The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill SUNDAY 11th December – The third Sunday in Advent

Welcome to our two services today.

The theme for Morning Worship is: "The Season of Advent".

The Charity Evensong at 6pm provides an opportunity to switch on the Christmas lights and enjoy the company of others with mulled wine and mince pies and music. The charity that we are supporting this year is 'Magical Taxi Tour', which gives children with life threatening illnesses a break from their treatment and therapy to enjoy a trip of a lifetime to the magic of Disneyland, Paris in a convoy of London taxis. Do take some time to look at the pictures on display showing the work of the charity. Gill Wilson is our local contact with the charity and is happy to provide further details for you.

Morning Worship: "The Season of Advent"

The Canticle is Luke 1: 46b – 55 The response by the congregation is: "My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour"

The readings this morning are:

Isaiah 61 vs. 1-4 & 8-11; and 1 Thessalonians 5 vs. 16 – 24.

Please stay for tea and coffee and a chat after the service.

Evensong:

The readings this evening are:

Malachi 3 vs. 1-4 & all verses in chapter 4; and Philippians 4 vs. 4 – 7.

THIS WEEK

Carol Singing around the village will take place between 4pm and 7pm **NEXT Saturday, 17th December.** All are very welcome to come and sing or help with the collection, but remember to wrap up warmly and bring a torch. The Carol Singing band will meet up at The Three Trees outside the Old Red Lion at 3.50pm. For more details contact Phillipa on 261521 or neilacook@aol.com.

NEXT SUNDAY

December 18th The Great Brickhill Nativity

This year the Nativity will be organised for the first time by a group of mums with toddler-aged children:

Come and see Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem with the sheep and the shepherds and the Kings.

Opposite the Old Red Lion near the Rectory at 2pm

Please come and tell your friends and neighbours.

CHRISTMAS AT St Mary the Virgin

The Christmas Card Tree is ready in the church. Your donations will also contribute to support the 'Magical Taxi Tour'. Please send greetings to your friends using the cards by the tree and place a donation in the envelopes provided and pass them to me or to Phillipa Cook to support the Magical Taxi Tour Charity. Thank you.

There will again be an opportunity to **Sponsor a Light** in aid of St Mary 2000. The outdoor lights will this year be on the tower and along the path and will be switched on **just before Evensong, this evening.** Dedication cards are available on the bookcase inside the entrance to the church. The dedications will be transcribed into a special Remembrance Book on display. The latest news from **Nuevo Reto, the orphanage in Guatemala,** is available on the bookcase by the door. The PCC is supporting this charity again this year and a donation will be given to them by Charlotte Pritchard on her next visit.

PLEASE NOTE: The United Benefice Service on **Sunday, 1st January at Stoke Hammond** will now be held at **10.00am** and not at 11.00am as indicated in the December Parish Newsletter.

NEXT SUNDAY, 18th December, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion **at 9.30am**, led by the Rector and then **THE GREAT BRICKHILL NATIVITY at 2pm. at the bottom of Pound Hill.**

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