



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 12 - 19 May 2019

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

GOOD NEWS! SHIPTON CHURCH IS OPEN

SUNDAY 12 MAY 2019 - EASTER 4

8.15am	Shipton BCP Holy Communion
9.30am	Milton Holy Communion
11.00am	Fifield BCP Morning Prayer
11.00am	Shipton Holy Communion

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings: (Year C) **Acts 9:36-end** (The reading from Acts must be used as either the first or second reading.) A much-loved believer called Tabitha has died and Peter is sent for. Can the apostle follow in his master's footsteps and raise the dead?

Gospel John 10:22-30 Jesus has previously likened himself to a good shepherd. Now he describes how he watches over his followers in a similar way to shepherds guarding their flocks. **Psalm 23.**

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, David Trollope, Shauni McGregor, Mark Forsbrey, Karin Wiseman, Emma Bradford, Margaret Gibbs, James Newman, Chris Seviour, David Kloos and Nathalie Stewart.

Weddings and Banns: We pray for all the couples getting married in the benefice this summer particularly Laura Taylor and Joshua Chapman who are getting married in Shipton Church on Saturday 11 May at 1pm.

Also: Elizabeth Pratt and Charlie Roome; Louise Ford and Michael Morgan; Fiona Matthews and Robert Crossland, Tim Yates and Jilly Newman; Nick Willson & Victoria Shreeves; Carmen Hillier & Ashley Swain; Gemma Potter & Matthew Berry.

RIP: Margaret Miles and Michael Porter.

Funerals: Michael Porter's funeral is on Friday 24 May at 11am at South Oxfordshire Crematorium.

Deanery: 12 May St Mary's Chastleton. Please pray for James Kennedy, David Salter, Jackie Jones, Martha Simpson, Ursula Simpson and Roger Simpson and the churchwardens Tessa and Alistair Jackson. 19 May St. James', Ramsden. Please pray for Paul Mansell, Sarah Jones, and churchwardens John Hook and Rosalind Danks.

Open Doors: May 12 North Korea: Open Doors underground workers are able to keep 60,000 secret believers alive by smuggling in food and other aid. Please pray for the 50,000 and 70,000 Christians imprisoned in horrific labour camps in North Korea. Pray that even there they will know God's love and presence.

May 19 Afghanistan: Afghan believers must keep their faith completely secret. Please pray that parents will find ways of sharing the Gospel with their children. For wisdom for those working to support secret Afghan believers.

SUNDAY 19 MAY 2019 - EASTER 5

10.00am	Milton United Benefice Holy Communion
6.00pm	Fifield Evening Prayer

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Today's Readings (Year C) **Acts 11:1-18** (The reading from Acts must be used as either the first or second reading.) When rules appear to have been broken, the Church in Jerusalem accepts Peter's report of the previous chapter's events, which show that God does not distinguish between races.

Gospel John 13:31-35 Jesus, knowing that his loving sacrifice will transform his shameful crucifixion into resurrection glory, urges his disciples to help others understand this by following his example of self-giving love. **Psalm 148.**

Notices

Shipton Church: The church is now back in use and as of March we have been receiving donations for the roof and reordering of the church. We do not have a definitive costing for this work but it will be a large sum of money. We have the help of a professional fundraiser; Jackie Wilson, but we need to be more proactive with our local fundraising. There is a small team dedicated to this but if you would like to be involved in the fundraising please contact Vicar Geoffrey or come along to a meeting in Shipton church on Tuesday 14th May at 7.30pm.

Can you help?

A couple of weeks ago we had a morning session to brush up on the various roles people have in church: reading lessons; chalice bearers; leading intercessions and sacristan. One area where we need a few more volunteers is our ministry to the care homes. We currently need helpers for the following specific events:

Church Coffee at Old Prebendal House – Every 3rd Wednesday at 11am.

We hope to send at least 3 people from the church to go along, talk to the residents and say a short prayer.

It would also be helpful to have some volunteers who could support the **Tall Trees Holy Communion – 4th Monday at 2.30pm.** We already have a fantastic team who go into Tall Trees we just need to add to the team. If you would like to help please speak to either Anne or Geoffrey. No previous experience needed!

School RE Day at Wychwood School Friday 28 June 10-2.30.

We also need people to come and help with the prayer spaces. Children will come in small groups to engage in a quiet activity during the day. If you could spare an hour between 10 and 2.30pm please get in touch.

Christian Aid week 12 -18 May We will be making a house-to-house collection as usual in Milton this year and a special collection at the United Benefice service in Milton on 19th May. The focus this year is on providing health clinics and support, especially for mothers and children in Sierra Leone.

May's 4th Sunday Service in Milton on 26 May will in fact be led by Geoffrey and will be communion. It will be a more informal service like our last 4th Sunday in April with an opportunity for others to be involved especially with the prayers.

Confirmation Candidates There will be a Deanery Confirmation on 9th June at 3pm in Great Tew church. If you are considering this, please contact Geoffrey.

NEW Breathing Space Saturday 25 May 10-12 Milton Church

Offering rest and quiet in a church setting, encouraging us to seek God in silence. The invitation is to drop in any time during the morning. Nothing will be asked of you or required of you, stay as little or long as you like. Some resources will be available, but the idea is that you find what helps you to seek God in silence.

NEW Death Cafe Friday 17 May 10.30-12 Benefice Centre

What is Death Cafe?

At a Death Cafe people meet to discuss death, over some refreshments, most people who attend a Death Café are surprised that the discussion is not morbid or depressing but often lively, and informative.

As one person put it: Death is inevitable so why not talk about it.

A Death Cafe is a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes. It is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counselling session.

Death Café is offered:

- In an accessible, respectful and confidential space
- With no intention of leading people to any conclusion, product or course of action
- Alongside refreshing drinks and cake!

Scarecrow Trail and Flower Festival in Milton, Saturday 8 June

On the 8th June there will be a trail to follow around the village and people will be asked to identify the characters depicted by the scarecrows and flower arrangements. The deadline to register is 17 May.

<https://miltonunderwychwood.org/scarecrow-and-flower-festival/dont-forget-to-register/>

Donations for Flower Festival

We are making a special appeal for donations towards the Flower Festival on 8 June. Please help to make this a wonderful celebration of our vibrant church and community. Contributions can be made to Clare in the office, or the church wardens: cheques should be made payable to Milton under Wychwood PCC.

If you would like to enter a flower arrangement, please contact Sheilah Peregrine or email Sue Mellerick at: stan.mell@btinternet.com. Sue can also be contacted if you would like any further information about the event.

Readings 26 May Easter 6: Acts 16.9-15, Psalm 67, John 14.23-29 (Year C)

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