

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 17th November:- Second Sunday before Advent

The Rector has been away on a training course this week in Salisbury. While there he received the exciting news that Timothy and Claire's baby was born on Tuesday morning. He had arranged to take some leave this weekend and is taking Pauline to Birmingham to see their new grand-daughter, Isabelle.

We welcome the Venerable Karen Gorham, the Archdeacon of Buckingham, to lead **our Service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) this morning** with Jerry Breslin playing the organ.

Everyone is invited to stay after the service for refreshments and a chat.

The readings this morning are:-

Malachi 4: 1 - 2a; 2 Thessalonians 3: 6 - 13; Luke 21: 5 - 19

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:

Drop-in with the Post Office will be held, as usual on Monday afternoon, 18th November, at the Parish Hall.

The Thursday Group will meet this week on **21st November** at 2.30pm at **30 Pound Hill**. Anne Humphreys will be speaking about "How not to have a holiday!" All are welcome to attend.

The next fortnightly **Midweek Holy Communion** Service will be held on **Wednesday 27th November** at **10.30am at the Rectory** (please note the change of venue).

NEWS AND EVENTS:

THE REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE. Thank you to Edward Maley who kindly made all the arrangements for this service. The collection for **The Poppy Appeal** raised £450, of which just over £300 was given under the Gift Aid scheme.

THE CHRISTMAS FAIR will be in the Parish Hall **next Saturday 23rd November, from 11.00am to 2.00pm**. Come and meet Father Christmas and start your Christmas shopping – cakes, cards and craft stalls. The popular children's secret gift and wrapping area makes a welcome return. There will of course be refreshments available. All proceeds to the running costs of the church.

THE PCC MEETING, 5th November. A large part of the meeting was devoted to items of Mission in the church – discussion took place on the recently held and forthcoming Family Services; a report on the Youth Cafe was received from Marco Loxley; items re High Ash School and Christmas services and events were discussed. An update was given on the proposed change to the Pattern of Services (see item below). The charities to be supported through our Outside Giving were agreed.

THE CHANGE TO THE PATTERN OF SERVICES. At the recent Wardens' Meeting it was agreed that the pattern of services be discussed at the Wardens and PCC Meetings in January, with the hope that any **change would be implemented in March.**

From the comments received for Great Brickhill, it was clear that the Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion (currently on the first Sunday of the month) should continue on one of the two weeks when the Rector will not be committed to taking the service.

There were also a number of requests that Evensong should continue – however there was a feeling that Evensong should not be held in the winter months (January and February).

The Rector and Wardens are going to draw up a timetable for the services for the year, for what is currently the Second Sunday of the month.

It was decided that for the first two months of the New Year Evensong will not be held. There will be a service of Morning Worship on 12th January and on 9th February the Prayer Book Service of Mattins will be held.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 24th NOVEMBER:

There will be a Family Service at 11.00am in Great Brickhill, led by the Rector.

Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Holy Communion at 8.00am

Little Brickhill:- Holy Communion at 9.30am

Stoke Hammond:- Morning Worship at 9.30am

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