

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 14th January 2018:- The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to our service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) this morning led by the Rector. Thank you to Susan for playing the organ for us today.

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

The readings this morning are:-

1 Samuel 3: 1 - 10; Revelation 5: 1 - 10; John 1: 43 - 51

You will have noticed the lovely flowers in the church today. These were arranged by the family for the Thanksgiving Service for Clare Amies, held here on Thursday. It was a wonderful service prepared by the Rector and the family, the most perfect way for us to say farewell to Clare who had been an inspiration, and an example to us all. She will be so sadly missed and especially by Tom, Edward, Sarah, Harry and Alice and their families. May we continue the good work that Clare has been doing with such enthusiasm and passion.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly drop-in coffee morning for parents and carers **is held every Monday morning during term time, in the church from 9.15am to 11.15am.**

The Village Drop-In is held on Monday afternoons at the Parish Hall, from **1.30 - 3.30pm**, so please call in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a chat. **The Post Office in the Parish Hall** is now open **on Mondays, from 1pm to 3pm** in the small meeting room.

NEWS AND EVENTS:

The Christmas Services:-

On 15th December **High Ash** held their end of term **School Christingle Service** - the church was full to capacity.

Thank you to all those who helped with the preparation or took part in all the Christmas services and to those who decorated the church so beautifully.

Thank you to Helen Ivory at The Old Red Lion for hosting **The Nativity** on Sunday 17th December. Thanks also to those who took part, particularly Jonathan, Claire and Wilf Pincott who played the

Holy family, Andrew and Margretta for the music and the children who did the readings and prayers.

The church was as usual full for the traditional **Christmas Eve Carol Service**. Particular thanks to the choir who did a fantastic job in the absence of Jerry Breslin who was unable to attend the practices or to be at the service due to illness. We were extremely grateful to John Wearmouh for playing the organ at short notice, and to Rosemary Howell for playing at the **Holy Communion** service on Christmas morning.

The Christmas Fundraising Events:-

Carol Singing around the village on Saturday 17th & Tuesday 19th December. Thank you to the singers and collectors who turned out on either one or both of these evenings despite the cold and damp conditions. A total of **£579.75** was raised.

Our Christmas Charity Appeal was for “**The Teenage Cancer Trust**”. The donations collected at the Charity Songs of Praise service on 19th November amounted to £223, most of which was gift aided. **With the later donations received a cheque for £303 has been sent to the charity.**

Sponsor a Light in aid of church funds has raised **£25**. Thank you to Emily Hudson for transcribing the dedications into the Commemoration Book. Thanks also to the Turner family for providing and setting up the tree with the outdoor lights.

THE SNOWDROP WALKS: The dates for our two Sunday walks in February (2 - 4pm) are yet to be confirmed - please see future Pew Sheets and posters for the dates. A plea for help please providing some homemade cakes and help with the teas in the church.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 21st JANUARY:

There will be a Prayer Book service of **Mattins at 9.30am in Great Brickhill**, led by Jeremy. Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- [Church open, 10.00 - 11.00am]

Little Brickhill:- Family Service at 11.00am

Stoke Hammond:- Holy Communion at 9.00am

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