



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 28 June, 2020

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

**SUNDAY 28 JUNE 2020 – TRINITY 3**

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

**Post Communion** O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

## **Readings Trinity 3**

### **Second Reading Romans 6:12-end**

Paul urges his listeners not to succumb to sinful ways, since they are not under law but under grace. Former slaves to sin have become slaves of righteousness and God's free gift is eternal life in Christ.

### **Gospel Matthew 10:40-end**

Jesus explains that anyone who welcomes one of his disciples receives Jesus himself and, by extension, his heavenly Father. Even the smallest gesture of kindness will be rewarded.

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

**R.I.P.:** Patricia Glynn and John Bellars.

**Funerals:** There will be a funeral for Patricia Glynn in Milton church.

**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](http://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](mailto:office@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.

### **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](http://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](http://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer)
- For the latest Church of England guidelines and other resources please visit:  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

## Notices

### **Opening up the churches after “Lockdown”.**

We are awaiting further guidance from the government and then the national church following the announcement that churches may open for Public Worship and Weddings from 4 July.

You can read Bishop Steven’s response here:

<https://mailchi.mp/oxford.anglican.org/ad-clerum-25-june>

Milton, Fifield and Idbury Churches are now open daily with signs on the doors explaining how to safely enter the churches for private prayer.

Shipton church is not yet open. With the added complications of the repair works, there are currently surveys and inspections taking place. We hope to be able to open the church shortly.

Funerals are now allowed to take place in church (with restricted numbers to ensure social distancing measures are respected).

Record of those entering our churches

If you are entering any of the churches, It would be helpful to sign in (ideally with your own pen). This will help us if anyone subsequently becomes unwell and it will also help those cleaning or carrying out other work, to have an idea of how many people have been in the church and when.

### **Home Groups**

Belonging to a home group is a really good way to get to know people and go deeper in our faith. We look at the Sunday Bible readings through study and discussion, sharing our own stories and pastoral concerns, sometimes over a meal or coffee.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, we have continued to meet, albeit virtually using Zoom.

We would love to welcome more people to our home groups. If you would like to find out more, get in touch.

We currently have 2 groups which meet as follows:

Mondays 10.30am - contact Liz Watts: 01993 831759

Wednesdays 7pm - contact Anne Hartley 01993 830160

### **PCC Meetings**

**Milton** Wednesday 1 July 10.30 by Zoom

**Shipton** Monday 27 July 7pm,

**Shipton** APCM Sunday 20 September 4pm

## **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](mailto: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 Dr Sally Welch's latest video of readings, reflections and music on the journey from St Mary's Charlbury to All Saints' Shorthampton <https://youtu.be/ofXKXm8lkds>

## **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>

## **5 July - Trinity 4 Readings**

**First Reading Genesis 24:34-38. 42-49. 58-end** The testimony of Abraham's servant, that the Lord has greatly blessed his master.

**Second Reading Romans 7:15-25a** Paul expresses his internal conflict. His decision to obey God's law is continually overthrown by his sinful nature's desires. Only Christ's power, not his own effort, can set him free.

**Gospel Matthew 11:16-19. 25-end** Jesus laments the spiritual dullness of God's people, but rejoices at those willing to receive him as God's Son and the way to the Father. He invites the oppressed to draw close, promising them rest in his loving presence.

### 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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