



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 7 June, 2020

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

**SUNDAY 7 JUNE 2020 – TRINITY SUNDAY**

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Readings: First Reading Isaiah 40:12-17. 27-end** There is nothing to compare with the everlasting God who needed no outside help to make the universe, who strengthens the weak and weary and rescues those who trust in the Lord: creating, empowering, saving.

**Second Reading 2 Corinthians 13:11-end** Paul urges all Christ's disciples to live in peace with one another, as children of the God of love and peace through the grace of Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

**Gospel Matthew 28:16-20** The risen Christ promises to be with the remaining disciples as they make new disciples from all over the world, in the name of one God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

**R.I.P.:** Anna Laurie-Walker whose funeral was held in Shipton this week. 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 continue to post services online each Sunday on [facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice/](https://www.facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice/) (You don't have to have a facebook account to access the videos). **New** You can also watch the services on the benefice website too: <https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/>
- Additional resources will also be posted on the website: [WychwoodBenefice.org.uk](https://WychwoodBenefice.org.uk)

### **Oxford Diocese Survey**

If you are attending online church service(s), please could you [complete this short survey](#) as soon as possible after the next online service you attend. If you attend the Diocesan Church at Home service and/or a number of other services from different parishes, you are welcome to complete the survey for each online service you've been to.

Geoffrey is seeking volunteers to make recordings of the readings for the online Sunday Service and to do recordings of people responding to the "Peace". This way we get to see some of our friends who we haven't seen for a while. If you are not sure how to do this please get in touch with Geoffrey.

### **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**

- **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](https://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](https://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/](http://www.churchofengland.org/)

## Church Times

- Church Times are currently producing a free downloadable supplement “Lift Up Your Hearts” each Friday <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/>

## Notices

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

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))

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.

### **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/ofXKXm8Ikds>

### **Update on Church buildings**

The Church of England has now given permission for limited access to our church buildings. The incumbent or other designated person can go into church to say their prayers and carry out other activities: clock winding, ringing a bell on Sundays (but not full circle bellringing, just chiming) checking on the organ and cleaning amongst other things. But there is still the reminder to go in alone or with someone from the same household.

With this in mind Anne and I will be going into church to say our prayers and between us will be praying in all 4 of our churches at some point during the week.

There is also permission for using the church buildings for streaming or filming services, so our Sunday services will now have more varied locations.

Longer term the Government's COVID19 Recovery Strategy says: "...churches could be open from July as part of the continual and phased plan to begin lifting the lockdown." Please note, it says "could" so we must wait and see.

Full details are on the Church of England website.

## **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>

## **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>

**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.

### 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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