

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 1st December 2024 – Advent Sunday

Welcome to our service of Holy Communion, which will be led by the Rector. Unfortunately, Jerry is unwell and so we will be having recorded music this morning.

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

The readings for this morning are:-

Jeremiah 33: 14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13; Luke 21: 25-36

The collection plate will be passed round during the third, 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**.

This afternoon, there will be an Advent Carol Service at Bow Brickhill at 4pm. Do remember to take a torch with you.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM:

The news was announced on Wednesday that the Revd Canon Dave Bull has been nominated as the next Bishop of Buckingham. Currently Team Rector of Marlow and Area Dean of Wycombe, he will take up his new ministry at the end of February.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING:

Thank you to all who helped and contributed to the Christmas Coffee Morning. After a slow start, there was a good number who gathered in the church yesterday morning. It was a lovely occasion with a great atmosphere. The total raised was incredibly similar to last year, £1032, an increase of £1.50! A full analysis of the amount raised is on the blackboard in the porch. The winners of the raffles etc were:- Hamper Raffle:- Barbara Wight; Christmas Cake Raffle:- Mary Smit; Guess the Number of Sweets:- Vivien Bratt

SILENT AUCTION FOR CHRISTMAS PAINTING:

Anne Marlow has kindly donated another of her paintings for auction. The painting was on display at yesterday's Christmas Coffee Morning. Proceeds will be shared between St Mary's and Calibre Audio, a national charity providing an audiobook service for everyone who has a disability. For a private viewing, or to submit a bid, by 11am on Saturday 14th December, please email or phone Anne:- 07565 830622 anne@marlowfamily.co.uk

ADVENT WINDOWS:

As today is 1st December, the first Advent Window will be lit this afternoon, and a new window will be lit every day until the final one at the church on Christmas Eve. The windows will light up the village until 31st December. Together they will create a lovely walk around the village over the festive season. Copies of a map of the windows with the dates that they will be lit, are available on the bookcase and in the church 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, 12th December, 5.30 - 7.30pm (meet at Holts Green)

- Thursday, 19th December, 5.30 – 7.30pm (meet at Horsepond)

Anyone who would like to sing, or help with the collection, will be most welcome.

"PATHWAYS" MAGAZINE:

The Winter edition of Pathways, the magazine for the people of the Diocese of Oxford, is now available – copies are on the bookcase, or online at:- <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/pathways>

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL, St LUKE'S, STOKE HAMMOND:

The theme is "Village Life throughout the years".

Saturday 7 December, 10.30-4pm; Sunday 8 December, 10.30-3pm

Refreshments from 11am

SERVICES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS:

Next Sunday, 8th December, the service here will be Family Service with Holy Communion at 9.30am

Other services in the Benefice will be:

11.00 (Bow Brickhill) Christingle at the School

16.00 (Stoke Hammond) Christingle

SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER WILL BE THE VILLAGE NATIVITY

at the Cricket Club at 11.00am. Come and see our annual enactment of the Nativity Story with carols and readings - Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem with the shepherds and the kings. Please pass on the details to friends and family.

Julia Turner – Warden (07714 028785)

juliaturner.it@icloud.com

Phillipa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)

pjcook6@gmail.com

To contact the Rector, Revd John Waller:

rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk