

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 27th November – ADVENT SUNDAY

Welcome to our **Family Service** this morning to celebrate the first Sunday in Advent, led by the Rector. Tim Holden is playing the organ and Clare is leading the intercessions today. Thank you to both of you.

Clare is serving tea and coffee after the service so please stay to meet your friends and have a chat.

The reading today is:-

1 Corinthians 1 vs. 3 - 9.

THIS EVENING at 4.00pm, at Bow Brickhill Church there is the annual ADVENT CAROL SERVICE. Everyone is very welcome to come and sing Advent Carols and hear the Advent story. Please remember that you will need to park in the woodland so bring a torch with you!

EVENTS AND DATES

On Sunday 11th December, the Christmas lights will be switched on at 6pm before our **Charity Evensong.** **Paul Dickens will give a short organ recital after the service, and mulled wine and mince pies will be served.** The charity that we are supporting this year is **‘Magical Taxi Tour’**, which gives children with life threatening illnesses a break from their treatment and therapy to enjoy a trip of a lifetime to the magic of Disneyland, Paris in a convoy of London taxis. The trip is supported by doctors, nurses and paramedics, and of course, London cab drivers. Everyone who makes the trip happen are volunteers and all the money raised goes directly and only to the charity. Gill Wilson is our local contact with the charity and is happy to provide further details for you.

The Christmas Card Tree in the church will also contribute to support the 'Magical Taxi Tour'.

There will again be an opportunity to **Sponsor a Light** in aid of St Mary 2000. The outdoor lights will this year be on the tower and will be switched on at 6pm on Sunday 11th December.

Carol Singing around the village will take place during the late afternoon on **Saturday 17th December**.

NEWS

The Church was transformed last week in preparation for the **'Spirit of Christmas' Bazaar**. On Thursday evening and Friday, friends and neighbours and parents of High Ash and Little Ashes schools came in a steady and growing stream to buy some wonderful gifts and decorations and to enjoy a coffee and good company. It was a truly wonderful occasion made possible by the help and enthusiasm of a dedicated band of supporters led by Gill Wilson and Rosie Dawson. It was hugely successful in raising funds for the Church – we haven't a final figure yet, but I believe that it will be in excess of one thousand pounds. Thank you to everyone who participated and bought things and to Gill Wilson for making it possible.

Romanian Shoe Box Appeal

Well done to Anne Humphreys, Marion Ralph and all the team for their hard work in getting the shoe boxes ready to be sent out in time for Christmas. A total of 61 shoe boxes were filled – a great feat by a dedicated group of ladies.

The latest news from **Nuevo Reto, the orphanage in Guatemala**, is available on the bookcase by the door. The PCC is supporting this charity again this year and a donation will be given to them by Charlotte Pritchard on her next visit.

NEXT SUNDAY, 4th December, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion here, in this church, at 9.30am.

It is good to be back - **Christine Agambar** (01525 261527)
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To contact the Rector by e-mail: rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website: www.brickhillschurches.org.uk