



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 19 July, 2020

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

SUNDAY 19 JULY - TRINITY 6

11.00am Shipton Holy Communion Parish Service in church
Benefice Service Online on Facebook & website from 9am

Additional resources:

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.
- **What if you don't have internet?** You can still dial into the Diocesan Sunday service and listen in on your phone on 01865 920930.

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Today's Readings

First Reading Genesis 28:10-19 Jacob's dream about a ladder reaching heaven. God promises to bless him and his offspring.

Second Reading Romans 8:12-25 We are the children of God and co-heirs with Christ. We suffer like Christ, so that we can also be glorified with him.

Gospel Matthew 13:24-30. 36-43 The parable of the weeds among the wheat.

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

R.I.P.: Martin Fussey.

Weddings: Emily Chapman and Ashley Armitage will be getting married in Shipton church on 1 August. Alex and Kelly Hardwick will be getting married in Milton church on 1 August.

Notices

Have your say on the new pattern of services

In early September will be reviewing our current plan of holding one Communion service per Sunday rotating around the 4 churches of the benefice.

This is an opportunity to think about what we would like for this next period of time, when we are allowed to meet in our buildings, albeit in a restricted way.

We should think about what has been good about worship during lockdown in our benefice and beyond. The online services, online coffee morning, homegroups, Messy Church takeaways and more.

As some people are able to come back to church, others may prefer or need to stay away for some time. How can we include everyone?

Holding a limited number of Holy Communion services may be something we need to continue for the time being but there are other ways we could get together in our churches with your help.

Do let us know what you think. Here are some of the questions to consider:

1. Have you watched the online services -either the benefice's or other? Would you like an online element to continue?
2. Would you like to attend services in church/how often/ what style of service?
3. Would you like the chance to meet regularly (weekly?) at the same time in your parish church for a different kind of event - a short service, prayer, café church, other?
4. Do you have any ideas on what our churches could be used for during this next phase?
5. Would you be willing to be part of a team to help organize or run something regular in your parish church (with support)?
6. Do you have any ideas on how we might approach some of the bigger festivals differently to include more people (Harvest, All Souls, Remembrance, Christmas)?

We will be collating everyone's feedback at the end of August and then putting together a suggested plan for the next few months.

Please send your thoughts, comments and suggestions to Geoffrey, Anne or the office email before the end of August.

Churches are currently open over the summer as follows:

Churches are open for private prayer

All our churches are now open daily with signs on the doors explaining how to safely enter the churches for private prayer.

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.

Sunday Services in Church

We currently hold one Communion service per Sunday and move around the 4 places of worship in the benefice. Given that numbers attending each service may be restricted can we ask that you avoid visiting another church if possible. Of course, no one will be turned away but please try to be aware of what sort of seating capacity each church may have if “social distancing” is applied.

The weekly online service will continue throughout July but not in August when Geoffrey is on annual leave.

How church services will be different

See the accompanying document sent out with the church news (and on the website) for more details. The following is an outline:

- People will need to be greeted and shown to their seats
- Everyone will be asked to use hand sanitizer on entering church
- Holy Communion will be bread only - the celebrant will use hand sanitizer at the start of the service, at the offertory and immediately before the distribution of communion
- Currently singing is not permitted but this does not mean we cannot have music in our services
- We ask you please not to come if you are unwell
- Please wear a mask or covering, if you would prefer to.
- We are still able to take collections but there will be a box at the back of the church rather than passing round the plate.

Church Service Dates	
July 26 Idbury 11 am	August 23 Idbury 11 am
August 2 Milton 9.30 am	August 30 Fifield 11 am
August 9 Fifield 11 am	September 6 Milton 9.30 am
August 16 Shipton 11 am	September 13 Fifield 11 am

Weddings and Funerals can also now take place in church (with restricted numbers to ensure social distancing measures are respected).

Diary Dates

Shipton PCC Monday 27 July 7pm,

Shipton APCM Sunday 20 September 4pm

A date for your diaries

Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Ride and Stride, maybe in a simplified form, is due to take place on Saturday 12th September. Further information will be passed on when available.

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>

SUNDAY 26 JULY - TRINITY 7

11.00am Idbury BCP Holy Communion Parish Service in church

Benefice Service Online on Facebook & website from 9am

July 26th Trinity 7 Readings

First Reading Genesis 29:15-28 Jacob's love for Laban's daughter Rachel.

Second Reading Romans 8:26-end The Holy Spirit and Jesus both intercede for us so that, even in times of great distress, nothing can separate us from God's love.

Gospel Matthew 13:31-33. 44-52 In a series of parables Jesus shows how the kingdom of heaven starts small and grows very big, is of great value and scoops up all sorts of 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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Vicar: Rev Geoffrey Clement vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk 01993 832514

Rest Day: Thursday

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