

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2016:- The First Sunday of Lent

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 and to the choir for leading our singing.

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

The readings this morning are:-

Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11; Romans 10: 8b - 13; Luke 4: 1 - 13

SNOWDROP WALKS, THIS AFTERNOON & NEXT SUNDAY:

The first Snowdrop Walk is this afternoon from 2.00 - 4.00pm.

Starting from the church, enjoy a walk among the snowdrops and then return to the church for homemade cakes and teas. The second Snowdrop Walk will be **next Sunday, 22nd February**. Please bring your friends and family along!

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club, the child-friendly weekly drop-in coffee morning, will **not meet tomorrow** as it is half term. The next session will be on **Monday, 22nd February from 9.15am - 11.15am**. All are welcome – not obligatory to bring a child with you!

Drop-in with the Post Office will be held on Monday afternoon, 15th February at the Parish Hall.

Thursday Group is continuing to meet through Lent. The next meeting will be **on Thursday, 25th February at 30 Pound Hill – 2.30pm** for a cup of tea and a chat. All are welcome to attend.

THE LENT GROUPS start this week. There will be a 5-session **Wednesday or Thursday midweek evening course held at venues across the benefice**. For those who wish to go to a day-time course there is the opportunity to go to **Stoke Hammond on Tuesday afternoons**. All will be welcome to join in any of the sessions at any of the venues.

The course **“The Psalms – Prayers for Today's Church”** reflects on the psalms in general (and five psalms in particular). **The Psalm for this week's discussion is Psalm 100.**

White fliers giving full details of all the dates and venues of the Lent Course are available for collection from the bookcase, or download the information from the “Lent Courses” section of the website – address overleaf.

COFFEE MORNING: There will be Coffee & Cakes in the church at 11.00am **next Saturday 20th February**. This is an opportunity for us to say thank you to all those who support St Mary’s, and to all who contribute their time on the various church rotas. All are invited to attend – if you are able to join us please contact Val Baldwin by next Wednesday, 17th February – details below.

NEWS & EVENTS:-

GIFT AID ENVELOPES:

The formal wording for the Gift Aid declaration has changed. If anyone has any of the old version of the envelopes, could they please return them to the church so that they can be used as soon as possible. If anyone wishes to keep envelopes at home then do please take away some of the new version. (The wording for the new declaration is above the “Full Name” line, rather than at the bottom of the envelope as in the old version). It is important that we use up the old envelopes whilst they are still valid.

E-NEWSLETTER:

The latest e-newsletter was sent out just over a week ago, giving a summary of recent events held and details of upcoming events. If you would like to be included in the circulation list please send your e-mail address to Phillipa Cook:- pjcook6@gmail.com

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 21st FEBRUARY:

There will be a service of Mattins at 9.30am in Great Brickhill, led by Phillipa.

Other Services across the Benefice next Sunday:-

Bow Brickhill:- [Church open, 10.00 - 11.00am]

Little Brickhill:- Family Service at 11.00am

Stoke Hammond:- Holy Communion at 9.00am

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The address of the Benefice website:

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