

# **The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill**

## **Sunday 1st June 2025 – The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Welcome to our service of Holy Communion, which will be led by the Rector. Thank you to Jerry for playing the organ for us this morning.

The readings for today are:-

Ezekiel 36: 24-28; Acts 1: 1-11; Luke 24: 44-53

**The collection plate will be passed** round during the third/offertory hymn. Please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided if you are able to. If you prefer to give your collection via our **debit/credit card device**, **please see Phillipa after the service.**

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

### **RECTOR'S JUNE MESSAGE:**

#### **Carers' Week - June 9th to 15th**

Dear friends,

Over six million people in this country are 'carers' – that is, they provide unpaid care to someone they know. That used to include me, and it may include you. In fact, it is estimated that three out of five people in this country will be carers at some point in their lives.

One of the things that impresses me about life in our villages is the number of people I see who give significant care and help, not only to members of their family, but also to friends and neighbours as well. And I find that they usually prefer to do it quietly, and with a minimum of fuss or attention, but that may mean that they miss out on help and support that could make a great difference for them, and the people they care for.

I am often humbled by the quality of care I see going on around me, both from paid workers and from willing volunteers. I give thanks for that, and I remember that Jesus said, in one of his parables:

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. (Matthew 25. 40)

**Revd John Waller**

#### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 11th to 17th MAY:**

Thank you to all who donated to the collection at the service on 18th May for Christian Aid Week. A total of £300 has been sent to Christian Aid, most of which was gift aided.

**Donations can still be made for the Rector's '70k in May' Challenge.** To date John has raised an amazing **£870** (£1,071 including gift aid). Throughout May, he has been dedicating his regular walks, totalling at least 70 kilometres (about 44 miles), to the work of Christian Aid. A special page has been set up for donations:- <https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/challenge-2025/johns-walking-challenge>

### **BRICKSTOCK:**

Many thanks to all who helped with the teas at Brickstock last Sunday, whether baking the cakes or helping to serve the teas. We again had a wonderful selection of cakes to offer and there was a steady stream of people throughout the afternoon. We raised a fantastic **£423.10**, considerably up on last year's figure of £287.

### **FOOD BOX:**

Demand for produce from the Food Box has been high in recent weeks and our reserve supply is now low. **If anyone would like to contribute to the stocked goods, we would be very grateful.** All contributions can be placed inside the box or next to it. The main requirements are: **Tea, coffee, long life milk, cereal, tinned meals, pasta sauce, soup, baked beans, tinned fruit and vegetables.**

If you know of anyone who would benefit from this initiative, please pass this information on. For anyone in real need, there are leaflets near the Food Box on some local Food Larders, in various locations on different days in Milton Keynes.

### **SERVICES IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS:**

**Next Sunday 8th June is Pentecost - there will be just one service in the Benefice:- An All-age Service with a difference at 10am in the Little Brickhill Community Centre.**

This will be a more modern style of worship than we normally have, more informal with no robes, in the relaxed setting of the Community Hall. The theme will be "Gifts & Birthdays" on the day we celebrate Pentecost, sometimes known as the birthday of the church. A service for all the family, young and old, with a choice of activities and discussions.

**The following Sunday 15th June** is our monthly Family Service at 11.00am. Other services in the Benefice:- 9.30 (Bow Brickhill) Holy Communion; 9.30 (Stoke Hammond) Morning Worship.

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**The address of the Benefice website:** [www.brickhillschurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillschurches.org.uk)