

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 1st December:- Advent Sunday

Welcome to our Prayer Book Service of Holy Communion, led by Sister Hazel with the Rector preaching the sermon. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for refreshments and a chat.

Sister Hazel has left available for collection from the bookcase copies of her Christmas Newsletter.

The readings this morning are:-

Isaiah 2: 1 - 5; Romans 13: 11 - 14; Matthew 24: 36 - 44

RETIRING COLLECTION:- PHILIPPINES TYPHOON APPEAL

As at last week's service there will be an **extra collection** this morning in aid of the Christian Aid **Philippines Typhoon Appeal**. A plate will be available on the font for your donations and there are some special gift aid sheets.

This evening at **Bow Brickhill there will be an Advent Carol Service at 4pm**. Do remember to take a torch with you!

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:

Drop-in with the Post Office will be held, as usual on Monday afternoon, 2nd December, at the Parish Hall.

The Thursday Group will meet this week for mince pies and a chat for the last session of the year, on **5th December** at 2.30pm at **51A Lower Way**. All are welcome.

There will be no more **Midweek Holy Communion** Services until the New Year.

NEWS AND EVENTS:

THE CHRISTMAS FAIR last week was a huge success. Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the event - those who work hard to produce the goods to sell, those who organised and manned the stalls, those who provided the delicious refreshments, those who set up and cleared the Hall, and those who came along to spend their hard earned cash. The current sum raised towards the running costs of the church is **£1769**.

CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, GREAT BRICKHILL

THE CHARITY EVENSONG will be held **next Sunday 8th December**. There will not be a morning service that day. The chosen **charity for this Christmas will be The Lodge Trust** which is located in Rutland and exists to make a Christian provision for adults with learning difficulties. Mary Maley will be giving a short talk about the work of the trust – her daughter Sarah Lily is one of the 29 residents. Refreshments will be provided after the service.

The Christmas Card Tree. The tree will soon be ready to receive your greetings. Your donations will also contribute to The Lodge Trust. There will be special envelopes in which to place your donations and these should then be passed to Phillipa Cook.

Gift Aid Declaration Forms for The Lodge Trust will be available.

Sponsor a Light. This year the outdoor Christmas lights will be around the church porch. Dedication cards are available just inside the entrance to the church, next to the Commemoration Book into which the dedications will be transcribed. The proceeds will go towards the restoration of the church organ.

Carol Singing round the village on Saturday, 14th December from 4 - 7pm, in aid of general running costs of the church. Carol sheets provided. Wrap up warm, bring a torch and meet at the Church at 3.50pm. Enquiries to Phillipa Cook 261521 or pjcook6@gmail.com

Everyone is warmly invited to join us at our special services:

- Crib Service at 11am, Sunday 22nd December
- Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 5pm on Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day Holy Communion at 11am

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 8th DECEMBER:

There will be no Morning Worship service. The Charity Evensong will be at 6.00pm, led by the Rector.

Other Services across the Benefice:

Bow Brickhill:- 11am: Christingle Service in the School

Little Brickhill:- No Service

Stoke Hammond:- 4pm Carol Service

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

The address of the Benefice website: www.brickhillschurches.org.uk