

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER 2022: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to our Prayer Book service of Holy Communion, which will be led by the Rector. Thank you to Rosemary for playing the organ for us this morning. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat.

The readings this morning are:-

Isaiah 35: 1-10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11

A reminder that Holy Communion is now being administered at the altar rail. This means that all special measures brought in for Covid have been relaxed.

The collection plate will be passed round during the offertory 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.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL, STOKE HAMMOND:

The annual Christmas tree festival at St Luke's, Stoke Hammond this weekend. This year's theme is "Television". **Today's times are:-**

Sunday 11th December from 11am – 2.30pm

Tea & Coffee, soup and rolls available. Free but donations welcome.

LAST WEEK'S CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING:

Thank you again to all who helped and contributed to last week's Christmas Coffee morning. It was a lovely occasion with a great atmosphere and everyone appeared to have a wonderful time catching up with friends. **With the addition of some late receipts, the total raised has risen to £1,108** which is just a little bit less than last year. A full analysis of the results can be found in the porch.

CAROL SINGING AROUND THE VILLAGE:

This year Carol Singing around the village in aid of general Church funds will take place on two evenings, weather permitting, on:-

- **Thursday, 15th December** , 5.30 - 7.30pm (meet at Holts Green)
- **Monday, 19th December** , 5.30 – 7.30pm (meet at the church)

Anyone who would like to sing, or help with the collection, will be most welcome. Carol folders will be provided, just remember to wrap up warm, wear sensible shoes and bring a torch. It would be helpful if those interested could let Phillipa know.

ADVENT WINDOWS:

We are now half way through the lighting of the Advent Windows, a new window being lit every day until the final one at the church on Christmas Eve. The windows will light up the village until 31st December. Copies of the map are available on the bookcase.

"PATHWAYS", the Diocese of Oxford's quarterly magazine:

The Winter edition is now available - click on the link below for a PDF file of the latest edition:-

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/pathways-pdf-version/>

MONDAY MORNING COFFEE CLUB:

The last Monday Coffee Club of the year, will be on **Monday 19th December**, resuming again after the holidays on **9th January**.

FOOD BOX:

Thank you to those who have been leaving items in the Food Box. The demand for goods has increased in recent weeks. If anyone would like to leave suitable items, they must be non-perishable and well in-date. Below is a list of suggested items:-

Tea, coffee, long-life milk, cereal, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, tins vegetables, tins soup, tins meat/chicken/tuna, long-life tinned meals.

THE VILLAGE NATIVITY, NEXT SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER:

The Village Nativity, 11.00am at the Cricket Club. Come and see an enactment of the Nativity Story with carols and readings - Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem with the shepherds and the kings.

OTHER SERVICES IN DECEMBER:

Sunday 18th December:-

9.30 (Stoke Hammond) Morning Worship

15.00 (Bow Brickhill) & 17.00 (Little Brickhill) Carol Service

Saturday 24th December, Christmas Eve:-

16.00 (Stoke Hammond) Crib Service

*** 17.00 (Great Brickhill) * Nine Lessons and Carols**

23.30 (Stoke Hammond) Holy Communion

23.45 (Bow Brickhill) Holy Communion

Sunday 25th December, Christmas Day:-

9.30 (Little Brickhill) Holy Communion

*** 11.00 (Great Brickhill) * Holy Communion**

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