

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 3rd March 2024: The Third Sunday of Lent

Welcome to our service of Holy Communion, which will be led by the Rector. Thank you to Jerry for playing the organ for us this morning.

The readings for this morning are:-

Exodus 20: 1-17; 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25; John 2: 13-22

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

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.**

WORK ON THE ROOF:

As you will see, **the work on the roof is well underway** – progress has been good despite the challenge of the wet weather. During the work, due to health and safety concerns, **the church will remain generally closed**. BUT all services, plus the bell ringing & choir practices, will continue as normal, although large areas of the church will be cordoned off. If anyone would like **access to the church**, please contact either Julia or Phillipa.

Timber – strips of timber from the roof are available for anyone who would like them (note there are nails in each strip). If interested, please ask Julia or Phillipa for details.

Food Box: During the re-roofing work, access to the Food Box in the porch is only possible at the weekend, or weekdays after 4.30pm.

RECTOR'S SABBATICAL:

Please note that the Rector will be on sabbatical leave from **13th April to 1st July**. All clergy are due a three-month sabbatical every ten years. The Rector's last sabbatical was in 2010 – his intended sabbatical in 2020 was cancelled due to Covid.

BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM:

For those who are not yet aware, the Bishop of Buckingham suffered a serious heart attack and died on Saturday 17th February. Bishop Alan has been very supportive of our Benefice, and a great help and comfort to the Rector. His wife, Lucy and five children are deeply thankful for the tributes that have been shared. An online book of condolence can be accessed via the following link:-

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/bishop-alan--book-of-condolences.php>

LENT COURSE:

We are again following the Oxford Diocese "Come and See" Lent Course. Two sessions of the 6-week course are held each week in the Benefice, an **afternoon session on Tuesdays** in Stoke Hammond and an evening session. This week's session will be:-

Wednesday 6th March, 8.00pm at Green Farm, Great Brickhill.

Full details are on the pink flyers on the bookcase, and also on the website in the Lent Course section.

PLANT FAYRE, SUNDAY 14th APRIL:

The Plant Fayre will be at the Parish Hall / Cricket Field from 11am to 3pm. **Lots of help** will be required please. There will be a **church plant stall and so please think about what plants etc you may be able to provide for that.**

OPEN GARDENS, SATURDAY 22nd JUNE:

The Gardening Club are organising Open Gardens in Great Brickhill on Saturday 22nd June, from 1pm – 5pm, and we will be providing teas in the church. The proceeds from the teas will go to the church and the garden entry fees will go to the MK Food Bank.

MONDAY MORNING COFFEE CLUB:

The Coffee Club is normally held every Monday in the church during term time from 9.30am – 11.30am. All are welcome.

During the re-roofing work, the Coffee Club is being held in the Meeting Room at the Parish Hall.

NEXT SUNDAY. 10th MARCH – MOTHERING SUNDAY:

The service here will be a Family Service at 10.00am (earlier than normal to allow more time for other family arrangements)

Other services in the Benefice will be:-

9.30 (Little Brickhill) Café Church

11.00 (Stoke Hammond) Family Service

PALM SUNDAY, 24th MARCH:

There will be a Procession starting at 10.00am from the Old Red Lion to the church for a short Family Service with dramatized readings.

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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