

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



## **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK**

**Update 27th June 2020**

As you will know the Prime Minister announced on Monday that places of worship may re-open from 4th July, providing certain conditions are met and government guidance is followed. The government has also given permission for weddings to resume from the same date.

The detailed guidance from the government is still in preparation. Updated guidance from the national church will need to follow. It may, therefore, be some time before we have all the necessary information to begin to plan for physical services to start again. Each individual church will need to prepare carefully and there will be much to think through.

It is very welcome news that some of us will be able to meet again in our familiar and much-loved building. When we are able to do so this, it will be far from a return to normal life before lockdown but we will be able to start restoring and rebuilding some of what we have lost.

It is clear that we will not be in a position to hold services next weekend. When services do resume, whatever pattern of worship is offered, we will continue to share information on the virtual worship opportunities that are available.

In the meantime, we are very pleased to advise that there will be a, .....

### **VIRTUAL SERVICE OF EVENSONG ON SUNDAY 5th JULY AT 6.00pm.**

Jerry Breslin has been working very hard with the Benefice choir every Monday evening – in a couple of their virtual practices they have held a service of Evensong. The invitation to join in the service planned for next Sunday evening is extended to all those who would like to participate. Please contact Jerry for the Zoom log-in details:- [jerrybreslin@hotmail.com](mailto:jerrybreslin@hotmail.com)

### **CHURCH OPEN:**

The church is currently open for just two sessions per week in order that the building can be closed for 72 hours between opening times to minimise risk of infection. The church is open on:

Sundays:- 10.00am – 2.00pm  
Wednesdays:- 2.00pm – 5.00pm

We will increase the opening times as soon as we feel it is safe to do so following the guidelines provided to us. Any change to the opening times and other updates will be notified on our website:- [www.brickhillchurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillchurches.org.uk)

There is hand sanitizer available at the entrance and we ask that you read the guidance provided on the blue notice board as you enter the church. Much of the church has been cordoned off and all bibles, books etc have been removed. Please take your own bible or reading matter with you. There are chairs available near the altar should you wish to sit and say a prayer, or merely enjoy the wonderful space.

We would remind for those in vulnerable groups to check the current government guidelines. We will welcome all those to visit the church who feel comfortable to do so. If anyone exhibits symptoms of coronavirus within a week of your visit to the church, please contact: Julia Turner: 01525 261618 [juliaturner.it@icloud.com](mailto:juliaturner.it@icloud.com) or Phillipa Cook: 01525 261521 [pjcook6@gmail.com](mailto:pjcook6@gmail.com). The church will then be closed for a while for special cleaning to be done.

### **WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:**

**Firstly, the Rector's weekly reflection and prayer has been recorded and is available on You Tube. There is also a recording of the Rector reading the story of the Good Samaritan from the Storyteller Bible - please make this available to the younger members of your family if appropriate.**

**The three You Tube clips can be found following the links below:-**

**Reflection** <https://youtu.be/fO14Qlgo6A>

**Prayer** <https://youtu.be/4fpG-1Y3TOw>

**Good Samaritan** <https://youtu.be/-cIlboiFkQQ>

This was the first week of attempting to provide a video recording. Unfortunately, the sensitive microphone picked up the sound of the wind and an aeroplane that flew overhead. We will repeat the exercise on a regular basis and will hopefully improve the production of the recording as we gain more experience.

Two files accompany this e-mail giving the details of worship for this coming Sunday:-  
(1). The Rector's written brief reflection and prayer.

(2). How and where to find this week's services for the Third Sunday after Trinity. This includes the programmes available on the BBC, both radio and television, and live-streaming services from the Oxford Diocese and the Church of England.

### **THE RECTOR:**

Revd John Waller is available to hear from parishioners who have any concerns during this worrying time:- 01525 261062 [rector@brickhillchurches.org.uk](mailto:rector@brickhillchurches.org.uk)

### **ACTIVE E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN:**

Anyone who would like to join the group or would like to have a prayer included, contact:- Mary Maley ([mary@maley.org.uk](mailto:mary@maley.org.uk)) or Roger Blofeld ([rogerblo@aol.com](mailto:rogerblo@aol.com)).

### **THE FOOD BOX:**

Thank you to those who have supported the Food Box located in the church porch. There have been very few items taken from the box and so the amount of goods kept there will be reduced - a few basic items, tea, coffee, milk, soup, beans will be kept in the box, just enough for a meal or two. The excess supplies are being taken to the MK Food Bank where there is a genuine ongoing need for supplies.

## **IN NEED OF A FRIENDLY CHAT:**

We have been living in these strange times for over fourteen weeks now and, although the lockdown restrictions are being slowly eased, we are aware that there will be many who are in self isolation or generally finding life difficult at the moment. If you feel in need of a friendly chat, Julia will be very happy to receive a call from you:-  
01525, 261618 or 07714 028785

## **For further information about any of the above, please contact:-**

Phillipa Cook TEL: 01525 261521 07788 740969 [pjcook6@gmail.com](mailto:pjcook6@gmail.com)

Do please remember that the Benefice website will be the best way to receive updates about the current situation and to obtain worship information. The special "Coronavirus" section will be updated with any new information and worship details:-

[www.brickhillchurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillchurches.org.uk)