

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 21st January 2024: The Third Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to our Family Service today which will be led by the Rector. We welcome friends and family of Brian and Clare Hankins-Lewis for the baptism of their son James. Andrew will be providing the music and Sophia will be leading our singing. Please use the shakers as much as you like during the modern worship songs.

There is no activity for the children this morning but there are colouring sheets available in the Children's corner.

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

This morning's reading will be read by Nicole:-

The Wedding at Cana - John 2: 1-11

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.

LENT COURSE:

We are again following the "**Come and See**" course which the Oxford Diocese has run during Lent for the last four years. This year's theme is "The Way of Love" - in three of the four gospels, Jesus is asked which commandment is the most important. He answers, but with two: you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength, and you shall love your neighbour as yourself".

"Come and See" shows how these two commandments can give a rhythm and a shape to our lives. Weekly e-mails are sent to those who wish to sign up. For full details of the course, go to:-

<https://oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see>

In addition, we will be holding **weekly Lent Course Groups, an afternoon session on Tuesdays in Stoke Hammond and a midweek evening session across the benefice**. These will start the week after Ash Wednesday, 14th February - details to follow.

SNOWDROP WALKS:

The Snowdrop Walks are being held on **Sundays 4th & 11th February, from 2pm – 4pm**, starting at the church and ending with the usual teas. Offers of cakes please would be most welcome - if we have as many visitors as last year, we will need a lot of cakes! Please give the details to friends and family and invite them to come along.

PLANT FAYRE:

The Plant Fayre will be on **Sunday 14th April, from 11am – 3pm**, at the Parish Hall and Cricket Field.

PLANT POTS:

A reminder that John Hall is hoping to be able to grow tomato plants again this spring. He would be grateful for any plant pots that anyone may have spare - small, seedling pots about 3" / 10cm diameter. If anyone has any, could they please leave them on the bench in the church porch.

FOOD BOX:

Demand for produce from the Food Box has been high in recent 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. The main requirements at the moment are:

Tea, coffee, long life milk, cereal, tinned meals, pasta sauce, soup, baked beans, tinned fruit, custard. There is a full list of suggestions inside the box lid. Please note that no more pasta is required.

If you know of anyone who would benefit from this initiative, please pass this information on. For anyone in real need, there is also information near the Food Box on some local Food Larders, held in various locations on different days in Milton Keynes.

MONDAY MORNING COFFEE CLUB:

The Coffee Club is held every Monday in the church during term time from 9.30am – 11.30am. All are welcome to come to the church for coffee and a chat.

SERVICES IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS:

Next Sunday, 28th January (Presentation / Candlemas) there is no service here. The services in the Benefice services will be:-

9.30 (Stoke Hammond) Holy Communion

11.00 (Little Brickhill) Family Service

11.00 (Bow Brickhill) Mattins (BCP)

The next service here will be on Sunday 4th February, Holy Communion at 9.30am.

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