



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 14 June, 2020

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

SUNDAY 14 JUNE 2020 – TRINITY I

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. **Amen**

Post Communion Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings: June 14 - Trinity I

First Reading Genesis 18:1-15 [21:1-7] Abraham and Sarah lavishly entertain the Lord, in the guise of three strangers who visit them by the oaks of Mamre. In return the Lord promises them a son, despite their advancing years.

Second Reading Romans 5:1-8 Paul has been explaining that it is faith, rather than good works, that makes people right with God, and now goes on to develop this thought further.

Gospel Matthew 9:35 – 10:8 [9-23] Despite facing increasing criticism from the Pharisees, who have questioned his deliverance ministry and disapprove of him mixing with sinners, Jesus continues to reach out to people.

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

R.I.P.: Anna Laurie-Walker and Dougie Coombes.

Prayers for Postponed wedding couples. A number of couples have had to postpone and reschedule their weddings. At the best of times weddings are very stressful, with the current uncertainty it is even worse. Please remember those who would have had their weddings around this time: Alex and Kelly, Abby and Chris, Chloe and Matthew.

Heavenly Father we pray for all those whose weddings have been postponed, be with them in this stressful time. Be with all couples, parents, friends and family who have been planning for their special day. Grant them peace, patience and hope that their dreams will be fulfilled, and their special day will not be long in coming. Amen

Online Services and other Resources

Wychwood Benefice:

- We post a weekly service online which is now filmed in one of our churches and is online on facebook and the website from 9am each Sunday.
 - <https://www.facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice/>
 - WychwoodBenefice.org.uk
- Additional resources will be posted online and sent out with the church news email. These may include orders of service and sermons.
- **Weekly Zoom (online) Church Coffee Morning, Tuesdays 10.30.** 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.

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.

Church of England

- **Daily Hope telephone line** available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**. 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/

Notices

Opening up the churches after “Lockdown”.

The government has now decided that “Places of Worship” can open but only for private prayer. We still cannot hold regular Sunday Services nor any other services such as Weddings, Funerals or Baptisms, in the case of funerals these are either at the graveside or at the crematorium.

This means that as of Monday 15th June the option to open our church buildings for private prayer is now available. For our churches to be open we need to make sure they are safe for people to enter. We have already had a meeting to discuss the reopening of our churches (you can read the Minutes which are on the website [here](#)) but we will only open the church building once we are satisfied that it is safe to do so. Before opening to the public we must ensure cleaning has been carried out and that we have hand sanitiser and the relevant information and signage in place.

We are blessed with 4 beautiful church buildings in the benefice and we are now given the chance to renew our relationship with them.

Shipton Update.

Last week we had a meeting with an architect from Acanthus Clews to discuss the work we wish to carry out inside the church that is not roof related. We mainly discussed the issue of what type of heating we will require, and we talked about the floor covering in the areas that have thermoplastic tiles and wood-block.

Relating to the roof we have agreed to have a bat survey carried out in order to determine the type of bats are roosting in the church.

Giving whilst the church buildings are closed

Thank you to all those who have kindly responded to the recent letter from Geoffrey by making payments into Shipton and Milton accounts. If you have done this and you are a taxpayer, please let us know so we can send you a gift aid form. Please email office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

If you have not yet had chance to donate and would like to, please see the letter here for details.

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

Virtual Pilgrimages

You can now find details on the virtual pilgrimages on the following website:

<https://www.stmaryscnorton.com/serving-you/virtual-pilgrimages.php>

You may also like to take a look at Revd DrSally Welch's latest video of readings, reflections and music on the journey from St Mary's Charlbury to All Saints' Shorthampton <https://youtu.be/ofXKXm8I kds>

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>

June 21st Trinity 2

First Reading Genesis 21:8-21

Hagar, the slave with whom Abraham has a son, is cast out of Abraham's home. She wanders in the wilderness until God, who has promised Abraham to make a great nation of the boy, saves her and her child.

Second Reading Romans 6:1b-11

A commitment to following Christ involves dying to the self and its worldly demands, but this is a matter for solemn celebration, not lament.

Gospel Matthew 10:24-39

Openly, explicitly witnessing to the Gospel will bring profound costs, but Jesus assures us that a deepening relationship with God will provide greater compensation.

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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Rest Day: Thursday

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