

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK

Update 18th July 2020

Further to the Prime Minister's announcement that places of worship may re-open for worship from 4th July, it was agreed at the Benefice Wardens' Meeting on 16th July that in principle live services would be resumed in August, subject to the required approval by the PCC of each of the churches. There will be virtual services as well to cater for those who do not yet feel able to venture out to church. A full schedule will be provided next week.

When services do resume, whatever pattern of worship is offered, we will continue to share information on the weekly virtual worship opportunities that are available.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:

The Rector's weekly reflection and prayer has again been recorded and is available on You Tube. There is also a recording of the Rector reading the story of the Weeds in the Wheat, filmed in the wild area of the churchyard at Great Brickhill - please make this available to the younger members of your family if appropriate.

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

Reflection & Prayer <https://youtu.be/n329yk9xktU>

"Weeds in the Wheat" <https://youtu.be/EeJNACDXSrl>

If you missed the recordings of any of the earlier week's reflections and stories, these can be found on the website in the section "Coronavirus You Tube Recordings".

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.

VIRTUAL SERVICE OF EVENSONG ON MONDAY 27th JULY AT 7.00pm.

Following the successful virtual Evensong service on 5th July, Jerry Breslin is arranging an Evensong service via Zoom for Monday 27th July when the choir would normally be holding their weekly practice session. The invitation to join in this service is being extended to all those who would like to participate. If you are interested in joining in the service please let me know and I will send you the log-in details.

CHURCH OPEN:

A reminder that 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.brickhillschurches.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.jt@icloud.com or Phillipa Cook: 01525 261521 pjcook6@gmail.com. The church will then be closed for a while for special cleaning to be done.

THE RECTOR:

Revd John Waller is available to hear from parishioners who have any concerns during this worrying time:- 01525 261062 rector@brickhillschurches.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) or Roger Blofeld (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 has been reduced - a few basic items, tea, coffee, milk, soup, beans are in the box, just enough for a meal or two. The excess supplies have been 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 eighteen 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

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.brickhillschurches.org.uk

