am led by the Rector.

Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Holy Communion at 9.00am

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- Café Church at 9.30am

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:

rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk