

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



Work progressing in the church – wall re-plastered and floor ready for laying of slabs

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK Update 24th October 2020

NEWS OF SERVICES:

The service in the Benefice this Sunday is here at Great Brickhill, Holy Communion at 11.00am celebrating Bible Sunday.

Under the current restrictions:

- There is still no congregational singing
- Hand sanitizing is required on entry to the church
- Single-use service sheets will be used
- Seating will be in accordance with social distancing rules and the rule of six
- Masks are a mandatory requirement
- We ask for contact details, which we have to keep for 21 days.

We are now required to exhibit a QR code. If you are able to, please use this code via the NHS COVID-19 App when you enter the church.

VIRTUAL SERVICE OF EVENSONG THIS MONDAY, 26th OCTOBER AT 7.00pm:- Jerry Breslin is arranging another online Evensong service via Zoom on Monday when the choir would normally be holding their weekly practice session. If anyone would like to join in this virtual service please contact Phillipa Cook for the log-in details:- pjcook6@gmail.com

NEXT SUNDAY, ALL SAINTS' DAY 1st NOVEMBER:-

There will be two services in the Benefice:

- **Holy Communion service at All Saints' Church in Bow Brickhill at 9.30am.**

Due to the restriction of numbers, 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

- **All Souls Service at Little Brickhill at 6.00pm**

This is the service in which we remember with thanksgiving our loved ones who have died, those who lived here local to us or who lived further away – an important occasion this year more than ever. **If anyone would like a candle to be lit** in memory of a loved one, please contact Julia Turner 01525 261618 juliaturner.jt@icloud.com

NOVEMBER SERVICES:

The schedule for the end of November services is below. There will be a **Remembrance Sunday** service in each village but, in order to be COVID safe, the other three villages will have an outdoor only service. Unless the regulations change the service here will be in the church and then at the war memorial.

The first of our special pre-Christmas services will be held at Bow Brickhill on 29th November, an **Advent Carol Service** (with no singing) at 3pm.

SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE IN NOVEMBER 2020

DATE:	TIME	SERVICE	VENUE
November 1st <i>All Saints</i>	9.30	Holy Communion	Bow Brickhill
	18.00	All Souls Service	Little Brickhill
November 8th <i>Remembrance</i>	10.45	Remembrance Service Jeremy Hopkinson	Stoke Hammond <i>(outside in churchyard)</i>
	10.50	Remembrance Service leader tbc	Little Brickhill <i>(brief service at war memorial)</i>
	10.50	Remembrance Service Revd John Waller	Great Brickhill <i>(in church, then at memorial)</i>
	15.00	Remembrance Service Revd John Waller	Bow Brickhill <i>(at war memorial)</i>
November 15th	11.00	Holy Communion	Stoke Hammond
November 22nd	11.00	Holy Communion	Great Brickhill
November 29th <i>Advent Sunday</i>	15.00	Advent Carol Service	Bow Brickhill

The details for the **services over the Christmas** period have yet to be confirmed but they will have to be different from our normal pattern to conform with the COVID-19 regulations.

For those who are not yet ready to come back to services in church, there are occasional virtual services 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.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIBLE SUNDAY:

The Rector has written and recorded a reflection and prayer for Bible Sunday and James Northen has recorded this week's story: "A Time to Build". These were filmed near the building work and in the choir stalls inside Great 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/r4-rLbn_Bgk
- "A Time to Build":- <https://youtu.be/uFntF5llvTs>

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 Bible Sunday. 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.jt@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. We are now required to exhibit a QR code - if you are able to, please use this code via the NHS COVID-19 App when you enter the church.

ONLINE ALPHA COURSE ON THE 1st WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 8pm

Alpha is an 11-week course where people are brought together for a conversation about faith, life and God. It is an opportunity to explore life's big questions together in an open, informal environment. The episodes explore the basics of the Christian faith, addressing questions such as Who is Jesus? How can we have faith? and How does God guide us?

The course is equally there for everyone, those who already have a Christian faith and those who have yet to come to know Jesus. In the past Alpha courses have been run in person but due to the pandemic this course will be online.

The course starts on Wednesday 4th November. If you would like to join the course or find out more about it, please contact:- Roger Blofeld 01525 261072 (rogerblo@aol.com).

ADVENT WINDOWS:

Remember the scarecrows around the village during lock down? To bring a little festive cheer around the village in the run up to what will inevitably be a very different Christmas from normal, we are asking people to get involved with decorating a window so that we might create an Advent Window trail around the village.

If you would like to participate in what will bring an element of fun to walks through the village, please contact Claire Pincott:- 07870 583182 clairepincott@me.com

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:- 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

www.brickhillchurches.org.uk