

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



Flowers still in situ in the porch from the wedding last Saturday

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK Update 10th October 2020

It was wonderful to see the church last weekend decorated with the flowers for Sarah and Rob's wedding, which, despite the current restrictions, was such a happy and joyous occasion.

We received the sad news this week that Revd Norman Thorp suffered a stroke in May and as a result has had to give up his residence and is in a care home in Bletchley. He has settled in well and is in good spirits but is unable to receive emails. We remember Norman fondly for all the times he has taken our services here and have sent our best wishes to his daughter to pass on to him.

NEWS OF LIVE SERVICES:

The service in the Benefice this Sunday will be the Harvest Family Service at Bow Brickhill at 11.00am. The service will be followed by their Annual Church Meeting. Will those wishing to attend this service please let Stuart Leeming know in advance so that seating can be arranged to ensure social distancing:- stuleeming@aol.com

NEXT SUNDAY, 18th OCTOBER there will be two services in the Benefice:

- A short service of Holy Communion at 9.00am here at Stoke Hammond in celebration of St Luke's Day.
- A Harvest Family Service at 11.00am in Little Brickhill.

OCTOBER SERVICES:

The pattern of services for the foreseeable future will continue with generally one service each week in one of the four churches in the Benefice. The schedule of services for the rest of October can be found at the end of this Newsletter. The schedule for November will be available next week.

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 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:

The Rector has written and recorded a reflection and prayer for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity and Stuart Leeming has recorded this week's story: "The Big Party". Both were filmed near the altar in the church at Bow Brickhill Church. Please make the story available to the younger members of your family if appropriate.

These are available on You Tube via the following links:

- Reflection & Prayer:- https://youtu.be/B_9KzCv5BRU
- "The Big Party":- https://youtu.be/_mD98Tul800

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 Eighteenth 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 OPENING TIMES:

The church is now open just once a week: SUNDAYS FROM 10.00am – 4.00pm

BUT, if anyone would like to visit the church for private prayer outside of these times please get in touch with Julia or Phillipa and arrangements will be made for you:- 261618 juliaturner.it@icloud.com 261521 pjcook6@gmail.com

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. All bibles, books etc have been removed. Please take your own bible or reading matter with you. Visitors outside of normal services are asked to sign the registration sheet in a red folder at the entrance to the church.

"LINK TO HOPE" CHARITY SHOEBOXES

A reminder that once again, the "Great Brickhill and Friends" team are collecting shoeboxes filled with selected items to send to the poor of Romania, Moldova, Ukraine and Bulgaria who, this year, like many others have Covid 19 to add to their hardship. If you would like to help please contact Rosie Dawson on 261425 or robin.rosie@zen.co.uk for a form and/or details of the charity's other fundraising event in September 2021 of "Trek the Balkan Peaks" ... if you are interested in taking part. Also, one can find other news of the charity on www.linktohope.co.uk

FUNDRAISING QUIZ in aid of the New Facilities

A reminder for all quiz fans, we have some puzzles for you to complete, a perfect antidote for these autumnal evenings or weekends. There will be a £10 prize for the winning entry. An additional question will be used as a tie breaker if required.

To enter please:

- Contact Janet Pritchard janvf58@hotmail.com and she will e-mail you the quiz sheets and payment details
- Make a donation (suggested minimum £5.)
- Return your answers via email to Janet Pritchard

The closing date is 1st December.

THE RECTOR:

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

ACTIVE E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN:

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

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

SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE IN OCTOBER 2020

DATE:	VENUE	SERVICE
Sunday, 18th October	Stoke Hammond	9.00am. St Luke's Day, Holy Communion (Said)
	Little Brickhill	11.00am. Harvest Family Service
Sunday, 25th October	Great Brickhill	11.00am. Holy Communion