

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 16th February 2025 – The Third Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our Family Service this morning, which will be led by Phillipa, and Jerry will be providing our music today on the piano. Do join in with the singing and use the shakers as much as you like.

We will have just one reading, the story of when Jesus went to dinner with Zacchaeus from the Storyteller Bible taken from Luke Chapter 19 verses 1-10.

The prayers will be said in sections by various members of the congregation. At the end of each section there will be a pause and then, accompanied by Jerry on the piano, we will sing a simple but moving Taizé chant. The words we will sing are:-

***O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer:
when I call answer me.***

***O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.***

The Peace. After a verbal introduction, Jerry will sing quietly another Taizé piece "Let your soul find Peace" while the peace is being shared. The words will be:-

*Let your soul find peace, may all your troubles cease.
Shadows fade away, may from the night come day.
Hold your memories dear, Those lost to you are near.
May your sadness cease, And let your soul find 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.**

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

LENT GROUP:

Advance notice that the Lent Course will start the week after Ash Wednesday, which is 5th March. There will be two sessions each week, an afternoon group and a midweek evening group at venues across the Benefice. The course will be based on stories of women mentioned in the Gospels from a book by Paula Gooder, "Women of Holy Week". The final details will be available shortly.

SECOND SNOWDROP WALK – THIS AFTERNOON:

What a lovely afternoon it was last Sunday for the Snowdrop Walk. We were very lucky that the rain held off until we were on our way home. It is always wonderful to see the church buzzing with atmosphere, with lots of visitors sampling the delicious tea and home-made cakes. A fantastic sum of £988 was raised. **And we are doing it all again today! Cakes will again be most welcome.**

If you couldn't make it last week, do come this afternoon, starting from the church between 2pm to 4pm. If you did come last Sunday, then do come again, we would love to see you! A great start to the half-term holiday!

No need for cash - credit card payments will be accepted.

AN UPDATE ON THE MILK BOTTLE TOP COLLECTION:

Two massive carrier bags full of milk/fruit bottle tops were delivered to Help Ukraine BAMK UK in January. Thank you for your contributions to the collection, please keep collecting them. The box will remain in the church porch - it is emptied regularly.

SERVICES IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS:

Next Sunday 23rd February there will be no service here in Great Brickhill. The services in the Benefice will be:-

9.30 (Stoke Hammond) Holy Communion

11.00 (Little Brickhill) Family Service

11.00 (Bow Brickhill) Mattins

The next service here will be on Sunday 2nd March February, a service of Holy Communion at 9.30am.

Other services in the Benefice will be:-

9.30 (Stoke Hammond) Morning Worship

11.00 (Bow Brickhill) Family Service in the Hall

ASH WEDNESDAY, 5th March – one service in the Benefice:-

10.30 (Great Brickhill) Holy Communion *Benefice* (Said)

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