

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

**SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER:-**

**Sunday next before Advent, celebrating Christ the King**

Welcome to our **Family Service** this morning, led by the Rector. Thank you also to Jerry for playing the music to accompany our songs. We are particularly pleased to welcome the family and friends of Anthony and Kathryn Middleton on the occasion of the baptism of their twin boys, Alfie and Henry.

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

The reading this morning is:- **Matthew 25: 31 - 40**

**The Church Christmas Fair** was very successful yesterday. The fantastic sum of **£1865.20 was raised**. Thanks go to all who helped especially those who spent many hours preparing for the event.

**THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-**

**Drop-in with the Post Office** will be held on Monday afternoon, 24th November at the Parish Hall.

**The Thursday Group** - the final meeting of the year will be held on **Thursday 4th December**, 2.30pm at 30 Pound Hill. On **15th January** the Thursday Group are having their **Christmas Lunch at The Wheatsheaf, Bow Brickhill**, 12.00 for 12.30 pm. If you would like to attend please contact Jan Simpson (Tel: 261698) and let her have your £10 non-refundable deposit by Monday, 15th December.

**Little Brickhill Christmas Fayre** takes place next **Sunday 30th November** 12.00 – 2.00pm in the Village Hall – admission free. Mulled wine, hot food, home-made cakes, craft stall, raffle, kids games, and much more festive fun.

**NEWS & EVENTS:-**

## **VESTS FOR “FISH ’n CHIP” BABIES**

Sister Hazel would like to pass on thanks to those who have knitted vests for the “Fish ‘n Chip” babies - called as such because they are born of poor African women, many of whom have aids and transmit the disease to their newly born children; the babies are wrapped in newspaper on discharge from hospital.

A consignment of 160 vests has recently started the journey to Africa. There is a constant need and so any vest is still very greatly appreciated. For more details and patterns contact Rosie Dawson (261521 or [robin.rosie@zen.co.uk](mailto:robin.rosie@zen.co.uk)). Photos showing a colourful selection of vests and a new born in his vest and beanie outfit, are in a folder on the bookcase in church.

## **SHOE BOXES**

Thanks to those who kindly and generously filled shoeboxes for the "Link to Hope" charity. A wonderful 76 boxes were delivered to our area collector - they were packed onto a lorry on Monday, 10th November, to start their journey to Eastern Europe.

## **CHRISTMAS CHARITY**

Our chosen charity for Christmas this year is **Christian Aid – DEC Ebola Crisis Appeal**, a joint appeal launched by the Disaster Emergency Committee on behalf of thirteen charities, to support the fight against the spread of Ebola and to provide medical support to those communities in dire need of our help. The collection at last Sunday's **Songs of Praise raised £590**. Our appeal will be open for a few weeks – anyone else who would like to contribute, please use one of the Christian Aid envelopes which are available on the bookcase just inside the church – please return these to Phillipa Cook (Green Farm) **before 15th December**.

## **NEWSPAPER COLLECTION – NEXT SATURDAY**

The next newspaper collection will be on Saturday morning, 29th November. Anyone who might be able to help load the paper and cardboard into the lorry, please contact Frank Kinsey (Tel: 261521).

**SERVICES SUNDAY, 30th NOVEMBER:** there will be a **United Benefice Service at Bow Brickhill, Advent Carol service at 4.00pm** – do remember to take a torch with you!

**SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 7th DECEMBER:**

**There will be a said Holy Communion (BCP) Service at 11.00am in Great Brickhill**, led by the Rector.

Other Services on 7th December across the Benefice:-

**Bow Brickhill:-** Mattins at 11.00am

**Little Brickhill:-** No Service

**Stoke Hammond:-** Family Service Methodist Church, 11.00am

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**To contact the Rector by e-mail:** [rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk](mailto:rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk)

**The address of the Benefice website:** [www.brickhillschurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillschurches.org.uk)