

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 23rd September - The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity when we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival.

Welcome to our service of **Harvest Family Service and Baptism**, led by the Rector. We would particularly like to extend a warm welcome to Brian and Clare Lewis and their family, on the occasion of the baptism of their daughter, Nicole Elizabeth Hankins - Lewis. Thank you to David Hankins for reading one of our lessons. Thank you also to Rosemary Howell for playing the organ for us this morning, and to the choir who will be singing an anthem.

Thank you to all the ladies who have so splendidly decorated the church for this Harvest celebration. Following the service you are all invited to join us for a Bring and Share Harvest Lunch. Thank you to everyone for their contributions to the lunch.

The readings this morning are:

1 Timothy 6: 6 - 10; Matthew 6: 25 - 33

THIS WEEK:

DROP-IN will be held in the Parish Hall tomorrow, 24th September. The Post Office and refreshments plus access to toilets are back to the usual arrangements.

We were saddened to hear the news that **Alan Howson** died earlier this week – Alan will be remembered particularly for his enthusiastic and regular singing in the choir for many years. His funeral will take place here in the church this coming week, followed by burial in the churchyard. **The Thursday Group planned for this day is now cancelled.**

High Ash School will be holding their Harvest celebration in the church tomorrow morning, the service starting at 9.30am. Two of the year groups will also be visiting the church on Thursday morning – we hope that the visit will be interesting and informative for the children.

NEWS:

RETREAT

The Rector will be going on retreat from 30th September to 5th October. He is going to the Society of Mary and Martha at Sheldon, Devon (where he has been for retreats before) and we hope that he will have a much earned rest.

THE SHOE BOX APPEAL

A reminder about the Romanian Shoe Box Appeal. Anne Humphreys hopes that you will choose to contribute again this year, either by providing gifts for the boxes or by filling boxes. All the details are in the leaflet on the bookcase by the church door, or you can contact Anne (261345) for advice or information.

The MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

This hugely popular and successful event will be held this year on **Friday 28th September at Great Brickhill Cricket Club from 10.30am to 12.30pm.** Please come and support the World's Biggest Coffee Morning. While you enjoy your coffee you can browse the many stalls. Contact Pauline (261159) for information.

BARN DANCE AT RECTORY FARM, SATURDAY 6th OCTOBER

The annual village Barn Dance will be held at Rectory Farm, 7.30pm on Saturday 6th October. Tickets are £13.50 to include a Fish & Chip Supper and live band – proceeds will be shared between the cricket club and the church. A raffle will be held, any contributions for the prizes will be most welcome. For tickets, contact Linda Woodhouse (07795 542169) or Julia Turner (261213) or gbccevents@hotmail.co.uk

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & WORSHIP, WEMBLEY ARENA

This National Day of Prayer & Worship on Saturday 29th September will be the largest public gathering of Christians across all denominations and groups. To find out more about the event and to purchase tickets, visit:- www.ndopwembley.com

VISIT TO LEE ABBEY

Jane Castle is travelling down to Lee Abbey for the first week of October - if there is anyone else in the area who would also like to go down to Devon for a week's teaching and focus, please contact Jane:- j.castle38@btinternet.com.

To check out details of the venue, visit the website <http://www.leeabbey.org.uk/devon/>.

URGENT MESSAGE FROM NORTHANTS POLICE: Circulated to all parishes by the Archdeacon. Please read the notice on the bookcase.

NEXT SUNDAY 30th SEPTEMBER there will be a **United Benefice Service of Holy Communion (Common Worship)** at **10.00am** at **Little Brickhill**, led by the Rector.

The following week, Sunday 7th October, there will be a Prayer Book service of Holy Communion here in Great Brickhill at 11.00am, led by the Rector.

At Bow Brickhill there will be Holy Communion at 9.30am.

At Stoke Hammond there will be a Family Service at 11.00am in the Methodist Church.

There will be no service at Little Brickhill.

General enquiries, please contact:-

Phillipa Cook on 261521 or neilacook@aol.com

or Julia Turner on 261213 or msturner@btopenworld.com

To contact the Rector by e-mail: rector@brickhillchurches.org.uk

The address of the benefice website is: www.brickhillchurches.org.uk