

## **The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill**

**SUNDAY 3rd October – The eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.**

Welcome to **Messiah Weekend** here in the church and to our service of **Holy Communion** this morning, led by Sister Hazel. We would like to give you our thanks, Sister Hazel.

Julia and I hope that we will be able to find a comfortable space in the Church for our worship this morning. As I write this Pew Sheet I imagine that the staging and musical equipment for this evening's performance of 'Messiah' will be filling the chancel and some of the nave, so we plan to hold the service in the Lady Chapel. Please stay after the service for coffee and a chat – if there is room!

The readings today are:

**Habatuk 1 vs. 1 – 4 and 2 vs. 1 – 4;**

**2 Timothy 1 vs. 1 – 14.**

The **Holy Gospel** reading is **Matthew 22 vs. 34 – 36.**

**THIS EVENING** the Brickhills Choir and a local orchestra will give their public performance of **Handel's 'Messiah' at 7.30pm. Tickets are available at the door and the performance begins at 7.30pm in a warm church but bring a cushion. Refreshments will be served in the interval. There will be also a hired loo.** All proceeds will go to **Willen Hospice** this year. Please come and support the event and bring your friends too!

### **THIS WEEK**

**On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, the THURSDAY GROUP** will meet at Brandlings, Pound Hill at 2.30pm to have tea and a chat and to see and buy from Phoenix Cards. Everyone is very welcome.

**The Church 'BIG CLEAN'** will take place on the morning of **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October.** If you can spare an hour or so we would be very grateful. The work on the Tower and bells is now complete but there is a lot of dust and cobwebs to remove because we haven't had a big clean for about a year! We plan to start at about 10am and finish by lunchtime. Refreshments will be provided. We would like the church to look its best for the Harvest Service the following week and the Bishop's visit for the Dedication of the Bells in the afternoon of 17<sup>th</sup> October.

## NEWS

This year's **Macmillan Coffee Morning** was held at Pauline Sears' house last week. Anne Humphreys tells me that an absolutely staggering sum of £1331 was raised and she sends her thanks to all the helpers and particularly to Pauline Sears who hosted the coffee morning, and to everyone who came, despite the rain, and gave so generously. It promised to be the best coffee morning for miles around and this it proved to be!

**LAST WEEK**, the family of young Edward Lutherborrow came to the Family Service for his Baptism. We would like to send our prayers and greetings to him and his family. We have Baptisms arranged for all the remaining Family Services this year.

**A SPECIAL DAY: Sunday October 17<sup>th</sup>** when we will be celebrating **Harvest Festival** in the morning service of Holy Communion at 9.30am when Revd. Steve Barnes will return to take our service. Then, during the afternoon, at 3pm, a service will be held to dedicate the new bells and bless them. The Bishop will be visiting the Parish for this service. **After this service there will be a joint Harvest and Bells tea party.** More details will follow and, during this week, we will be asking for help from friends to decorate the Church for the Harvest Festival and to assist with catering and serving at the tea party during the afternoon. Please come to witness this 'once-in-a-lifetime' occasion.

## NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, **10th October**, there will be **Morning Worship** at 9.30am, led by Phillipa, and **Evensong** at 6pm, led by the Rector.

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