

St Mary the Virgin Church, Great Brickhill



Welcome to St Mary's church, which is the largest of the four churches in the benefice of The Brickhills & Stoke Hammond. Dating back to the mid C13 century, but with recently added facilities, the church boasts a wealth of interesting features and artefacts.

The church is open for visitors every day from 10am to 4pm.

The churchyard is "closed" but on the opposite side of Church Lane through the black iron gates, there is a cemetery with a new extension.

Please turn overleaf for a brief history of the church.

CHURCH CONTACTS:

The Rector:- Revd John Waller
01525 261062 rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

Warden:- Julia Turner
01525 261618 07714 028785 juliaturner.jt@icloud.com

PCC Secretary:- Phillipa Cook
01525 261521 07788 740969 pjcook6@gmail.com

If you would like to make a donation, please contact the Treasurer,
Neil Cook:- 01525 261521 07743 685684 neilacook6@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES:

The services across the Benefice follow a four month cycle. Please see the service information on the notice boards, or visit the website for details of all services and events:-

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk

St Mary the Virgin Church, Great Brickhill

The church dates back to the mid C13. The north and south aisles were added to the chancel, nave and central tower in the C15. The south porch was added when the whole church was heavily restored in 1856-7.

The nave has 4 bays of C15 double chamfered arches on octagonal piers with moulded caps, and a C13 triple chamfered arch on more massive semi-octagonal piers to the tower, with a similar arch between the tower and the chancel.

The south wall of the tower has a restored arched doorway leading to the stairs to the ringing chamber and a moulded archway to a chapel, now the vestry. The north wall of the tower has a double chamfered arch through to the Lady Chapel and original arched piscina.

Windows: The west end has a fine 3-light traceried window over a small moulded doorway with 2-centred arch and 3-light aisle windows with cusped lights and 4-centred heads. The south and north aisles have similar windows and moulded doorways. There is a 3-light window with plate tracery to the east.

Fittings include C17 altar table with turned baluster legs, C18 and C19 marble memorial tablets to members of Duncombe and Barton families including one of 1721, one to Rev. John Barton 1760, to Mary Bristowe 1762, and Rev. Philip Barton 1786. A handsome pair of early-mid C18 tablets flanking the south door have curved black marble inscription panels with flanking ionic columns, entablatures with mourning putti and coats of arms, and gilded cherub heads and skulls to the bases.

Recent renovations and additions: The North and South aisle roofs, were renovated in 2008 and new lead was laid. In 2010 the church tower was repaired, and the six bells were renovated and re-hung on a new bell frame, with two new bells added. Following multiple thefts of lead from 2014 to 2016 the roof now has a covering of terne coated steel. In 2021, a refreshment area was installed in the west end of the south aisle and an extension was added to the west end to contain two toilets.

July 2024