

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK
Update 14th August 2021



St Mary the Virgin Church, Great Brickhill
(This Sunday – the Festival of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

A REMINDER OF THE CURRENT COVID RECOMMENDATIONS:

Since the formal lifting of the Covid restrictions, although everything is not totally back to pre-pandemic times, things are definitely moving forward in a positive way. Singing among the congregation is allowed and refreshments can be served after the service.

Different Covid recommendations will be in place for services at the individual churches in the Benefice. The Rector in consultation with the Wardens at each church will decide what is appropriate for that church, taking into account, among other things, the size of the building and the likely number in the congregation.

TOMORROW'S SERVICE - SUNDAY, 15th AUGUST:

The service will be here in Great Brickhill – Holy Communion at 10.00am

The Covid recommendations in place for the last service here on 25th July will continue for the August services:

- We will ask people to socially distance, using every other pew
- The doors will be open for ventilation
- Communion will be administered in the same way as in recent weeks
- Hymn singing will take place but the congregation will be asked to remain seated
- Individuals to decide whether they wish to wear a mask during the service or not
- The QR code will remain on the door for those who wish to use it
- Contact details will be taken from those who wish to provide them
- The collection will be taken as in recent weeks

We will be serving tea and coffee after the service in our new refreshment area.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE - SUNDAY, 22nd AUGUST:

The service will be at Bow Brickhill – Holy Communion at 10.00am

The full August service schedule can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

THE NEW SERVICE PLAN:

As you will know a consultation has taken place over the last few weeks looking into a new pattern for services across the benefice. Unfortunately, while each parish would like to have a consistent time for all their services, that is just not possible to achieve. The pattern for each church will be as consistent each month as possible.

Each parish will generally have a Holy Communion service at 9.30am and a Family Service or Family Service with Holy Communion at 11.00am. The services for the third and fourth weeks will be determined at local level. If there is a fifth Sunday, this will give an opportunity to hold special different style/different venue services.

The biggest change is that each month there will be a benefice service at one of the churches on a rotational basis at 10.00am - this service will take the place of the normal monthly Holy Communion service at that church. No other service will be held in the benefice that day. To accommodate this, there will be a 4-month rotating pattern.

Turning to Great Brickhill, the pattern in a normal month will be:-

1st Sunday:- 9.30am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday:- Prayer Book Evensong / Mattins / occasional Holy Communion

3rd Sunday:- 11.00am Family Service

4th Sunday:- No fixed service, decided on occasional ad hoc basis

There will of course be changes to the above pattern at certain times, e.g. Easter, Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas.

The first month of the 4-month pattern will be September. Details of next month's services will be made available next weekend. The pattern will be reviewed after 12 months.

The channel of communication used to publicise the services will be widened. Each parish is reviewing what is available to them, to maximise all possible ways of getting the information out to as many as possible.

For the time being, for those who are not yet ready to attend church, the weekly reflections and stories will continue.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES SUNDAY, 15th AUGUST:

The Rector has written a brief reflection and prayer for this Sunday. There is a recording of this reflection, and Diane Webber reading this week's story, "Mary and the Angel". These were filmed in the church at Stoke Hammond.

The recordings can be found on the following links:

- Reflection & Prayer:- <https://youtu.be/jBZChSVMomY>

- "Mary and the Angel":- <https://youtu.be/8Eni5QtJyEA>

Earlier week's reflections and stories can be found on the website in the section "Coronavirus You Tube Recordings".

The following files accompany this e-mail for worship for this coming Sunday:-

(1). The Rector's written brief reflection and prayer.

(2). How and where to find this week's online services. This includes the programmes available on the BBC, both radio and television, and livestreaming services from the Church of England.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES:

Until the building work is completed the church will continue to be open just once a week but we hope that we will soon be able to have the church open daily, as before the pandemic. The opening times are:-

SUNDAYS FROM 10.00am – 12 noon

BUT, if anyone would like to would like to visit the church for individual private prayer outside of these times please get in touch with Julia or Phillipa and arrangements will be made for you:- 261618 juliaturner.jt@icloud.com 261521 pjcook6@gmail.com

CAKES FOR BRICKSTOCK, MONDAY 30th AUGUST:

This year's Brickstock music festival is being held on Bank Holiday, Monday 30th August. The Cricket Club have kindly asked us to do the teas again. We are asking please for people to bake cakes and also for offers of help to serve the teas between 3pm – 5pm. Please contact Julia:- 261618 juliaturner.jt@icloud.com

CONCERT WITH YOUNG CHORISTER OF THE YEAR AT SOULBURY CHURCH:

Soulbury church is hosting an evening of popular, choral music with Andrew Olleson, the BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2020 and the choir of All Saints Church, Leighton Buzzard. A former chorister at Christ Church in Oxford, Andrew is now on a choral scholarship at Bedford School.

Attached is a PDF poster with details of the concert on 4th September and how to apply for tickets (live in the church £15 incl refreshments and £10 per household via Zoom)

RIDE & STRIDE:

This year's Ride & Stride for cyclists/horse-riders/walkers in aid of Bucks Historic Churches Trust is on Saturday 11th September. For more details and sponsorship forms please contact Phillipa.

2021 SHOEBOX APPEAL:

Rosie has the forms for this year's appeal and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to fill a box:- 01525 261425 robin.rosie@zen.co.uk

THE RECTOR:

If anyone has any concerns, please contact:

- The Rector, Revd John Waller:- 01525 261062 rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk
- Jeremy Hopkinson, LLM:- 01525 261674 jeremysfh@gmail.com

ACTIVE E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN:

Anyone who would like to join the group or would like to have a prayer included, contact:
- Roger Blofeld (rogerblo@aol.com).

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

Phillipa Cook TEL: 01525 261521 07788 740969 pjcook6@gmail.com

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk

SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE IN AUGUST 2021

DATE:	TIME:	SERVICE:	VENUE:
August 1st	10.00	Holy Communion	Stoke Hammond
August 8th	11.00	Family Service with Holy Communion	Little Brickhill
August 15th	10.00	Holy Communion	Great Brickhill
August 22nd	10.00	Holy Communion	Bow Brickhill
August 29th	18.00	Evensong or Compline tbc	Great Brickhill

Please go to the website for information and updates on any of the services:-
<https://brickhillchurches.org.uk/coronavirus/live-services/>