



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 8 & 15 December 2019

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

## **SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER – ADVENT 2 / ST NICHOLAS PATRONAL**

- 8.15am Shipton BCP Holy Communion
- 9.30am Milton Holy Communion
- 11.00am Shipton BCP Morning Prayer
- 11.00am Ffield BCP Holy Communion
- 4.00pm Messy Church @ Wychwood School

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and savior we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Readings:** (Year C)

**Today's Readings First Reading Romans 15:4-13** As we wait in great hope for the coming of Christ, we must strive to be like Christ. Those who are strong and powerful need especially to heed these words. We are reminded of the inclusive nature of God's love, and called to welcome others as God has welcomed us.

**Gospel Matthew 3:1-12** John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus by calling everyone to repentance.

**Prayer List:** Hostage John Cantlie, David Trollope, Mark Forsbrey, Emma Bradford, Wendy Cherry, Marian Clark, Johnny Graham, baby Arthur Smith, Graham Harris, Margaret Gibbs and Renzo.

**Confirmation:** Laurie Wessel: On Sunday 8 December, Burford church at 11am.

**R.I.P.:** Clifford Glynn.

**Funerals:** Clifford Glynn's funeral is on Friday 6 December at 1pm in Milton church.

**Deanery:** 8 December: St Andrew's, Great Rollright. Please pray for Janet Faull, Janet Collins, Wendy Cunningham, Keith Disney and churchwarden Sarah Durham.

## **FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER**

6.30pm      Fifield Carols by Candlelight

## **SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER - ADVENT 3**

8.15am      Shipton BCP Holy Communion

4.00pm      Idbury Carols by Candlelight

5.00pm      Milton Carols by Candlelight

## **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; he is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**

## **Today's Readings (Year C)**

**Third Sunday of Advent. First Reading James 5:7-10** James calls for people who long for the change that God's coming kingdom will bring to be patient, like farmers who must wait for the crop to grow.

**Gospel Matthew 11:2-11** John the Baptist has to be patient as he waits in prison for God's kingdom and Jesus tells him it will be just as Isaiah has said – seen in the bodies, the lives, of those considered least.

## **Notices**

**New! Messy Church** starts Sunday 8 December 4-6pm. It will be held in the school, ending with a tea and is for families with children of all ages. This first Messy Church has an Advent theme "Small is Mighty". Come along to find out more.

**Quiz Night Success!** Thanks to all those who attended the quiz night on 24 November. There were 14 teams and £600 was raised for the roof funds.

## **Mince Pies & Sausage Rolls needed for Shipton's Carol Service.**

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

## **Advent Groups – come along to individual sessions or to all of them**

Mondays 10.30am in the Paddocks (downstairs T.V. lounge) 9 & 16 December.

Tuesdays at 7.15pm at Anne and Mike Hartley's: 10 & 17 December.

The Advent study this year will be based on Bishop Steven's latest Bible study guide: *Principles of Deep Water Fishing*. Copies are now available in the office for £3.

## **Christmas Tree Festival in Shipton Church Saturday 14 December 6pm**

Have you booked your ticket yet? In aid of the Shipton Church roof repair funds, the WI are organising a Christmas Tree Festival in Shipton Church on Saturday 14 December 6-8pm to include refreshments. Tickets are available £10 from the vicar, Kay Shortland or the Benefice office.

**Diary Date: “Musings on the Constitution”** A talk by Sir Stephen Tomlinson, ex Lord Justice of Appeal. Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:jameswalmsley@mistral.co.uk) or the office.

## **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.

We are also looking for some furniture items including a small dining table.

## **Foodbank: Donations for Christmas**

The last day for donations for Christmas is Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Everything welcome except mince pies, Christmas cakes and puddings. Drop off at Shipton or Milton church. For full details see the website:

<http://www.northoxfordshirecommunityfoodbank.org.uk/what-we-need/4550859460>

## **New Book Swap/Buy area in Shipton Church**

There are now books in Shipton church for you to buy, swap or just borrow. If you wish to add to the book collection you can drop any off at the Vicarage or Shipton Church - or phone Geoffrey for collection.

## **Christingle Making: Mon. 23 Dec. 10am-12noon in the Benefice Office**

Do come and join us for our annual Christingle making session. Children are very welcome to come and help make Christingles ahead of the Crib and Christingle services (and possibly eat some sweets along the way...).

## **New Christmas Cards available in Shipton Church**

We have some lovely new cards available – perfect for Christmas - though they are blank inside so suitable to be used all year round. £1 for 1 card, £3 for 5 cards, £5 for 10 cards. Available from the office or contact Mike and Joy Brooks on 830014. Proceeds towards the church roof fund.

*Mother & Child carved by Pat Bannister*

## **Pastoral Support 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](mailto:erusselljarvie@talktalk.net)

**Readings 22 December:** Advent 4. First Reading First Reading Romans 1:1-7, Gospel Matthew 1:18-end

Vicar: Rev Geoffrey Clement [vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) 01993 832514

Rest Day: Thursday

Rev'd Anne Hartley [anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)