

# The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

## SUNDAY 2nd JANUARY 2022: Celebrating the Feast of Epiphany

The Rector is having this Sunday off to help prepare for Pauline's funeral. John would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support at this difficult time.

We are delighted to welcome Revd Canon Rosie Harper, Chaplain to the Bishop of Buckingham, to take our service today. This morning's service is the monthly Benefice Holy Communion. There are no other services in the Benefice today and so we welcome friends from all four parishes. Thank you to Jerry for playing the organ for us this morning.

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

The readings for this morning are:-

Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 1-12; Matthew 2: 1-12

**Please place your collection/envelopes in the plate** on the table in the cross aisle before the start of the service. **We are now able to accept collections via a contactless credit card device.** Please see Phillipa if you would like to do this.

**The current COVID regulations:** There have been no further guidelines issued. The most recent change was with regard to the wearing of face masks, which are now required in a range of indoor venues including places of worship. While there are exemptions, this is a legal requirement and **so everyone needs to wear a face covering while at our services in church**, unless there is a legitimate reason not to.

### **The weekly reflections and recordings:**

The Christmas story and the recording of the Rector's Christmas morning sermon were the last of the regular recordings. From now, recordings will be done for special occasions only, unless Covid restrictions return.

### **FUNERAL SERVICE FOR PAULINE WALLER:-**

On Tuesday 4th January the funeral service for Pauline Waller will be held in the church at 2.30pm. The details for the service were circulated with the weekly e-mail. There are copies on the book case for those not on the distribution list. The last section, "A 'Flower' for Pauline" is Timothy's idea, and he is particularly keen for people to do this, should they wish to.

## **THE CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES:**

It was wonderful that, unlike last year, we were able to hold **the Village Nativity** on Sunday 19th December - the mist gave a very atmospheric feel and look to the occasion! Thanks go to our hosts, the Cricket Club, and to all those who helped to make it a success.

A big thank you to all who helped prepare the church for, or participated in, **the Christmas services**. Whilst the numbers attending were understandably lower than in normal years, it was wonderful that we could celebrate Christmas in a way that was far from possible last year. The church looked splendid and there was a lovely atmosphere at both services. The choir were in great form, thanks in no small way to the hard work by Jerry in the run up to Christmas. It was good to see some new members in the choir and others returning for the occasion.

**The Advent Windows** were again splendid, by Christmas Eve 24 festive windows lit up around the village. Thank you to all who took part with this festive activity.

## **SILENT AUCTION FOR THE PAINTING BY ANNE MARLOW:**

Thank you to all those who pledged bids for the "Seeing the Light" painting. The winning bid was for £251 by David Bratt. But most important, thanks to Anne for donating her painting.

## **MONDAY NEWS:**

The weekly **Monday Morning Coffee Club** for mothers and toddlers, and anyone else who would like to attend, will re-start on **Monday 10th January** from 9.30am to 11.30am.

There will be **no Drop-in** at the Parish Hall tomorrow afternoon, Monday 3rd January.

## **SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE NEXT WEEK:**

### **Sunday 9th January:-**

- 9.30am Holy Communion (Little Brickhill)
- 10.00 Morning Worship (Great Brickhill)
- 11.00 Family Service with Baptism (Stoke Hammond)

*Julia Turner – Warden (07714 028785)*

[juliaturner.jt@icloud.com](mailto:juliaturner.jt@icloud.com)

*Phillipa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)*

[pjcook6@gmail.com](mailto:pjcook6@gmail.com)

**To contact the Rector, Revd John Waller:**

[rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk](mailto:rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk)

**The address of the Benefice website:**

[www.brickhillschurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillschurches.org.uk)