

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 15th January The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to you all for our celebration of **Holy Communion** this morning. Please stay for tea and coffee and a chat after the service.

The readings are: **1 Samuel 3 vs. 1 – 10; and
Revelation 5 vs. 1 - 10.**

The Gospel reading is: **John 1 vs. 43 – 51.**

THIS WEEK

Thursday Group recommences its programme on **Thursday January 19th** with a talk given by Phillipa Cook about the work of the Magistrates Court. The Group meets at Knightleys, Heath Road at 2.30pm. Everyone is very welcome.

SIR PHILIP DUNCOMBE

I know that we are all slowly coming to terms with the loss of Sir Philip from our church community – and we still feel that loss deeply. But, we were able to celebrate Sir Philip's full and varied and giving life in the most joyful of ways on Friday, last week. Thank you to everyone who helped, in so many ways, to ensure that the church looked so lovely for his **Memorial Service**. And thank you to you all who came to pay their respects and enjoy the music and the ceremony. The Retiring Collection raised £2670 which will benefit St Mary's Church, the Colonel's Fund of the Grenadier Guards and St. John's Ambulance. We all send our thoughts and prayers to Lady Rachel and her family.

This is the last week when I will refer back to Christmas and report on the very successful series of **CHRISTMAS SERVICES & EVENTS:**

The "Spirit of Christmas" Bazaar: Additional money has been raised by this most successful event and the total is now £1806.35.

The Carol Singing around the village raised £229.97 towards church funds.

The Nativity Thank you to all who helped with the organisation, and to all the musicians and those who played the various parts.

The Sponsor a Light in aid of St Mary's 2000 raised £175. Thank you to Emily Hudson for writing the messages of dedications into the Memorial Book and to Steve for setting up the lights on the tower, which were a huge success and could be seen from Leighton Buzzard by-pass!

The total collected for **The Magical Taxi Tour** (our chosen Christmas Charity) was £339 – this included the collection at the Charity Evensong and the donations from the Christmas Greetings Card Tree. Gill Wilson has sent a note of thanks for the money raised – it will all go towards the 2012 trip to Disneyland, Paris for children with life threatening illnesses.

The **service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve and the service of Holy Communion on Christmas Day** were both very well attended. Thank you to all who helped to decorate the church, to the choir, and to Jerry and Paul for playing the organ and the Bell Ringers. Also thanks to Robin for again producing the Carol Service Sheets.

DATES FOR YOUR NEW DIARY

The **Lent Lunches and Bible Study** begins on **Thursday 1st March**. More details of the Lent Course will follow next week when we will be looking towards Easter!

The next **PCC meeting** will be held at Green Farm at 8pm on **Tuesday 24th January**.

Next Sunday, 22nd January there will be a **Family Service at 11am**, led by the Rector. On the following Sunday, 29th January, there will be a United Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Little Brickhill at 10am.

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