

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 12th JANUARY:- The Baptism of Christ

We warmly welcome you to our service of Morning Worship to celebrate the Baptism of Christ, led by Phillipa. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for refreshments and a chat.

The readings are:- **Acts 10: 34 - 43; Matthew 3: 13 - 17**

Today's Psalm is No 29. The response for the congregation is:-

“ The voice of the Lord is upon the mighty waters ”

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:

Drop-in with the Post Office will be held, as usual on Monday afternoon, 13th January, at the Parish Hall.

The New Year Lunch for **The Thursday Group** is being held **this Thursday, 16th January**. Thereafter the Thursday Group will meet for a cup of tea and a chat on a fortnightly basis at 30 Pound Hill.

There will be no more **Midweek Holy Communion** Services until further notice.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Thank you to all who helped with the Christmas Services – those who helped with the preparation or took part in the services, the organists, choir, bell ringers, readers, and particularly those who decorated the church so beautifully. All three services were very well attended. The Crib Service proved popular again with young families and the weather was dry for the Nativity tableau to be outside at the end of the service. There was as usual standing room only for the traditional Christmas Eve Carol Service, with some wonderful singing by the choir. On Christmas morning we celebrated the birth of Christ in our special Christmas Day Holy Communion Service.

The extremely stormy weather resulted in water coming in through the roof in several places. Thank you to those who did a splendid job in mopping up the water so that the services could go ahead.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY DONATIONS:

The **Annual Charity Evensong** on 8th December and the donations from the Christmas Card Tree were in aid of our chosen Christmas charity, **The Lodge Trust** which provides a Christian provision in Rutland for adults with learning difficulties. Edward and Mary Maley's daughter Sarah-Lily is one of the 29 residents. Edward and Mary are delighted by the total of **£553** raised for The Lodge Trust. They would like to thank everyone for the interest they showed in Sarah-Lily's home and for their generosity.

CAROL SINGING round the village took place on Saturday 14th December. Thank you to the singers and collectors. The fantastic sum of **£327** was collected towards church funds,not quite as good as the amount raised last year but apparently the sound was better!.

SPONSOR A LIGHT in aid of the restoration of the church organ has raised **£60**. Thank you to Emily Hudson for transcribing the dedications into the Commemoration Book. Thank you to Michael and Julia Turner for providing the tree for the entrance to the church, and to Steve Agambar for assembling it, and setting up the lights on the tree and along the path.

VALERIE VESTERGAARD:

Valerie has asked us to let you know **her new address:-**
Flat 34 The Court, Kirket Lane, Bebbington, Wirral, CH63 3EX
Valerie will be here on Sunday 2nd February for her last service before moving up to live close to her son David and family.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 19th JANUARY:

There will be a service of **Holy Communion (Common Worship)** at **Great Brickhill at 9.30am**, led by the Rector. Other Services:-

Bow Brickhill:- Mattins at 11.00am

Little Brickhill:- Family Service at 11.15am

Stoke Hammond:- Holy Communion at 8.30am

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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