

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER 2018: Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome to our service of Holy Communion (Common Worship) this morning led by the Rector. Thank you to Susan for playing the organ for us today.

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

The readings this morning are:-

Malachi 3: 1 - 4; Philippians 1: 3 - 11; Luke 3: 1 - 6

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 2018 will be held tomorrow, Monday 10th December.**

NEWS AND EVENTS:

ADVENT COFFEE MORNING ON 1st DECEMBER:

Thank you to everyone who made last Saturday's Advent Coffee Morning a success. With an additional donation the magnificent sum raised is now **£985.65** – 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. David Marlow has uploaded some photos of the Coffee Morning to his website:- www.davidmarlowphotography.com

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 SERVICES & 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 on the Christmas tree at the church. Dedication sheets are available just inside the entrance to the church. Donations will go to general church funds and the dedications will be transcribed into the special Commemoration Book. The sheets 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, on 23rd December, 11.00am at The Old Red Lion. Hopefully the weather will be kinder this year and the rain will stay away - please tell your friends and neighbours.

Christmas Eve - Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 5pm.
Christmas Day - Holy Communion at 11am, led by the Rector.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 16th DECEMBER:

There will be a service of Morning Worship here at 9.30am, led Jeremy. Other Services next Sunday:-

Bow Brickhill:- Carol Service at 3.00pm

Little Brickhill:- Carol Service at 5.00pm

Stoke Hammond:- Morning Worship at 9.00am

Julia Turner – Warden (01525 261213)

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Phillipa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)

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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