



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 2 August, 2020

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

SUNDAY 2 AUGUST - TRINITY 8

9.30am Milton Holy Communion Parish Service in church

We hope to record part of the service and post it on facebook

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.
- The summer issue of *Pathways* the Diocesan magazine can be downloaded here: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/pathways-pdf-version/>

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **Amen**

Readings August 2 Trinity 8

First Reading Genesis 32:22-31 By the ford of Jabbok Jacob is attacked by a stranger. Jacob struggles until daybreak when the stranger blesses him and gives him a new name, Israel.

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5 Paul laments that though their history confirms them as the chosen people, Israel has turned its back on God's outpouring of grace in Jesus.

Gospel Matthew 14:13-21 Faced by a large crowd, Jesus cures the sick and, in the evening, feeds them. God's generosity is overwhelming, for twelve baskets of pieces are collected at the end.

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, Mark Forsbrey, Marian Clark, Meriel Brooke, Alastair Dods and Richard Adams.

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. Michèle Cole and Liam McIntrye will be getting married in Shipton church on 2 September.

Notices

Holidays

Geoffrey will be on annual leave from Sunday 2 August until 30 August inclusive.

Clare is on annual leave from Monday 10 – Friday 21 August.

If you need to contact a priest during this time, please contact Anne.

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.

Please complete the **feedback form** which is on the website before the end of August or speak to Geoffrey or Anne.

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.

New Guidance on face coverings 24 July 2020

"We strongly advise that face coverings should be worn by all those attending a place of worship" read the full guidance here: **[Face Coverings Guidance](#)**

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 unless it is a United Benefice Service where you are welcome to come but need to book.

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

How church services will be different

- People will be greeted and shown to their seats
- Please wear a mask or covering.
- 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 group 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.
- 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.

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

Church Service Dates	
16 Aug. 11am Shipton Holy Communion	6 Sep. 9.30am Milton United Benefice Holy Communion – booking required
23 Aug. 11am Idbury BCP Holy Communion	13 Sep. 11am Fifield BCP Holy Communion
30 Aug. 11am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion – booking required	20 Sep. 11am Shipton United Benefice - booking required

United Benefice Services

In order to host United Benefice services, it will be necessary to pre book your seat. We will be holding back a number of seats for the host church and then allocating a number for the other parishes of the benefice. This is to help us ensure that we can try to accommodate everyone and do not have to turn people away on the day. Please RSVP to Anne or the office.

Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Ride and Stride is taking place this year on Saturday 12 September

If you are able to take part and help raise funds for our churches, please visit the website:

<https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

Meetings locations or zoom details will be sent out beforehand.

Fifield with Idbury PCC Tuesday 15 Sept 6:30pm

JPCC Wednesday 16 September 7pm

Shipton APCM Sunday 20 September 4pm

Fifield with Idbury APCM Wednesday 14 October 6:30pm

Shipton Church update

Nave Roof

All the surveys on the nave roof have now taken place and we are in a position to start work at the end of September (funds permitting).

South Aisle

The next steps for the South Aisle roof are to procure scaffolding so access to the roof can be made to carry out surveys.

Reordering

With regards to the reordering, additional surveys need to be carried out before accurate estimates can be obtained to inform the fundraising team who will then be able to apply for grants.

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/>

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST - TRINITY 9

11am Fifield BCP Holy Communion Parish Service in church
We hope to record part of the service and post it on facebook.

First Reading Genesis 37:1-4. 12-28 The familiar story of Joseph's brothers selling him into slavery in Egypt reminds us how jealousy can destroy a relationship, but later God would bring good out of a seemingly impossible situation.

Second Reading Romans 10:5-15 Paul reminds us of our calling to help others believe in Jesus, for it is faith in him which has the power to save.

Gospel Matthew 14:22-33 When Peter took his eyes off Jesus, he momentarily lost faith in his own ability to do as Jesus commanded, but still knew Jesus could save him.

Contact Details

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

Tel 01993 832467 office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

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

Rest Day: Thursday

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