



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 3 May, 2020

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

SUNDAY 3 MAY 2020 – EASTER 4

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 A) Today's Readings

First Reading Acts 2:42-end

Having heard Peter's stirring exhortation on the day of Pentecost, crowds of people are baptised. The believers live generously, praising God and caring for those in need.

Gospel John 10:1-10

Jesus contrasts those who have good intentions for those in their care and those who do not. As the shepherd and the gate, he offers protection to all within his flock.

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, Mark Forsbrey, Emma Bradford, Wendy Cherry and Marian Clark.

Congratulations to Rosie and Dan Chambers on the birth of Isaiah Benjamin Chambers who was born on 21st April.

R.I.P.: Gordon Gillett.

Online Services and other Resources

Wychwood Benefice:

- We continue to post services online each Sunday on facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice/ (You don't have to have a facebook account to access the videos).
- Additional resources will also be posted on the website: WychwoodBenefice.org.uk

Oxford Diocese:

Please visit the website <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/> to keep up to date with everything that is up and coming including details of services that you can watch live, online.

- You can download an app for the Bishop of Oxford's Reflections (updated for 2020) Easter Pilgrim <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/easter-pilgrim>

Church of England

- **NEW Daily Hope telephone line.** The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. A Free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers.
- For Personal prayers: www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources
- For daily prayer and readings: www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer
- For the latest Church of England guidelines and other resources please visit: www.churchofengland.org/

Church Times

- Church Times are currently producing a free downloadable supplement "Lift Up Your Hearts" on their website – updated each Friday. You can access it here: <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/>

Notices

Lady Reade Foundation

A reminder that the deadline for applications for a 2020 grant from the Lady Reade Foundation are due in by 4 May. If you are a resident of Milton, Shipton, Bruern, Lyneham, Leafield or Ramsden and you are attending university or college in September 2020, you may be eligible for a grant.

To apply please send your name, address, subject, and university or college where you intend to study to ladyreadeeducationalfoundation@gmail.com.

Christian Aid Week 10-17 May 2020

With the help of volunteers, we usually do door to door collections during Christian Aid week. This year things are a little different. We will be sending out an e-envelope to all of you so that you can donate if you would like to. If you would like to send any e-envelopes yourselves the link is below:

“Poor communities are hit hardest by coronavirus. It’s affecting families living in overcrowded refugee camps, and many vulnerable people who have no water to clean their hands. With your support, we can limit the impact of the virus, with life-saving soap and water.”

Send an e-Envelope today and save lives.

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/>

Lockdown Volunteers needed

We would like to ask anyone who might like to record themselves saying one of readings for the next few Sundays to let us know so that we can include more people in our online services.

We'd also like to include families reading prayers and other readings so please get in touch with Geoffrey or Anne if you'd be willing to help.

Weekly Zoom (online) Church Coffee Morning, Tuesdays 10.30-11.10.

After the success of the first online coffee morning we are hoping to run this as a regular slot for the time being.

Login details are sent by email with the weekly Church News and can also be obtained from Clare (email office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)

You do not need to have a Zoom account but you do need to have downloaded Zoom onto whichever device you wish to use to join the meeting on. Let Clare know if you need any help. Do join us to connect with others from the Benefice, say hello and let us know how you are doing.

Giving whilst the church buildings are closed

It is now weeks since we were able to come together in church, our last service was on the 15th March. One of the many consequences of this is the disruption to our cash flow. I have attached a letter which goes into a bit more detail about this particular issue. Please read it and give it some thought. Thank you, Geoffrey.

<https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Giving-April-2020.pdf>

Home for a church organ?

All Saint's church in Shorthampton have a new organ and so are looking for a home for their existing organ.

It is a Wyvern electronic organ, single manual, no pedals, built-in speakers. It has a bunch of buttons to do an automatic pedal effect, split the keyboard between two different sets of sounds, and so on.

It would particularly suit a church with a congregation up to 30 people. Alternatively a church organist may like to have it at home as a practice instrument.

No charge for the organ but the new owner would have to arrange transport. Contact Clare for further details.

Donations to the Foodbank

We are encouraging people to continue to support the foodbank by donating money for the time being. You can either donate via the North Oxfordshire Community Foodbank website

<http://www.northoxfordshirecommunityfoodbank.org.uk/donations/4542603964>

Or send a cheque made out to The North Oxfordshire Food Bank and posted to The North Oxfordshire Food Bank, c/o Kidlington Baptist Church, High St, Kidlington, OX5 2DS.

Please feel free to give whatever amount you choose, but you might care to know: Items needed to make up one large parcel cost £40, a small parcel costs £20.

Readings: Fifth Sunday of Easter Sunday 10 May 2020

First Reading Acts 7:55-end Stephen faces death by stoning with a vision of God's glory, commanding his spirit to Jesus and praying for forgiveness for those who kill him.

Gospel John 14:1-14 Jesus tells his disciples that he is the way, the truth and the life and can therefore enable them to join his union with his Father in the kingdom of heaven.

Contact Details

The Benefice Office is currently closed, Clare is working from home and will be checking emails and phone messages Mon – Fri.

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

Rev'd Anne Hartley anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk 01993 830160