

## St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



Sunday 21st March

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK Update 20th March 2021

### NEWS OF SERVICES:

**Tomorrow's service will be a virtual service of Mattins via Zoom at 10.00 am.**

Jerry and the choir have been working hard in recent weeks rehearsing the choral pieces included in this service. The login details for the service are:-

The Zoom access code is:-

<https://zoom.us/j/95640189473?pwd=Ni91cUllMwI4TG9jdERQemk4Y2JZdz09>

The Order of Service can be downloaded from the website:-

<https://brickhillchurches.org.uk/coronavirus/live-services/>

### NEXT WEEK – PALM SUNDAY 28th MARCH:

**We are looking forward to our first service in church here since Christmas Day:-  
10.00am Holy Communion including a dramatised reading of the Passion Gospel**

This will be the first service in the Benefice since the lockdown. We appreciate that for some it may be too soon to return to church and there is no pressure for anyone to attend if they are not ready to, but we are pleased to be able to offer the opportunity and will welcome all those who come to the services.

The COVID regulations in place before the lockdown remain:

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

**If anyone would like a Palm Cross, we will arrange to deliver one to you during this coming week before Palm Sunday – please contact:**

**Phillipa Cook 01525 261521 [picook6@gmail.com](mailto:picook6@gmail.com)**

### APRIL SERVICES:-

There will be a service in each of the four parishes on Easter Sunday. The schedule of all the services planned up to the end of April can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

**Login details and any changes to the schedule will be notified on the website:-**

<https://brickhillchurches.org.uk/coronavirus/live-services/>

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES SUNDAY, 21st MARCH:

The Rector has written a reflection and prayer for this Sunday. There is a recording of the Rector reading this reflection, plus Diane Webber reading a story, "God's Friend". These were filmed at the altar steps and at the font in Stoke Hammond church.

The recordings can be found on the following links:

- Reflection & Prayer:- <https://youtu.be/BGqx0kb9ojc>
- "God's Friend":- <https://youtu.be/8MYzETWD2U4>

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

The following files accompany this e-mail for worship for this coming Sunday:-

- (1). The Rector's written brief reflection and prayer.
- (2). How and where to find this week's online services. This includes the programmes available on the BBC, both radio and television, and livestreaming services from the Oxford Diocese and the Church of England.

#### **GOODBYE AND THANK YOU:**

**This week we say goodbye to Ted and Mary Maley who are leaving Great Brickhill to start a new life down on the south coast. We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to them for their huge contribution to life in the village. In particular we would like to thank Mary for her time as a member of the PCC and for setting up and organising the Prayer Group, and Ted for overseeing for many years the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday (please see item below). We send our best wishes to them for their move and hope they settle down well in their new home.**

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY:**

Since 2010 we have been very fortunate that Ted Maley has undertaken the organising of the Remembrance Day celebrations. Ted has done this in true military style, leaving no stone unturned to ensure that the service in church and the parade to the wreath laying at our war memorial has been carried out with military precision. Ted will be leaving the village at the end of March and has



left us comprehensive notes for the event. We thank him for his dedication over the last ten years and send our good wishes to both Ted and Mary for their new life on the south coast.

Ted has handed over to David Marlow who served in the Royal Air Force from 1966-83. David graduated from the RAF College Cranwell with a commission and his pilot's wings. He flew the Hercules C130 aircraft worldwide from RAF Lyneham in Wiltshire as an aircraft captain, serving on 24, 30 and LXX Squadrons. He was a flight commander at nearby RAF Halton, near Wendover. He qualified as a flying instructor (QFI), and flew at RAF Linton on Ouse, near York, training students to fly the Jet Provost as they entered pilot training for the RAF.

We are very grateful that David has agreed to work in conjunction with St Mary's Church to organise the Remembrance Day service and to recite the Roll of Honour as the senior ex-serviceman and oversee the arrangements for the parade.

Stefan Kobewka has kindly agreed to organise The Poppy Appeal and the purchase and distribution of the wreaths.

#### **Service Personnel Past and Present**

We have a list of nearly 50 past members of the Services dating from 1914 to the present day. These are being updated with some new research including those currently living in the Parish. David would like any ex-servicemen in the village to get in touch with him to make sure that all are included on the list with the appropriate service details. Please contact [david@marlowfamily.co.uk](mailto:david@marlowfamily.co.uk)

## **Obituary**

Sadly, Jim Hooper, a serviceman from WW2, passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> February aged 98. A former resident of our village, he was resident in the Blind Veterans UK Centre at Ovingdean near Brighton. Jim took part in Operation Market Garden as an Airspeed Horsa glider pilot. He was transporting troops to take the strategically important bridge at Arnham. This huge airborne force was part of the 35,000 man strong Allied Airborne Army, now immortalised in books and films. Jim was unfortunately captured, became a prisoner of war, and returned to the UK shortly after VE Day.

## **LENT COURSE:**

The material for this year's Lent Course is the Lent resources provided by the diocese – "Come and See". They are based on a new book by the Bishop of Oxford, "Pilgrim Journeys: The Creeds - 40 days of reflections". It includes material, which people can use individually and group material for the weekly virtual Lent discussion group via Zoom.

**The final session will be held this Tuesday evening from 8pm – 9pm:-**

**23rd March:-** Session 5: The Church and the forgiveness of sins

**The login details will be available from the Home page of the website.**

All will be welcome to join the sessions at any time - they are independent, so it doesn't matter if you have missed the earlier sessions. For more details of the course, go to the "Lent Courses" section of the website:- <https://brickhillschurches.org.uk/lent-course/>

## **CHURCH OPENING TIMES:**

**We are still able to open the church for private prayer - due to the ongoing building work the church opening times are now:-**

**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](mailto:juliaturner.jt@icloud.com) 261521 [pjcook6@gmail.com](mailto: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. Visitors outside of normal services are asked to sign the registration sheet in a red folder at the entrance.

**In case you missed last week's Newsletter, a reminder that**

## **PLANT FAYRE CANCELLED:**

This year's Plant Fayre has been cancelled. Below is a message from Celia Hall who together with John have done sterling work in organising this event in recent years:-

" It is with regret that we have made the decision that the Great Brickhill Plant Fayre, tentatively planned for April 10th this year, will not after all go ahead. Even with the government's latest "Road Map" announced recently, there are too many uncertainties to guarantee a successful event worthy of the work required by all involved.

Instead, John and I plan to sell tomato plants by email again as we did last year and we will have a plant stall outside our gate in Stoke Lane, all in aid of church funds, over the coming bank holidays. More information about this will be posted on the GB Info Line."

**AND THIS MEANS THAT FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING, OUR TWO BIG ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED**

**On a more positive note, we have some new Snowdrop Cards for sale:**



**These will make terrific Easter cards or cards for general occasions.**

**A pack of three cards with envelopes costs £5**

**To place an order contact Julia or Phillipa:-**

07714 028785 261618 [juliaturner.it@icloud.com](mailto:juliaturner.it@icloud.com) 261521 [pjcook6@gmail.com](mailto:pjcook6@gmail.com)

### **CENSUS DAY – TOMORROW, SUNDAY 21st MARCH:**

**We have been asked to circulate the message below from the Diocese of Oxford reminding parishioners about Census day, which is tomorrow.**

“ The census is coming, and it’s about you. Without the information you share, it’d be more difficult to understand your community’s needs and to plan and fund public services.

By taking part and encouraging your congregation to do the same, you will help inform decisions about the services you and your community need, like doctors’ surgeries and new schools. Households will have received letters with online codes explaining how they can complete their forms. If you haven’t received one, please get in touch with the census contact centre. You can also request a paper questionnaire if you’d prefer to complete your census that way.

There is lots of support available such as a help area on the census website and a contact centre that can give you help over the phone and guidance in a range of languages and accessible formats, including paper questionnaires and large print. You can also use your postcode to find local census support centres on the census website.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) runs the census in England and Wales and is independent from the government. All information is held securely for 100 years. Statistics are only compiled based on anonymised data and personal information is not shared with any organisation and is never sold.

For more information, and to find out how to get help, visit [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk) or call the contact centre on 0800 141 2021.

Offer support to those in your congregation who may face barriers to completing the census. Find guidance about how to help others on the website.

### **THE GREAT BRICKHILL PARISH NEWSLETTER:**

During the pandemic the monthly Parish Newsletter has been produced as an online version only. Due to the significant cost of producing printed copies it is unlikely that the printed version will return. If you are not already receiving the monthly online Newsletters and the accompanying occasional InfoLine e-mails, just send an e-mail quoting your land address (for GDPR purposes) to the editors :- [info@copywriterservices.co.uk](mailto:info@copywriterservices.co.uk)

If there is someone you know who does not have access to the internet, please enquire if there is someone who could receive the Newsletter on their behalf, or print out a copy for them.

**THE FOOD BOX:**

The Food Box in the church porch is there to help anyone who is in need of food, either in an emergency or longer term. The church main and porch gates remain open for easy access to the Food Box at all times.

**Anyone who contributes any items to the Food Box, please check that the items are all well in date. Also, that no fresh food items should be deposited in the box.**

**THE RECTOR:**

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

- The Rector, Revd John Waller:- 01525 261062 [rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk](mailto:rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk)
- Jeremy Hopkinson, LLM:- 01525 261674 [jeremysfh@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:rogerblo@aol.com)).

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

Phillipa Cook TEL: 01525 261521 07788 740969 [pjcook6@gmail.com](mailto:pjcook6@gmail.com)

[www.brickhillschurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillschurches.org.uk)

**SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE IN APRIL****April 1st [ Maundy Thursday ]**

7.00pm Virtual Service of Readings, Payer and Reflection (Via Zoom)

**April 2nd [ Good Friday ]**

9.30am Service of Hymns and Reflections (Bow Brickhill)

2.00pm Hour of Devotion (Great Brickhill)

**April 4th [ Easter Sunday ]**

9.00am Holy Communion by Extension (Stoke Hammond)

9.30am Holy Communion (Bow Brickhill)

11.00am Family Service with Holy Communion by Extension (Little Brickhill)

11.00am Holy Communion (Great Brickhill)

**April 11th**

10.00am Holy Communion (Bow Brickhill)

**April 18th**

10.00am Family Service (Little Brickhill)

**April 25th**

10.00am Holy Communion (Stoke Hammond)