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WychwoodBenefice

Church News 9 & 16 December 2018

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

SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER 2018 ADVENT 2/ST NICHOLAS PATRONAL

8.15am	Shipton BCP Holy Communion	Geoffrey Clement
9.30am	Milton Holy Communion	Geoffrey Clement
11.00am	Fifield BCP Holy Communion	Geoffrey Clement
11.00am	Shipton BCP Morning Prayer	Lay Led

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Almighty Father, lover of souls, who chose your servant Nicholas to be a bishop in the Church, that he might give freely out of the treasures of your grace: make us mindful of the needs of others and, as we have received, so teach us also to give; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion God, shepherd of your people, whose servant Nicholas revealed the loving service of Christ in his ministry as a pastor of your people: by this eucharist in which we share awaken within us the love of Christ and keep us faithful to our Christian calling; through him who laid down his life for us, but is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings: Cantic: Benedictus, Philippians 1.3-11, Luke 3.1-6 (Year C).

Open Doors Prayers: Please pray for protection and comfort for all Christians in Pakistan and that they will not face added pressure and violence because of the case concerning Asia Bibi. **Amen**

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, Graham Harris, Guthrie Piggot & Margaret Gibbs.

Deanery: 9 December: St Andrew's, Great Rollright: Wendy Cunningham and churchwarden Sarah Durham.

R.I.P. Sydney Norris.

FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER 2018

6.30pm	Fifield Carols by Candlelight followed by mulled wine & mince pies	Geoffrey Clement
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SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER 2018 - ADVENT 3

8.15am	Shipton BCP Holy Communion	Anne Hartley
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4.00pm	Idbury Carols by Candlelight followed by mulled wine & mince pies	Geoffrey Clement
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5.00pm	Milton Carols by Candlelight followed by refreshments (Geoffrey will join us after Idbury's Carol Service)	Anne Hartley
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PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**

Open Doors Prayers: Please pray For Pastor Abdalla and his Christian church in Aleppo. For the people they help, that God will continue to provide for and grow their ministry. **Amen**

Readings: Cantic: Isaiah 12.2-6*, Philippians 4.4-7, Luke 3.7-18 (Year C).

NOTICES

Advent Groups

This year we are following the Pilgrim course on “The Bible”. The course starts by simply asking: What is the Bible? and takes us on a pilgrimage of discovery. We will be following this journey at the Home Groups, on Monday’s at the Benefice Centre until 17th December at midday and at The Old Prebendal on Tuesdays starting at 3pm in the Library. Books are available for £5.99 in the Benefice centre.

Request for Mince Pies for Shipton’s Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight Service on Sunday 23 December, 6pm

Please can you either bring mince pies to the service or give to Claire Bell beforehand (tel 831281).

“Open the Book” Volunteers needed

Geoffrey is looking for a few more volunteers to help with “Open the Book”. It involves going into the school and presenting “dramatised” Bible readings to the children about 3 times per half term. No acting skills required, just an enthusiasm to share the Bible stories in a lively way, there is also no upper age limit. For more information contact Geoffrey or just google: "Open the Book - Bible Society".

Pastoral Care at Christmas

The Christmas season is the time of year for great excitement and delight for many, especially those who gather with family to celebrate.

But for many reasons Christmas can also be a painful and difficult time. Maybe it’s a first without a much loved member of the family, perhaps relatives are too far away to reach or it is no longer possible to travel.

Can we the pastoral team and the church family as a whole remain extra mindful of those around us who might appreciate a call or even a card to offer a visit.

Call Clare or me if you feel you would like a call or visit, or if you know of anyone who might.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas

Elaine

07939 510788/831610 erusselljarvie@talktalk.net

St Simon and St Jude Martha Teams

Our Church cleaning teams do a splendid job in keeping our Church clean and tidy. However we would appreciate more volunteers. At present there are five teams with two or three members, and so our duties come around every 5 weeks. With just two more members that would be every six weeks, and even less often with 4 more!

Duties are not arduous and take at the most an hour. The main work is pushing the vacuum around, and the other tidying and dusting.

If you feel you could give an hour every six weeks, then please contact me, Marjorie Connolley either in church, on 01993 832851 or email mmconnolley@googlemail.com .

T4U Shoeboxes Update

“The boxes this year will be going out to Eastern Romania. The first drop will be to Braila on the Danube. The area is very poor as the industry has disappeared, there are no universities and so a lot of the youngsters do not stay around for long. Pastor Ben is our partner and with his wife run a house within an orphanage where he takes care of 10 children, there are 4 houses in the orphanage each with a set of house parents.

We will be distributing to the orphanage and other orphanages in the area belonging to the state as well as poor families. We have been asked if we can also distribute boxes to a disabled children’s orphanage of 120 children. Also the boxes are being distributed in villages and towns around this area.”

For more news visit the website: <http://teams4u.com/shoebox-appeal/>

Readings: 23 December: Advent 4:

Canticle: Magnificat, Hebrews 10.5-10, Luke 1.39-45[46-55] (Year C).

If you would like to receive the Church News by email, please let Clare know – office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

If you no longer wish to receive the email, please send an email with the subject

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

Day off Wednesday

Administrator: Clare Harper, Office Hours:

Mon & Thurs 9-2, Tuesday 11.30-2.30, Wednesday 12.30-2.30

Wychwood Benefice Centre, The Church Room,

St Simon & St Jude Church, Church Road,

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