

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

PCC NEWSLETTER, 15th DECEMBER 2015

OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN GREAT BRICKHILL:-

Everyone is warmly invited to join us at our special services:

- **The Family Service / Nativity on Sunday 20th December. Meet at 10.50am** at the bus shelter at the bottom of Pound Hill and process to the church singing carols along the way. Or just meet at **the church at 11.30am** for a short service, followed by festive refreshments. All welcome!
- **Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols** at 5.00pm on Christmas Eve
- **Christmas Day Holy Communion** at 11.00am

Services across the Benefice on Sunday, 20th December:-

Bow Brickhill:- Carol Service at 3.00pm

Little Brickhill:- Carol Service at 5.00pm

Stoke Hammond:- Morning Worship at 9.00am

Christmas Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Christmas Eve, Holy Communion, 11.45pm

Stoke Hammond:- Christmas Eve, Holy Communion, 11.30pm

Little Brickhill:- Christmas Day, Holy Communion with Baptisms, 9.30am

On Sunday, 27th December there will be a **United Benefice Service** of Holy Communion here at Great Brickhill at 11.00am.

Our usual schedule of Services can be found in the monthly Parish Newsletter and the Rector's Newsletter, or via the church website (address below). All are welcome at any of our services, young or old alike. Young families are particularly welcome at our Family Service on the fourth Sunday of the month at 11.00am.

THE CHURCH CHRISTMAS CHARITY:- L & D – NICU

Our chosen charity for Christmas this year is in support of an appeal set up by the parents of Phoebe Read, who was born prematurely at 24 weeks in November 2014. Phoebe spent 177 days in the **neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) of Luton & Dunstable Hospital**. Her parents, Jeni and Stuart who live in Holts Green, are trying to raise money for a house for parents/family to stay at the L&D when babies are in NICU - there is generally very little space for parents to just relax for 5 mins let alone a house for parents to stay when potentially travelling longer distances.

The appeal was launched at last month's Charity Songs of Praise. It **will be open for just a few more days** – please use one of the specially adapted Gift Aid envelopes available on the bookcase just inside the church (those people who normally use PIN numbers will need to sign these envelopes). Any cheques are to be paid to "Great Brickhill PCC". **Please return the envelopes or any cash donations** to me at Green Farm **before 23rd December**.

P.T.O.

THE CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 28th November was very successful. Although there were less people attending a terrific amount was raised towards the every-day running costs of the church. With additional receipts after the day of the Fair, the total came to **£1903.80**. Thank you to our special guests, the High Ash Choir who sang a medley of seasonal songs, and to Father Christmas and his helpers. The Santa's Grotto was something to behold – thank you to Brian Pincott on producing such a masterpiece. Thanks also go to all who helped, especially those who spent many hours preparing for the event and donated the items for sale. Special mention should go to Janet Oakes who, while preparing for their move to The Lake District, produced the most delicious refreshments for us all to enjoy.

THE FIRST EVENT OF 2016:-

A date for your diaries – the **Annual Church Coffee Morning** will be held in the church on **Saturday 20th February** at 11.00am. This is an opportunity for us to say thank you to all of you who help in any way with the running of the church. We look forward to seeing you there!

WEBSITE:-

Do please remember that all the information about Church events or services can be found at the click of a button:- www.brickhillchurches.org.uk

The monthly service schedule for all four parishes, the weekly readings, the Pew Sheets that are produced every Sunday, the monthly rota sheets are all uploaded to the relevant sections of the website.

For further information please contact:-

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