

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2018: Advent Sunday

Welcome to our Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion this morning, led by the Rector.

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

The readings this morning are:-

Jeremiah 33: 14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13; Luke 21: 25-36

This evening at Bow Brickhill is the annual Advent Carol Service at 5.00pm. Do remember to take a torch with you!

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly drop-in coffee morning for parents and carers **is held on Monday mornings 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. **The Post Office in the Parish Hall is open on Mondays, from 1pm to 3pm** in the small meeting room.

The Prayer Group is now held **in church on the second and fourth Mondays** of each month. Meet around 11.00am for a coffee with those at the Coffee Club. If you are not able to come but would like a prayer said on your behalf, please feel free to put a note on the prayer board. **The final meeting of the Prayer Group for 2019 will be held on Monday 10th December.**

NEWS AND EVENTS:

ADVENT COFFEE MORNING ON 1st DECEMBER:

Thank you to everyone who made yesterday's Advent Coffee Morning a success. The magnificent sum of **£975.65** was raised – a breakdown of the total is on display in the church porch. Pauline Sear was the winner of the Christmas Cake and Pauline Waller won the Ginger Bread House.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY APPEAL: This year's chosen charity is Willen Hospice. There are various leaflets available on the bookcase and the font giving current information about Willen. **The donations collected at the Songs of Praise service amounted to £160**, most of which was gift aided. Our appeal will be open for a few weeks –

anyone who would like to contribute, please take away one of the Willen envelopes and return it with your donation to Phillipa Cook (Green Farm) **before 20th December.**

SAVE A PENNY.....TO SPEND A PENNY!”:

As you will know we are saving to build a toilet and have started this new initiative – if you would like to help, please take an empty jar that you will find in the church porch. Please return the jar when full of coins via Phillipa to the Church Treasurer, Neil Cook who will count the coins and let you know how much was in your jar, and issue you with a new jar if you wish to continue supporting the scheme.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES:

Carol Singing around the village in aid of general Church funds on **Saturdays 15th & 22nd December, from 4.10 to 6.30pm.** All are welcome - singers and collectors meet on both days at The Three Trees at 4.00pm. It would be helpful if those who would like to sing, or help with the collection, could contact Phillipa Cook (TEL: 261521; e-mail: pjcook6@gmail.com).

Sponsor a Light. There will again be a Christmas tree at the church with the opportunity to sponsor one of the lights to give thanks for the birth of a child, celebrate an anniversary, or remember a loved one - donations will go to general church funds. Dedication cards are available just inside the entrance to the church. The dedications will be transcribed into the special Commemoration Book. The cards should be returned to Phillipa along with your donation (suggested £5 per light) – please use the Gift Aid Scheme if you are a tax payer.

The Nativity, 23rd December at 11.00am: The Nativity will be held again at The Old Red Lion. Hopefully the weather will be kinder this year and the rain will stay away.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 9th DECEMBER:

There will be a service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) here at 9.30am, led by the Rector. Other Services in the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Christingle Service in the School at 11.00am

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- Carol Service at 4.00pm

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To contact the Rector, Revd John Waller:

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The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk