

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2017:- The Sunday next before Advent, the feast of “Christ the King”

Welcome to our Family Service this morning – we are pleased to welcome back Annie Cooper to lead our service. Thank you to Andrew and Margretta who will be playing the music to accompany our songs. There will be children’s activities in the Lady Chapel. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat.

The bible readings are:- drama sketch - the Parable of the Talents (**Matthew 25: 14-30**) and the bible reading **Romans 12: 4-8**.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly drop-in coffee morning for parents and carers **is held every Monday morning during term time, in the church from 9.15am to 11.15am.**

The Village Drop-In is held on Monday afternoons at the Parish Hall, from **1.30 - 3.30pm**, so please call in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a chat.

As from tomorrow, 27th November, the Post Office in the Parish Hall will open on Mondays, from 1pm to 3pm in the small meeting room. It will no longer be there on Thursdays.

NEWS AND EVENTS:

PRAYER BOARD:

The new prayer board is now hanging on the cupboard door on the right inside the church porch. Please feel free to add your own prayers and encourage others to do the same.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY APPEAL: This year’s appeal is for “**The Teenage Cancer Trust**” a charity which wants all young people with cancer to get the best possible care and support from day one. Every day around seven young people are diagnosed with cancer – the Trust wants to make sure they all have access to the specialist care and support they provide, no matter where they live. **The donations collected at last Sunday’s Songs of Praise service amounted to £223**, most of which was gift aided. Anyone else who would like to contribute, please use one of the special Gift Aid envelopes on the table near the entrance and return it with your donation to Phillipa Cook (Green Farm) before 18th December.

THE CHRISTMAS CAKE RAFFLE was drawn on November 19th after the Charity Songs of Praise. The winner of the Christmas Cake was Mrs Dorothy Rolls. The runner up prize of a cake decoration was won by Mrs Marion Ralph. **This year we raised a magnificent sum of £301**, all proceeds going to St Mary's Church funds. Thank you to everyone who supported the raffle, with special thanks to Janet Pritchard for baking the cake and selling the tickets, and to Jackie Coram who decorated the cake so splendidly.

THE REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE: Thank you to all who helped to make this a very special service. Particular thanks go to Edward Maley for co-ordinating the arrangements for the service, and to Dave and Philip Howe for clearing away all the leaves etc. from around the war memorial. **The collection for The Poppy Appeal collection raised £380**, most of which was gift aided.

ADVANCE DATES:

Sunday 17th December:- **The Nativity**, a celebration of the Nativity Story at **11.30am at the bottom of Pound Hill** near The Old Red Lion. Come and see Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem with the shepherds and the Kings. Please tell your friends and neighbours and bring them along with you.

Saturday 6th January – **“The Revels of Twelfth Night 1606”**, a concert with **Jerry Breslin and the Cryers Singers** in church at **5pm**, with drinks and canapes. Proceeds to the Church Roof Fund.

There is a green sheet available near the bookcase giving details of all our Christmas activities and services.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 3rd DECEMBER, ADVENT SUNDAY:

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

Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Advent Carols at 5.00pm [do take a torch!]

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- Christingle Service at 4.00pm

Julia Turner – Warden (01525 261213)

juliaturner.it@icloud.com

Phillipa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)

pjcook6@gmail.com

To contact the Rector by e-mail:

rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk