

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 12th January 2025 – Celebrating the Baptism of Christ

Welcome to our Morning Worship service this morning, which will be led by Phillipa. Thank you to Andrew for providing our music today. This Sunday, during the season of Epiphany, we celebrate the Baptism of Christ. Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat.

The readings for this morning are:-

Acts 8: 14 - 17; Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Today's psalm is Psalm No 29. The response for the congregation is:- ***"The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace"***

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.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS:

If anyone has not yet seen the photo presentation of all the Christmas services and events, it is available as a PDF file. If you would like a copy of it, please see Phillipa. Alternatively, it can be downloaded or viewed via the front, Home page of the website in the Great Brickhill "News" section.

RECTOR'S BIBLE STUDY AT THE RECTORY:

The next Bible Study at The Rectory is this **Thursday 16th January at 8.00pm**. All are welcome to come and discuss the passages from the bible from one of our forthcoming services. No prior knowledge of the text is required.

"INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY," STOKE HAMMOND:

The start of the six-week "Introduction to Christianity" course being held on **Wednesdays at 6pm at Stoke Hammond Community Centre was delayed. The first session will now be on this Wednesday, 15th January**. The course is open to anyone who would like to find out what it means to follow Jesus. Each session lasts 2 hours including a hot meal to start with. For more details, pick up a copy of the flyer on the bookcase, or download the flyer from the front Home page of the website in the Stoke Hammond "News" section. For catering purposes, if you are intending to attend, contact the Stoke Hammond Wardens:-

Diane Webber 01525 270409 or Harry Davies 07773 065271

LINK TO HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL 2024:

Thank you to Rosie Dawson for continuing to organise this great initiative. And thank you also to those who contributed to the Shoebox Appeal. The shoeboxes will have been delivered directly to the homes of the very poor in eastern Europe, in time for Christmas. They will have brought smiles to the faces of people in extreme difficulty. If anyone would like to know more about the charity, go to its website:- <https://linktohope.co.uk/shoebox-appeal-2024/> or contact Rosie, 01525 261425.

HALLELUJAH! THE WILLEN HOSPICE MESSIAH IS BACK!

2025 is the year of the Willen Hospice Messiah revival. Many of you will remember that before Covid, this had taken place annually for many years, formerly held here in St Mary's and more latterly at other locations. The performance will be on Sunday 28th September at a venue to be decided. Rehearsals for the choir will be held here in on Tuesday evenings in July and September. The soloists will come from the choir and those rehearsals will be arranged separately. A final choral rehearsal will take place on Saturday afternoon 27th September. If you would like to commit to taking part, or would like further details, please e-mail Jerry Breslin so that he has some idea of numbers. He would also welcome orchestral volunteers:- jerrybreslin@hotmail.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

The Snowdrop Walks will be held on two Sunday afternoons in February from 2-4pm, the dates dependent on the snowdrops appearing. **The 2025 Plant Fayre** will be held at the Parish Hall / Cricket Field on Sunday 13th April, from 11am to 3pm.

SERVICES IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS:

Next Sunday, 19th January – our monthly Family Service at 11am. Other services in the Benefice:- 9.30 (Bow Brickhill) Holy Communion & 9.30 (Stoke Hammond) Morning Worship.

The following **Sunday 26th January** there will not be a service here at Great Brickhill. Services in the Benefice will be:-

- 9.30 (Stoke Hammond) Holy Communion
- 11.00 (Little Brickhill) Family Service
- 11.00 (Bow Brickhill) Mattins

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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