

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

SUNDAY 5 JANUARY – THE EPIPHANY

11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Today's Readings (Year A) Epiphany Sunday 5 January 2020

First Reading Ephesians 3:1-12 God's promises are revealed to be for the whole world, for all the earth's children. The riches of God's people will be available to all.

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12 Foreign travellers bring gifts to the newborn king. Jesus is the light to enlighten the whole world, and they rejoice to see it.

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, Mark Forsbrey, Emma Bradford, Wendy Cherry, Marian Clark, baby Arthur Smith, and Margaret Gibbs.

Deanery: 12 January: St Kenelm's, Enstone. Please pray for Mark Abrey and Ilona Cheyne.

R.I.P.: Johnny Graham, Graham Harris, Enid Reynolds and David Trollope.

Funerals: The funeral for Graham Harris is on Friday 3 January, 10.30am in Idbury church. There will be a service of thanksgiving for David Trollope on Monday 20 January at 1pm in Milton church.

SUNDAY 12 JANUARY - BAPTISM OF CHRIST

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

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Post Communion Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings: (Year A)

First Reading Acts 10:34-43 Peter's sermon to the Gentiles is the Christian story from the preaching of John the Baptist to the resurrection and humankind's eventual judgement. Peter emphasises that God has no favourites.

Gospel Matthew 3:13-end Jesus is baptised at the beginning of his ministry, is publicly endorsed by God and receives the Holy Spirit.

Notices

Office hours over Christmas

The Benefice Office is open as follows: Tuesday 7 January 11-2.30, Wednesday 8 January 11.00-2.30, Friday 10 January 9-2.30.

Thurs. 2 January 1 I am-1 pm Coffee & Cake followed by homemade soup

(choice of 2) and homemade bread. £3 a head. Fifield Parish Hall. Please book by Tuesday 31 December if possible, to help with catering quantities - Catherine Hitchens 01993 831881.

Christmas tree festival update

So far the amount raised is £2025. Thanks to all those involved and all those who visited the church to help raise the funds.

Shipton Event in aid of the roof repairs fund:

"Musings on the Constitution" A talk by Sir Stephen Tomlinson,

ex Lord Justice of Appeal.

Wednesday 8th January 2020, 7.30pm at the New Beaconsfield Hall.

£15 to include a glass of wine. Proceeds to Shipton Church roof repairs.

Tickets from James Walmsley Tel 01993 830842 Email jameswalmsley@mistral.co.uk or the office.

Death Cafe Friday 10 January 2-3pm the Wychwood Inn

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!

Messy Church Sunday 19 January

Our next Messy Church is on Sunday 19 January 4-6pm in Wychwood School. Ending with a tea, Messy Church is for families with children of all ages.

Church Flowers

Please get in touch if you would like to sponsor the church flowers in Shipton or Milton on a particular Sunday in memory of someone or in celebration of someone or something. A dedication can be read out in church and printed in the Church News. To pick a Sunday take a look on the website to find out where the services are being held: wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

Then contact one of the flower arrangers – details below

Shipton: Anne Hilling annehilling@yahoo.co.uk 01993 830656

Milton: Sheilah Peregrine m.peregrine197@btinternet.com 01993 831984

There is no specified amount, all donations are gratefully received whether you would like to sponsor a particular Sunday or contribute towards the general costs.

Supporting local families:

We are helping several local families in need and we are still looking for donations towards providing fitted carpet and flooring. If this is something you would like to contribute towards, please speak to Geoffrey or Anne. Many thanks to the offers we have already received.

Shipton Church Roof Repairs update

We are in the process of setting up a team to oversee and manage the project.

Foodbank Donations:

A reminder that both Shipton and Milton churches are drop off points for donations for our local foodbank who collect the following:

The following items are needed for the Foodbank:

tins or packets of soup
tins of meat
tins of fish
tins of baked beans
tinned potatoes or instant mash
breakfast cereals
tins of sponge and milk puddings
tea or coffee
small packets of sugar
long-life fruit juice
treats

bottled or tinned sauces tins of vegetables tinned vegetarian meals tins/cartons of tomatoes pasta, rice, noodles tins of fruit tins or packets of custard other hot beverages UHT/powdered milk biscuits, jams etc

ALSO

toilet rolls, washing-up liquid etc

Readings 19 January: 2nd Sunday of Epiphany (Year A) First Reading I Corinthians 1:1-9 Gospel John 1:29-42

Vicar: Rev Geoffrey Clement <u>vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk</u> 01993 832514 Rest Day: Thursday Rev'd Anne Hartley <u>anne@wychwooodbenefice.org.uk</u> 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 <u>office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk</u>