

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

Sunday 7th July 2024: The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to our service of Holy Communion when we welcome back the Rector after his three-month sabbatical leave. Thank you to Jerry for playing the organ for us this morning.

The readings for this morning are:-

Ezekiel 2: 1-5; 2 Corinthians 12: 2-10; Mark 6: 1-13

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**.

HALF-YEAR REVIEW:

A huge amount has been going on over the last six months. A photographic review of the first half of the year has been produced and can be found on the front home page of the website, in the "Great Brickhill News" section:- www.brickhillschurches.org.uk

LAST CHANCE CHURCHES GRANT RECEIVED:

Following the recent press release from the National Churches Trust for the Last Chance Churches campaign, we are pleased to announce that, St Mary's was chosen as one of 18 churches to share in a £1 million urgent funding pay-out from the National Churches Trust. £30,850 has been granted for the urgent roof repairs. The £1 million was made possible thanks to a £500,000 donation from a private donor to the National Churches Trust, the UK's leading independent charity helping churches, chapels and meeting houses remain open and in use. This incredible gift led to an outpouring of wider support – with more than a thousand ordinary people, businesses and trusts matching this donation and raising more than £1 million for struggling churches.

The full press release is available on the front page of the website, in the "Great Brickhill News" section:- www.brickhillschurches.org.uk

OPEN GARDENS SATURDAY 22nd JUNE:

Thank you to all those who opened their gardens. The time and effort that goes into preparing the gardens was much appreciated by all the visitors. The weather was kind and it was a lovely afternoon with a great atmosphere around the village, in the gardens and at the

church. There were 138 visitors and the £625 profit from the entry fees will go to the MK Food Bank.

Many thanks to those who helped with the teas in the church. As ever the cakes were delicious and received great praise. There was also a good take-up for the ice creams and soft drinks at Green Farm. A total of £533 was raised for church funds (£110 drinks and ice creams plus £423 teas). We now have a bit of a rest before our next event!

FOOD BOX:

There is now access to the Food Box in the church porch throughout the week, at any time of day.

MONDAY MORNING COFFEE CLUB:

The Coffee Club has returned to the church. It is held every Monday during term time from 9.30am - 11.30am. All are welcome, any age from the very young, to the not quite so young!

SERVICES IN THE COMING WEEKS:

Next Sunday 14th July is a Family Service here at 11am. Provided the weather behaves, we will be doing an activity or two outside, and so please come suitably dressed.

There will be one other service in the Benefice:-

11.00 (Stoke Hammond) Family Service

Later in the day at 4pm, there is a Deanery service at All Saints Church Wing. This is an opportunity to come together and reflect on the past year celebrating all that God has done in our area, the Mursley Deanery. There will be refreshments provided and there is ample parking in Overtone School car park just round the corner.

TWO SPECIAL SERVICES HERE in the next few months:-

- **Sunday 11th August:-** "Pimms & Hymns", an outdoor service, at 4pm with the hope that this will attract some young families to attend. We are asking for request for hymns – **please send Phillipa your choice of traditional hymn or modern worship song**, and if you would like to, add why this is significant for you,

- **Sunday 13th October:-** A service of Thanksgiving for the completion of the new roof, including a presentation of the Francis Coales Foundation Chalice, which we will hold for one year.

More details about these services to follow.

Julia Turner – Warden (07714 028785)

juliaturner.it@icloud.com

Phillipa Cook – Secretary (01525 261521)

picook6@gmail.com

To contact the Rector, Revd John Waller:

rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

The address of the Benefice website:

www.brickhillschurches.org.uk