



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 26 July, 2020

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

SUNDAY 26 JULY - TRINITY 7

11.00am Idbury BCP 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.
- The summer issue of *Pathways* the Diocesan magazine can be downloaded here: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/pathways-pdf-version/>
- If you would like a copy of *Pathways* sent to your home the cost is £2 – send an email to: communications@oxford.anglican.org

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Today's Readings - Trinity 7

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.

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

Funerals: The funeral of John Bellars is on Friday 24th July.

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 sent out by email with the Church News and is also 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.

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

How church services will be different

The following is an outline, more details are on the website:

- 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 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
- Please wear a mask or covering.
- 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 | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| August 2 Milton 9.30 am | |
| August 9 Fifield 11 am | August 30 Shipton* 11 am |
| August 16 Shipton 11 am | September 6 Milton 9.30 am |
| August 23 Idbury 11 am | September 13 Fifield 11 am |

United Benefice Service in Shipton on 30 August

Please note we have slightly amended the rota of services over the next few weeks to trial a Benefice Service in Shipton* on Sunday 30 August.

In order to host this as a benefice service it will be necessary to pre book your seat. We will be holding back a number of seats for Shipton as 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 by Sunday 23 August.

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.

Meetings (all by zoom)

Shipton PCC Monday 27 July 7pm,

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

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 2 AUGUST - TRINITY 8

11.00am Milton CW Holy Communion Parish Service in church

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

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.

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