



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK

Update 28th November 2020

ADVENT SUNDAY:

The first Sunday of Advent is tomorrow. We would normally have the candle-lit Advent Carol Service at Bow Brickhill. As we are unable to hold this very popular service in the church there will be a virtual Advent Carol Service via Zoom at 5.00pm, which will be as similar as possible to the usual service.

The Service Sheet is attached as a PDF file and included on the first page is the log-in details. It would be helpful in managing the start of the service if anyone joining the service could please let me know in advance:- pjcook6@gmail.com

Instead of wrapping up and taking a torch to Bow Brickhill, why not stay in the warm and have a candle ready to light during the service.

DECEMBER SERVICES:

Following the publication of the Government's Covid-19 Winter Plan on Monday, permission has been given for the resumption of public worship from the end of the second lock down period on 2nd December, regardless of the location and tier. We await the full guidance to know exactly what the restrictions will be.

A schedule of services has been planned – see the schedule below. All of the services are subject to change and every endeavour will be made to circulate details of any changes. Further information will be sent out regarding The Village Nativity.

It will not be possible to hold our normal Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve. We are however planning to do a virtual Nine Lessons and Carols with pre-recorded material filmed in the church. This is very much in the planning stage and details will be circulated when we are certain of what the regulations will allow us to do.

The website will be updated with any new information:- www.brickhillchurches.org.uk

Next Sunday there will be a service of Holy Communion at Great Brickhill at 11am.

We expect that the restrictions from before the lock down will still be in force:

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

SERVICES PLANNED FOR THE BENEFICE IN DECEMBER 2020

DATE:	TIME	SERVICE	VENUE
December 6th	11.00	Holy Communion	Great Brickhill
December 13th	16.00	Nine Lessons	Stoke Hammond
December 20th	11.00	The Village Nativity (on the Cricket Field)	Great Brickhill
	15.00	Carol Service	Bow Brickhill
	15.00	Crib Service (on the Village Green)	Stoke Hammond
	17.00	Carol Service	Little Brickhill
December 24th / 25th	23.30	Holy Communion (Midnight Mass)	Stoke Hammond
	23.45	Holy Communion	Bow Brickhill
Christmas Day	9.30	Holy Communion (Christmas Morning)	Little Brickhill
	11.00	Holy Communion	Great Brickhill
December 27th		No Service	

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUNDAY, 29th NOVEMBER:

Jeremy Hopkinson, LLM, has written and recorded a reflection and prayer for Advent Sunday and Stuart Leeming has recorded this week's story, "The Big Spender". Both were filmed at the altar in Bow Brickhill church, the venue in normal times for the Advent Sunday Carol Service. The recordings can be found on the following links:

- Reflection & Prayer:- <https://youtu.be/ZIWN0my2JcM>
- "The Big Spender":- <https://youtu.be/rA6sStEabFI>

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 Second Sunday before Advent. This includes the programmes available on the BBC, both radio and television, and livestreaming services from the Oxford Diocese and the Church of England.

FUNDRAISING QUIZ in aid of the New Facilities:

A last call for the Quiz – the closing date for the answers to be sent to Janet Pritchard janvf58@hotmail.com is Tuesday 1st December.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES:

Due to the ongoing building work the church opening times are now limited to once a week:-

SUNDAYS FROM 10.00am – 12 noon

BUT, if anyone would like to visit the church for individual 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. If you are able to, please use the QR code on display as you enter the church.

ADVENT WINDOWS:

The Advent Windows will start lighting up the village from this Tuesday, 1st December. A map is attached showing the dates from which each window will be lit. Together they will create a trail to walk round the village over the festive season. The windows will be lit up at night until 31st December and there will be a secret message to work out from the letters found in each window. Please pass on the map to anyone you know who will not have received it via this newsletter or the Parish on-line Newsletter.

STOKE HAMMOND NEWS:

Two fundraising events are taking place:

- **Christmas Market next Saturday 5th December** from 12.30-2.30pm. Stalls will be set up along Church Road (gifts stall, cake stall, Christmas tombola, hamper raffle and take-away refreshments). Strict social distancing and hygiene protocols will be applied.
- **Zoom Pilates and Pamper sessions** with a village resident Pilates teacher.

More details of these events are included in the latest Stoke Hammond Newsletter, which has just been uploaded to the website:-

<https://brickhillschurches.org.uk/stoke-hammond/stoke-hammond-newsletters/>

THE RECTOR:

If anyone has any concerns during this worrying time, do contact:

- The Rector, Revd John Waller:- 01525 261062 rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk
- Jeremy Hopkinson, LLM:- 01525 261674 jeremysfh@gmail.com

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.brickhillschurches.org.uk