

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

## **SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2023: Third Sunday before 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.

Everyone is invited to stay after the service for coffee and a chat. Apologies that the toilets are out of use due to a mains water leak.

The readings for this morning are:-

Isaiah 58: 1-9a; 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12; Matthew 5: 13-20

**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.**

**The Rector moved to Great Brickhill in February 2003.** To celebrate his 20 years in the parish/benefice, **after the Family Service on 19th February**, instead of having the normal refreshments at the end of the service, **we will be having DRINKS & CANAPES.** Even if you are unable to come to the service, you will be welcome to join us around 12 noon. If anyone would like to offer a plate of canapes, please get in touch with either Julia or Phillipa.

### **FIRST SNOWDROP WALK THIS AFTERNOON:**

The first of the two Snowdrop Walks is this afternoon, between 2pm and 4pm. Starting from the church, enjoy a walk among the snowdrops and then come into the church for tea and home-made cakes. After the disappointment of recent years, the weather forecast actually looks very promising! Don't worry if you can't make it today as we are having a second Snowdrop Walk next Sunday. Do come both Sundays if you would like to!

### **LENT COURSE:**

This year we are following the "Come and See" course which the Oxford Diocese has run during Lent for the last few years. For those who sign up, a short email is sent each day during Lent, Monday to Saturday, and on Sundays there is a short video from Bishop Steven. There are separate weekly emails for children and families. To find out more, and to register for the daily e-mails, go to:-

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

In addition, **we will be holding weekly Lent Course Groups**, an afternoon session in Stoke Hammond and a midweek evening

session across the benefice starting week commencing 27th February - dates, venues and times will be available next weekend.

### **ANYONE INTERESTED IN BEING CONFIRMED?**

We have some young people who would like to be confirmed. The Rector would like to hear from others who are also looking to affirm their faith through confirmation. Confirmation classes will be arranged by the Rector, please contact him if you would like to know more about it. For general information, visit the link on the CofE website:- <https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/confirmation>

### **"FEED THE HUNGRY" KNITTING NEWS:**

Rosie has kindly passed on news of all the wonderful knitting that has been done by friends of Great Brickhill, 179 articles in 2022 and 2765 garments over the last 7 years. Please help yourself to a separate sheet giving details of the new charity, which will be supported.

### **MONDAY MORNING COFFEE CLUB:**

The Coffee Club is held every Monday during term time from 9.30am – 11.30am. All are welcome to call in to the church for a coffee and a chat. **Note there will be no Coffee Club on Monday 13th February as it is half term week.**

### **PLANT FAYRE, SUNDAY 16th APRIL:**

Our second big fund-raiser of the year is our Plant Fayre. After a few year's break due to Covid, it is returning to its original venue, the Parish Hall and cricket field. This year it is being held on a **SUNDAY, 16th April from 11am - 3pm**. Please put the date in your diary.

### **SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS:**

**Next Sunday, 12th February:-** Just one service, a joint service for everyone in the four villages of the Brickhills & Stoke Hammond:-

**10.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Little Brickhill**

**Sunday 19th February:**

9.30am (Bow Brickhill) Holy Communion

9.30am (Stoke Hammond) Morning Worship

**11.00am (Great Brickhill) Family Service (see note above)**

**Ash Wednesday, 22nd February:**

10.30am (Stoke Hammond) Benefice Holy Communion (Said)

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**The address of the Benefice website:**

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