

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 10th March 2024: Mothering Sunday

Welcome to our Family Service for Mothering Sunday, which will be led by Phillipa. Andrew and Margretta will be providing our music today and Sophia will be leading our singing. Do join in with the singing and use the shakers as much as you like! Thank you to Julia for making the posies for all the ladies here this morning.

Clare will read this morning's bible passage, a reading from 1 Samuel 1: 20 -28. Pelham will read the story, "The Boy in the Temple" from the Storyteller Bible, based on when Jesus was taken by his parents to the Temple as recorded in Luke Chapter 2.

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

The collection plate will be passed round during the final hymn. Please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided if you are able to. If you prefer to give your collection via our **debit/credit card device**, **please see Phillipa after the service.**

WORK ON THE ROOF:

There has been great progress this week and the work on the south aisle roof is all but complete. A reminder that,

During the work, due to health and safety concerns, **the church will remain generally closed.** BUT all services, plus the bell ringing & choir practices, will continue as normal, although large areas of the church will be cordoned off. If anyone would like **access to the church**, please contact either Julia or Phillipa.

Timber – strips of timber from the roof are available for anyone who would like them (note there are nails in each strip). If interested, please ask Julia or Phillipa for details.

RECTOR'S SABBATICAL:

Please note that the Rector will be on sabbatical leave from **13th April to 1st July**. All clergy are due a three-month sabbatical every ten years. The Rector's last sabbatical was in 2010 – his intended sabbatical in 2020 was cancelled due to Covid. Arrangements are being made to cover the Rector's absence and services will continue as normal.

ANNUAL MEETING:

The Church Annual Meeting will be held earlier than in recent years, before the Rector starts his sabbatical. It will be held on **Tuesday 9th April** in the church at 7.30pm.

LENT COURSE:

We are again following the Oxford Diocese "Come and See" Lent Course. Two sessions of the 6-week course are held each week in the Benefice, an **afternoon session on Tuesdays** in Stoke Hammond and an evening session. This week's session will be:-

Tuesday 12th March, 8.00pm at Bow Brickhill Church Community Hall. Full details are on the pink flyers on the bookcase, and also on the website in the Lent Course section.

PLANT FAYRE, SUNDAY 14th APRIL:

The Plant Fayre will be at the Parish Hall / Cricket Field from 11am to 3pm. **Lots of help** will be required please. There will be a **church plant stall and so please think about what plants etc you may be able to provide for that.**

OPEN GARDENS, SATURDAY 22nd JUNE:

The Gardening Club are organising Open Gardens in Great Brickhill on Saturday 22nd June, from 1pm – 5pm, and we will be providing teas in the church. The proceeds from the teas will go to the church and the garden entry fees will go to the MK Food Bank.

FOOD BOX:

Demand for produce from the Food Box has been high in the last few weeks. If anyone would like to contribute to the stocked goods, we would be very grateful. All contributions can be placed inside the box or next to it. **Please note that during the re-roofing work, access to the Food Box in the church porch is only possible at the weekend, or weekdays after 4.30pm.**

MONDAY MORNING COFFEE CLUB:

During the re-roofing work, the Coffee Club is being held in the Parish Hall Meeting Room, from 9.30am - 11.30am. All are welcome.

SERVICES IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS:

Next week, Sunday 17th March, there will be just one service in the Benefice:- 10.00 Benefice Holy Communion at Bow Brickhill.

PALM SUNDAY, 24th MARCH:

There will be a Procession starting at 10.00am from the Old Red Lion to the church for a short Family Service with dramatized readings.

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To contact the Rector, Revd John Waller:

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The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk