



WychwoodBenefice

Church News 17 - 24 March 2019

Our Vision: To build God's Kingdom here on earth as in heaven

CLOSURE OF SHIPTON CHURCH

Following an inspection of the roof timbers, significant decay has been found in a number of locations and the professional advice is to close the church until remedial works can be carried out. Sadly for now the church remains closed.

SUNDAY 17 MARCH 2019 - LENT 2

9.30am Milton United Benefice Holy Communion
followed by Milton APCM

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Today's Readings:

First Reading Genesis 15:1-12. 17-18 In response to Abram's doubts, God confirms in a solemn ceremony the promise that Abram will have many descendants, who will live in a special God-given land.

Second Reading Philippians 3:17 - 4:1 The fact that our true home is in heaven must affect our earthly priorities.

Gospel Luke 13:31-end Jesus laments over Jerusalem, the city special to God, which nevertheless has a history of persecuting God's prophets, and is the city where he will die.

Psalm 27 (Year C).

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, David Trollope, Shauni McGregor, Mark Forsbrey, Karin Wiseman and Emma Bradford.

Weddings and Banns: Laura Taylor and Joshua Chapman are getting married in Shipton Church on 11 May. Banns will be read in Shipton on 7 and 21 April.

R.I.P.: Diana Rowland.

Deanery: 17 March: Holy Trinity, Ascott under Wychwood. Please pray for Mark Abrey. 24 March: St Giles', Wigginton. Please pray for churchwardens Nicholas Case and Hugo Brown.

Open Doors: Please pray for pastors and believers in the area that they will stand firm in their faith and not give in to fear.

SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2019 - LENT 3

11.00am Idbury United Benefice BCP Holy Communion

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Today's Readings:

First Reading Isaiah 55:1-9 There is an abundance for all in God's economy that is offered without price to anyone who asks.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 God's people have often forgotten whose they are and have suffered as a consequence of that forgetting, so be strong and remember!

Gospel Luke 13:1-9 The question of why some people suffer so much is sometimes asked when we look to blame people for their situation, but Jesus won't accept this as an explanation.

Psalms 63.1-9 (Year C)

Open Doors: Please pray for wisdom for the Open Doors Team working to strengthen the believers, especially those who have recently come to faith in Jesus.

Notices

Confirmation Candidates

There will be a Deanery Confirmation on 9th June at 3pm in Great Tew church. If you are thinking about getting confirmed please get in touch with Geoffrey.

Milton Concert Eight in a Bar and Surrey Fringe

Thank you to everyone who supported the choir concert in Milton church. It was fabulous to see the church full with such a friendly and supportive audience to support these two very different choirs. We raised over £1100, which has been divided between the John Radcliffe Neurosciences Ward and the Benefice.

Review and training session on the roles within our churches

Saturday 6 April 10-12noon, Milton Church

For **Vergers, Chalice Bearers, Readers, Intercessors, Sidespeople, Sacristans, Churchwardens** and anyone else who would like to come.

Please come along and hear Geoffrey talk about his own ideas and experiences and share your own. We will discuss ideas on how we work together and agree some best practice within our churches. We hope this will assist those who are new to their role as well giving those who are more experienced a chance to share with others.

Whether you give communion in people's homes, at outreach groups or take a role in any of the services in church this is a opportunity to come together with Geoffrey and take a look at how we do things.

RSVP by Friday 29 March to Clare Harper office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

Lent Groups for 2019 CHANGE OF TIME to 10.30 on Mondays in The Paddocks (upper lounge). Come to any or all of the sessions.

Upcoming Lent Groups will run as follows:

Mon 18 March 10.30am, The Paddocks (upper lounge)

Tues 19 March 7.15pm, Wednesday 20 March 7.30pm

Mon 25 March 10.30am, The Paddocks (upper lounge)

Tues 26 March 7.15pm, Wednesday 27 March 7.30pm

For more details please get in touch with Anne 01993 830160.

Lent Books – If you have taken a book (Lent with New Daylight – Rediscovering who we are as God's people) and have not yet had chance to pay, please could you get the £2.99 to Clare in the office. Thank you.

Midday Prayers: A reminder that Midday Prayers now takes place every Monday at The Paddocks (in the upper lounge).

Shipton APCM is on 7th April 2019 in the church at 4pm. The PCC would be interested in hearing from anyone that would like to join the committee - anyone interested should contact the secretary Martin Davies on m.ndavies1@ticali.co.uk or call 01608 643230 to find out more.

“Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and go do that, because what the world needs is people who have come alive.”

Howard Thurman

**Tales of a Photo Journalist Fri. 22 March 7.30pm,
St John the Baptist, Fifield**

A talk by Stephen Markeson FRPS, Fifield resident, on his journey around the world, covering major news events for over 30 years from trouble spots to portraits of world leaders, as a senior staffer in Fleet Street first at The Sun and then The Times. Proceeds for Fifield-with-Idbury PCC, Tickets £18 from Catherine Hitchens, catherine.lordlandry@gmail.com

Fifield Friends' Feathered Food Supper

Followed by Mini Quiz Thursday 4 April 7 for 7.30pm Parish Hall, Fifield (bring your own bottle). Book with Tina Palmer 830517 or John Yaxley 831385 by 29 March £11 for members £12 non-members – in aid of The Friends.

Cooking Ahead and Easter Treats

A Demonstration by Carolyn Coleman (from Country House Cooking) who will share professional secrets, hints and tips on Wednesday 10th April 12.15p.m. to 2.15p.m. at Fifield House, Fifield by kind invitation of Simon and Vicky Orr-Ewing. £12.50 a head to include a bowl of soup and light refreshments. Book early as places very strictly limited. Tickets from Catherine Hitchens 01993 831881
Proceeds for Fifield with Idbury Parochial Church Council.

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday 13th April 10-1pm St Simon & St Jude Milton

There will be a Trail round the churchyard for younger children plus craft activities and refreshments. If anyone would like to volunteer to help please let Geoffrey or Anne know.

Readings 31 March: Mothering Sunday John 19.25-27, Colossians 3.12-17

Vicar: Rev Geoffrey Clement vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk 01993 832514

Rest Day: Wednesday

Rev'd Anne Hartley anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk 01993 830160
out of contact on Thursdays)

Administrator: Clare Harper, Office Hours:

Mon 9-2.30, Tuesday 11-2.30, Wednesday 12.30-2.30, Fri 9-11

Tel 01993 832467 office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk