The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 1st MARCH 2015:-   The Second Sunday of Lent

Welcome to our Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion this morning led by the Reverend Peter Green. We hope that Sister Hazel will be joining us. The readings this morning are:-

Genesis <u>17</u>: 1-7 & 15-16;   Romans <u>4</u>: 13- 25;   Mark <u>8</u>: 31 – 38

Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat. However we will be welcoming the family and friends of Arran and Amye Aris for a baptism service for their son Eddie at 12.30pm.

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 is held **every Monday** in the church, **from 9.15am to 11.15am. All welcome** – not obligatory to bring a child with you!

Drop-in with the Post Office will be held on Monday afternoon, 2nd March at the Parish Hall.

The Thursday Group will resume after Easter.

THE LENT GROUPS started last week. The successful evening **"Bible Course"** held last year is being repeated, on Thursday afternoons. There is also a Lent group meeting on some Wednesday evenings through Lent.
Please see the pink Lent/Easter flyer available on the bookcase for details. **This week**:- **Thursday, 5th March at 1.45pm** the first full session of "The Bible Course" following last week's introductory session. All are welcome at **Old Farm, Ivy Lane Lane**.

NEWS & EVENTS:-

GREAT BRICKHILL CHRISTMAS BOOK:
David Marlow has produced a wonderful **book of over 50 photographs** taken during the Christmas period. **The hard back book is on view on the small table to the left as you enter the church.** In recognition of the time that David has spent compiling the book, we would welcome **donations**, a suggested minimum of £5. If you send your e-mail address with your donation **a PDF version of the book** will be sent to you. Donations (gift aid envelopes can be used if appropriate) to Phillipa Cook – Green Farm, Stoke Lane.

COFFEE & CAKES on Saturday 7th February:
Invitations were sent to over 80 people who help with the various church rotas. A convivial time was had by all present. The Rector took the opportunity to thank the 50 plus people attending for the time they contribute to help run St Mary's, Great Brickhill.

SNOWDROP WALKS OVER THE LAST TWO WEEKENDS:
Thank you to all those who supported the Snowdrop Walks over the last two weekends. The first Sunday saw many people enjoying a walk among the snowdrops, followed by homemade cakes and tea in the church. It was such a shame about the very wet weather last Sunday but it was amazing to see just how many hardy souls came and enjoyed themselves. The first walk raised **£728.05** and last week the total was **£296.95**, a total of **£1025** plus gift aid on a large portion of that. Well done to all concerned and grateful thanks to our hosts David and Sally Duncombe.

WORKING PARTY FOR THE CHURCHYARD:
A huge thank you to David Duncombe who has done sterling work tidying up the churchyard at the rear. As David has done all the strimming of the long grass and taken out the hedge along the roadside, there has been a re-think about the working parties that were planned for March. There will now be a working party on **just one Saturday, 21st March** starting at 10.00am, with the following Saturday a reserve date in case of bad weather. Anyone who is able to help will be most welcome.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 8th MARCH:
There will be a service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) at 9.00am in Great Brickhill, led by the Rector.
Other Services across the Benefice:-
    Bow Brickhill:- Family Service, 11.00am
    Little Brickhill:- No Service
    Stoke Hammond:- Holy Communion, 9.00am

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