

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 17th March – The Fifth Sunday in Lent and Passion Sunday

PLEASE REMEMBER TO FILL IN YOUR FORM TO REGISTER FOR THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Welcome to everyone for our service of **Holy Communion** today, led by the Rector. I am grateful to Jerry Breslin for playing the organ and leading our singing.

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

The readings this morning are: **Isaiah 43 vs. 16 - 21;**
Philippians 3 vs. 4b – 14; and
John 12 vs. 1 – 8.

YESTERDAY, the wedding took place of Glenn McKenna and Kelly Walker, whom we have enjoyed getting to know in recent weeks. Please join in wishing the couple all happiness for the future. Kelly decorated the church with flowers on the pew ends and I have removed them to the Vestry and Kelly asked me to offer them to members of the congregation at today's service. I have thanked her on your behalf for this kind thought.

THIS WEEK:

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

THE FIFTH AND FINAL SESSIONS OF THE LENT COURSES will be held on this coming Wednesday evening (20th March) at Green Farm and Thursday afternoon (21st March) at the Parish Hall with a simple lunch from 1.30pm and a talk/discussion from 2 – 3pm. The details of the themes for these sessions are given in the pink coloured leaflet that can be found on the bookcase. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to have attended previous sessions.

NEWS:

CHURCHYARD MOWING

The rota for mowing the churchyard will be drawn up in the next few weeks. A few of those who have kindly done the mowing for a number of years are no longer able to continue. The mowing takes about three hours and can be done at any time during a two-week period. The mower and petrol is provided – a second mower can be made available if anyone wishes to share the load. Anyone who is able to help, or for more information, please contact Phillipa Cook:- Telephone: 261521 email: neilacook@aol.com

THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Every 6 years the Church Electoral Roll has to be revised and this year is when that has to happen. In order to continue as a voting member of the church it is necessary for you to register by completing a short form. The forms are available from the Warden or can be downloaded from the “Electoral Roll” section of the Benefice website: <http://www.brickhillchurches.org.uk/electoral-roll>

The form must be completed and handed to Jeremy Hopkinson at the latest by the Annual Church Meeting to be held on Tuesday 23rd April (but ideally earlier and in good time for the meeting).

MAUNDY MONEY

This year the Queen will be handing out Maundy Money to pensioners from Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Each year the Monarch visits a UK cathedral or abbey to give out Maundy coins to elderly people in recognition of their service to their community and church – 87 men and 87 women are invited by Buckingham Palace (the figure being equal to the Queen’s age). We are delighted that two people from our Benefice will be receiving Maundy Money – Kay Seaman from Great Brickhill and John Bowler from Stoke Hammond. We look forward to hearing how Kay spent her exciting day.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Please note these special dates

Saturday, 6th April

The **PLANT FAYRE** will be held on Saturday, April 6th from noon until 4pm, in the Parish Hall and Marquee. Please tell your friends and pot up your plants for the village plant stall.

HOLY WEEK AT GREAT BRICKHILL

On **Wednesday 27th March**, there will be an event organised by High Ash School called “**Experience Easter**” in the church **from 5.30pm- 7.30pm**. School children and their teachers will be telling the story of Easter and everyone is welcome and you can arrive and leave at any time during the event. Please come and support this special occasion (it is very rare for the school to be in session during the week before Easter) and we are really looking forward to hosting this special event.

On **Thursday 28th March, Maundy Thursday** there will be a said service of **Holy Communion at 7.30pm**.

On **Friday 29th March, Good Friday** there will be an **Hour of Devotion**, a service of hymns, readings and reflections, **at 2pm**.

On **Easter Sunday** there will be a service of **Holy Communion at 11am**, led by Father Colin

SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, 24th MARCH, PALM SUNDAY: there will be a special **United Benefice Service at Bow Brickhill**, to include a **Palm Sunday procession at 10am** (optional) leaving from the Church Hall at the bottom of the hill. **The service at the church begins at 10.30am** and will include a dramatized reading of the Passion.

Christine Agambar (01525 261527) christine.agambar@btinternet.com

To contact the Rector by e-mail: rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website: www.brickhillschurches.org.uk