

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK

Update 24th July 2021



Congregational Singing Returns

COVID RESTRICTIONS LIFTED:

You will all know that Covid restrictions were largely lifted on Monday. The Church of England has issued guidance saying that each church can recommend/advise/encourage certain restrictions to remain – they cannot enforce any restrictions.

The Rector in consultation with the Wardens at each church will decide what is appropriate for that church. The main criteria for any decision are made on the size of the building and the likely number in the congregation.

It will therefore be different restrictions that will be recommended at each of our four churches. The main differences will be regarding congregational singing and the wearing of face coverings. Please see below what will be recommended here in Great Brickhill.

TOMORROW'S SERVICE: EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY, 25th JULY:

The service will be here in Great Brickhill – Holy Communion at 10.00am

Following on from the above, the following will be recommended:

- We will continue to ask people to socially distance, using every other pew
- The doors will be open for ventilation
- Communion will be administered in the same way as in recent weeks
- Hymn singing will take place but the congregation will be asked to remain seated
- Individuals to decide whether they wish to wear a mask during the service or not
- The QR code will remain on the door for those who wish to use it
- Contact details will be taken from those who wish to provide them
- The collection will be taken as in recent weeks

We are therefore looking forward to being able to sing hymns tomorrow. Also, the choir will be in attendance and are planning to provide sung settings for part of the liturgy.

Before the 19th July the go ahead had been received for refreshments to be served after services and so we are delighted to be able to use our new refreshment area to offer tea and coffee after the service. It does seem that, after such a long time, things are getting back to something like normal.

NEXT SUNDAY, 1st AUGUST:

The service will be at Stoke Hammond – Holy Communion at 10.00am

Due to social distancing requirements, anyone who would like to attend this service is asked to please contact Harry Davies to reserve a place:-

07773 065271 harrydavies470@btinternet.com

(Different Covid recommendations will be in place for this service)

SERVICES FURTHER AHEAD:

The August service schedule can be found at the end of this Newsletter. The service at the end of the month will be either Evensong or Said Compline. For those who are not yet ready to attend church, the weekly reflections and stories will continue.

An initial draft service plan for the longer term has been drawn up and is being considered by the four PCCs before further discussion at the August Wardens' Meeting. Any changes will be from September at the earliest.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES SUNDAY, 25th JULY:

The Rector has written a brief reflection and prayer for this Sunday. There is a recording of this reflection, and Alison Packer reading this week's story, "James & John's Mother's Request". These were filmed in a garden in Little Brickhill.

The recordings can be found on the following links:

- Reflection & Prayer:- <https://youtu.be/RmsNg7JsrPg>
- "James & John's Mother's Request":- <https://youtu.be/KwoDtj-IrIM>

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 Church of England. The weekly online streamed services from the Oxford Diocese have been discontinued.

CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING:

The Annual Church Meeting will be held in the church this coming Wednesday 28th July at 7.30pm. As usual a report will be given on the events of the year and the Accounts will be presented for the year to 31st December 2020. Elections will take place for the PCC and it would be wonderful if there were new people willing to stand for election. With the Covid restrictions being lifted and the new facilities having been installed, we would love to have new members on the PCC to share ideas as to how we can go forward and use the church more widely. The full details of the meeting and Nomination Forms are posted on the website in the following section:-

<https://brickhillchurches.org.uk/great-brickhill/annual-church-meeting/>

Church Electoral Roll:

Before each Annual Meeting a revision is made to the Church Electoral Roll. If anyone would like to join the Roll, application forms are available via the website link above, or from the church porch. These should be returned to Jeremy Hopkinson.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES:

Whilst the building work is taking place, the church will continue to be open just once a week but we hope that we will soon be able to have the church open daily, as before the pandemic. The opening times are:-

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

RIDE & STRIDE:

Early notice for cyclists/horse-riders/walkers that this year's Ride & Stride in aid of Bucks Historic Churches Trust is on Saturday 11th September. More details later.

2021 SHOEBOX APPEAL:

Rosie has the forms for this year's appeal and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to fill a box:- 01525 261425 robin.rosie@zen.co.uk

THE RECTOR:

If anyone has any concerns, please 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

SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE IN AUGUST 2021

DATE:	TIME:	SERVICE:	VENUE:
August 1st	10.00	Holy Communion	Stoke Hammond
August 8th	11.00	Family Service with Holy Communion	Little Brickhill
August 15th	10.00	Holy Communion	Great Brickhill
August 22nd	10.00	Holy Communion	Bow Brickhill
August 29th	18.00	Evensong or Compline tbc	Great Brickhill

As at 7th July

Please go to the website for information and updates on any of the services:-

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