

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 18th JANUARY 2015:- The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to our Service of Morning Worship this morning, led by Phillipa with Jerry Breslin playing the organ. Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments and a chat after the service.

The theme of the service is “Can anything good come out of Nazareth” – can anything good come from an unexpected place?

The readings this morning are:- **1 Samuel 3: 1-10; John 1: 43 - 51**

Today's Psalm is No 139. The response for the congregation is:-

“I will thank you because I am marvellously made”

The necessary work on the trees in the churchyard that was identified in last year's Quinquennial Report was carried out last week. The pruning of the overhanging branches will help the fabric of the north east corner of the church and, with the clearer visibility from the road, will greatly enhance the security of the church. The steps at the rear of the churchyard are now more accessible.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, a child-friendly weekly drop-in coffee morning, especially welcoming parents and carers of young children **starts tomorrow, Monday 19th January.** All welcome! Every Monday in the church, from 9.15am to 11.15am.

Drop-in with the Post Office will be held on Monday afternoon, 19th January at the Parish Hall.

The Thursday Group – the next fortnightly meeting will be on **Thursday 29th January, 2.30pm at 30 Pound Hill.**

NEWS & EVENTS:-

COFFEE & CAKES, SATURDAY 7th FEBRUARY:

There will be **Coffee & Cakes in the church at 11.00am** for all who contribute their time on the various church rotas to help run St Mary's, Great Brickhill. Invitations will be going out in the next couple of days and we do hope that you will come and join us. **Please contact Val Baldwin by 4th February if you would like to attend (237265 or vafutcher@hotmail.com).**

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

The Christmas Fair was highly successful. With money received after the event the total raised has now reached **£1941.10**.

Carol Singing around the village raised **£368** towards general church funds.

Our Christmas Charity Appeal was the **Christian Aid DEC Ebola Crisis Appeal** to support the fight against the spread of Ebola and to provide medical support. A total of **£660** was raised from the Charity Songs of Praise and the Christmas Card Tree.

Sponsor a Light in aid of church funds raised **£105**. Thank you to Emily Hudson for writing the dedications into the Commemoration Book. Thanks also to Michael and Julia Turner for providing the tree and to Stephen Agambar setting up the tree and outdoor lights.

THE CD RECORDING OF THE BENEFICE CHOIR:

Well done to Jerry and the Benefice Choir for the recording of their CD. There are a few copies left - to purchase a copy contact Jerry: Tel: 01908 582952 or jerrybreslin@hotmail.com.

2015 DATES AND EVENTS:

A variety of events has been planned for 2015. If you haven't already done so, please pick up a flyer from the bookcase giving all the details. Further information will be circulated in due course.

The first of the events is the **Snowdrop Walks** – please make a note of the dates (**15th & 22nd February**) and spread the word!

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 25th JANUARY:

There will be a Family Service here at 11am led by the Rector.

Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Holy Communion at 9.00am

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- Morning Worship at 9.00am

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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