

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



Our **resume**
with a service here in Great Brickhill
this Sunday at 11.00am

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK **Update 8th August 2020**

We are delighted to be able to hold the first service here in the village since the start of the lock down five months ago. It will be a service of Holy Communion at 11.00 am. Due to the restrictions there will be no singing but Jerry Breslin will be playing the organ at various points throughout the service.

Certain things will be a little different from normal. Hand sanitizing will be required on entry to the church and seating will be in accordance with social distancing rules. Masks are a mandatory requirement and we will be asking for contact details of all those attending, which we have to keep for 21 days.

There is one service per day at one of the churches on the first four Sundays in August at 11.00am. The full schedule of Services for August is at the end of this Newsletter. Next week there will be a Family Service at 11.00am at Little Brickhill.

We will soon have more of an idea as to what people might like in the form of services and will be in a position to plan for September and beyond. We will be keeping a close eye on any changes to the guidelines and restrictions which may be issued by the government.

We are very aware that there are some who will not yet be ready to come back to church but we look forward to welcoming those who feel that they are able to do so. There will be occasional virtual services to cater for those who do not yet feel able to venture out to church and we will continue to share information about the weekly virtual worship opportunities that are being either televised or live streamed from around the country. The information is posted each week at the church and is also uploaded onto the website in the dedicated Coronavirus section.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:

The Rector's reflection and prayer is being recorded each week at different locations across the Benefice and these are available on You Tube. This week there is also a recording of the story, "Samuel Hears a Voice" read by Diane Webber. Both of these were filmed outside St Luke's Church, Stoke Hammond - please make the story available to the younger members of your family if appropriate.

The two You Tube clips can be found following the links below:-

Reflection & Prayer <https://youtu.be/HOLo3RW5MGY>

“Samuel Hears a Voice” <https://youtu.be/aEC4zxiSaws>

Earlier week's reflections and stories can be found on the website in the section "Coronavirus You Tube Recordings".

Two files accompany this e-mail giving the details of worship for this coming Sunday:-

(1). The Rector's written brief reflection and prayer.

(2). How and where to find this week's services for the Ninth Sunday after Trinity. This includes the programmes available on the BBC, both radio and television, and livestreaming services from the Oxford Diocese and the Church of England.

CHURCH OPEN:



A reminder that the church is currently open, but just for two sessions per week in order that the building can be closed for 72 hours between opening times to minimise risk of infection. The church is open on:

Sundays:- 10.00am – 2.00pm

Wednesdays:- 2.00pm – 5.00pm

We will increase the opening times as soon as we feel it is safe to do so following the guidelines provided to us. Any change to the opening times and other updates will be notified on our website:- www.brickhillchurches.org.uk

There is hand sanitizer available at the entrance and we ask that you read the guidance provided on the blue notice board as you enter the church. Much of the church has been cordoned off and all bibles, books etc have been removed. Please take your own bible or reading matter with you. There are chairs available near the altar should you wish to sit and say a prayer, or merely enjoy the wonderful space.

We would remind for those in vulnerable groups to check the current government guidelines. We will welcome all those to visit the church who feel comfortable to do so. If anyone exhibits symptoms of coronavirus within a week of your visit to the church, please contact: Julia Turner: 01525 261618 juliaturner.it@icloud.com or Phillipa Cook: 01525 261521 pjcook6@gmail.com. The church will then be closed for a while for special cleaning to be done.

THE RECTOR:

Revd John Waller is available to hear from parishioners who have any concerns during this worrying time:- 01525 261062 rector@brickhillchurches.org.uk

ACTIVE E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN:

Anyone who would like to join the group or would like to have a prayer included, contact:- Mary Maley (mary@maley.org.uk) or Roger Blofeld (rogerblo@aol.com).

DAILYHOPE (the Church's freephone line "Holiday at Home")

A message direct from Lambeth Palace:-

"Since its launch at the beginning of May the DailyHOPE line has received more than 215,000 calls. That accounts for over 2.5 million minutes of listening to prayers, hymns and reflections. We have been so glad it has had such a reach and impact. Our hope and aim was to offer something for the elder generation who don't access things online. The freephone line seems to have been a wonderful help and encouragement to tens of thousands.

In addition to the normal offering of hymns, the daily office, reflections and prayers over this summer month there is a new offering of Holiday at Home. This offers an opportunity for those who rarely leave their houses a chance to be 'transported' on a holiday – with prayers of thanks for times past, a poem recollecting holidays and even a soundscape to evoke those memories of past holidays. Here is a link to a taster of Holiday at Home:- [Holiday at Home Taster](#)

Please pass this information on to anyone you know who would benefit from the encouragements of a freephone line to provide company, prayers, hymns and memories of gladness:- DailyHOPE (0800 804 8044)."

RIDE AND STRIDE, SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER:

The annual Ride and Stride for walkers, cyclists and horse riders, is going ahead on Saturday 12th September – visit as many churches as you are able from 10.00am to 6.00pm. Held in aid of Bucks Historic Churches Trust, the money from sponsorship goes half towards the local church and half to the Trust for repair of churches. Anyone interested in taking part, please contact Phillipa for more details.

For further information about any of the above, please contact:-

Phillipa Cook TEL: 01525 261521 07788 740969 pjcook6@gmail.com

Do please remember that the Benefice website will be the best way to receive updates about the current situation and to obtain worship information. The special "Coronavirus" section will be updated with any new information and worship details:-

www.brickhillchurches.org.uk

REMAINING SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN AUGUST 2020

DATE:	VENUE	SERVICE
Sunday, 16th August	Little Brickhill	11.00am. Family Service
Sunday, 23rd August	Bow Brickhill	11.00am. Holy Communion
Sunday, 30th August	Virtual via Zoom	11.00am. Service details tbc