

# **The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill**

## **SUNDAY 21st MAY 2023: The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Welcome to our Family Service, which will be led by Phillipa. The music for our songs will be provided by Andrew – do join in with the singing and use the shakers as much as you like!

As there is no service here next week for Pentecost Sunday, we will be having Pentecost as our theme today. Jonny will read the bible passage:- 1 Corinthians 12: 3b - 13 and Matt will read the Pentecost story from Acts 2, “The Helper Arrives” from the Storyteller Bible.

Imogen has set up an activity for the children in the Lady Chapel and there are some Pentecost-themed colouring sheets.

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

**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.

**Looking ahead to next month**, the Family Service on 18th June will be a special service to include the blessing of baby Oskar. We will be joined by members of Sophia’s other church, Lidlington. Instead of having refreshments here in church after the service, Ollie and Sophia are inviting everyone to the Parish Hall. It would be helpful if anyone staying for lunch could let Sophia know.

**We are at the end of CHRISTIAN AID WEEK but we will continue to receive donations until the end of the month. Envelopes are available on the font for anyone who would like to make a donation.** This year one of the good causes of funds collected during Christian Aid Week is to help farmers in Malawi where the impact of the recent Cyclone Freddy in Malawi has been devastating.

**Online donations can be made by visiting:-**

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

### **“BIG HELP OUT DAY”:**

Following on from the “Big Help Out” day on the Monday of the Coronation weekend, we will be holding our own “Big Help Out Day” **on a Saturday in the coming weeks** – please keep an eye out for the date and offer to help if you are able to, for as long or as little as you can. Lots of jobs to be done, something to suit everyone’s ability.

## **WIRE GATES CLOSED:**

A reminder to please close the wire gates at the church porch to keep the jackdaws out and to make sure the doors are closed securely by pulling the gates outwards, not just by using the bolt.

## **CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING, THIS TUESDAY 16th MAY:**

At the Church Annual Meeting a photo presentation was shown, highlighting the many and varied events held over the last twelve months. The Accounts for the year to 31st December 2022 were presented and the annual elections took place. We are extremely fortunate that Julia is continuing as Church Warden. Along with the current members (Phillipa Cook, Clare Hankins-Lewis, Joy Wilson and Diana Williams) Stuart Jones and Sophia Walmsley were elected to the PCC. All the papers for the Annual Meeting including the Annual Report and Accounts are available online:-

<https://brickhillschurches.org.uk/great-brickhill/annual-church-meeting/annual-meeting-202/>

There are a few paper copies available on the bookcase in the church for those unable to access them online.

## **TOMATO PLANTS:**

If you haven't already bought tomato plants, John Hall may still have some left, but hurry as they need to find a home soon.

Please contact:- John Hall 07785 771407 [johnnewhall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:johnnewhall@yahoo.co.uk)

## **BRICKSTOCK, SUNDAY 28th MAY:**

A reminder that we will be doing the teas and hot drinks at the Parish Hall at Brickstock. If you could help with this, please let Phillipa know when will work best for you:- morning, lunchtime, early or late afternoon. We would also be very grateful for any cakes that you could provide. Do visit us at the St Mary's Café.

## **SERVICES NEXT WEEK:**

**Next week, Pentecost 28th May 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

18.00 (Bow Brickhill) Evensong

The next service here will be Holy Communion 9.30am on 4th June

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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](http://www.brickhillschurches.org.uk)