The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 26th March 2017:- The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome to our Family Service this morning to celebrate **Mothering Sunday**. Thank you to Annie Cooper for leading our service and to Andrew and Margretta for playing the music to accompany our songs. There will be children's activities in the Lady Chapel. The posies for distribution at the end of the service have kindly been made by Julia and Joy.

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

The readings for the services during Lent are those for the following week's Lent Course (see item overleaf) - the themes focus on particular bible stories based on journeys / pilgrimages. This is Week 4 and the theme is "Martha and Mary: One thing is needed", focussing on this morning's reading:- Luke 10: 38 - 42

The funeral of Elsie Russell will take place here in church on Tuesday at 11.15am, followed by a short service at the crematorium. The family would very much like those attending the funeral to make their way to the Cricket Club for refreshments where the family will join them.

We were pleased to hear news from Scotland of the arrival of Roderick (Roddy) Timothy Oak Maclean to Alice (née Amies) and Ruaraidh on Tuesday morning.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT:-

The Happy Cup Coffee Club tomorrow, 27th March. The child-friendly drop-in coffee morning, especially welcoming parents and carers of young children is held every Monday morning during term time in the church from 9.15am to 11.15am.

Village Drop-In, tomorrow 27th March. Although there is no longer a Post Office, the Drop-In continues on Monday afternoons at the Parish Hall, from 1.20 - 3.20pm, so please call in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a chat.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

The first event of the year was the highly successful Snowdrop Walks – the total raised for the two Sundays has now reached an amazing £1,451 plus gift aid. There is a **Schedule of Events**

available near the entrance setting out the dates of events planned for the rest of the year. On the reverse are the details of all the special services planned during the Lent / Easter period.

ADVANCE DATE:- The annual **Plant Fayre, Saturday 8th April**, 11.00 – 4.00pm. Plants and cakes required for the stalls, plus offers of help – contact Celia Hall:- 261075 celiafeetam@madasafish.com

LENT COURSE:

The Lent Course "Pilgrims: Meeting God on the Journey" continues this week. There is an afternoon group at Stoke Hammond on Tuesdays at 2pm and the remaining evening courses at venues across the Benefice at 8pm are on Thursday 30th March and Wednesday 5th April.

A Lent Course leaflet (white) giving full details of all the dates and venues of the Lent Course is available for collection from the bookcase, or download the information from the "Lent Courses" section of the website (address below). There is also a leaflet available prior to each week's course.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY, 2nd APRIL:

There will be a said Holy Communion (BCP) Service at 11.00am in Great Brickhill, led by the Revd Robert Wright.

Other Services across the Benefice:-

Bow Brickhill:- Evensong at 6.00pm

Little Brickhill:- Holy Communion at 9.30am

Stoke Hammond: Family Service at 11.00am

PALM SUNDAY, 9th APRIL:-

The Rector will be doing a pilgrimage walk across the Benefice from Stoke Hammond to Bow Brickhill for a United Benefice Family Service with Holy Communion (including a dramatized reading of the gospel passage). John would welcome anyone to join him on all, or part, of the walk. There is a handout giving all the timings and a map of the route. The timings will be:

- 8.30am Prayer at Stoke Hammond Church
- 9.30am (approx.) Prayer at Great Brickhill Church
- 10.10am (approx.) Prayer at Little Brickhill Church
- 11.00am Family Service with Holy Communion at Bow Brickhill

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To contact the Rector by e-mail: The address of the Benefice website: rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk www.brickhillschurches.org.uk