



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 5 July, 2020

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

## **SUNDAY 5 JULY - TRINITY 4**

9.30am Milton 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? Dial 01865 920930 and, once connected, dial 0 for the full version of the service, or dial 1 a short version of the service. Standard call rates apply and there will be a few seconds of silence before the service starts.

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **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.

**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 on 7 July.

**Weddings:** Abby Dudfield and Chris Humpherson will be getting married on 11 July in Milton Church.

## **Notices**

### **Opening up the churches after lockdown**

#### **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 from 5 July**

Our initial plan is to 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. As August is only a month away and some people will be away on holiday (myself included) this pattern of services will run until mid-September when it will be reviewed.

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.

## **Church Service Dates:**

### **July**

12<sup>th</sup> Fifield 11 am

19<sup>th</sup> Shipton 11 am

26<sup>th</sup> Idbury 11 am

### **August**

2<sup>nd</sup> Milton 9.30 am

9<sup>th</sup> Fifield 11 am

16<sup>th</sup> Shipton 11 am

23<sup>rd</sup> Idbury

30<sup>th</sup> Fifield

### **September**

6<sup>th</sup> Milton 9.3. am

13<sup>th</sup> Fifield 11 am

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

**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))

## **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

## Diary Dates

**Shipton PCC** Monday 27 July 7pm,

**Shipton APCM** Sunday 20 September 4pm

## 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>

## 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 12 JULY - TRINITY 5

11.00am Fifeild BCP Holy Communion Parish Service in church

Benefice Service Online on Facebook & website from 9am

**Today's Readings First Reading Genesis 25:19-end** The brotherly conflict between Isaac's twin sons, Esau and Jacob.

**Second Reading Romans 8:1-11** God has spoken the words of freedom through the Spirit, who brings life so that we can live fully.

**Gospel Matthew 13:1-9. 18-23** When we hear God's promise of the kingdom in our lives right now we become people of God's abundance for the world.

### 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](mailto:office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)

Vicar: Rev Geoffrey Clement [vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) 01993 832514

Rest Day: Thursday

Rev'd Anne Hartley [anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) 01993 830160