



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 7 February, 2021

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

## **SUNDAY 7 FEBRUARY – 2 BEFORE LENT**

11.00am Shipton Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Live Zoom Service followed by conversation & coffee  
from 11.30-12

We will post a recording of a service on Facebook and YouTube each Sunday. It will be available on the website from the Monday. [youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice](https://www.youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice)

There is an online service from the Diocese at 10am each Sunday. The order of service and links to view/listen are posted on Saturday:

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

### **Live Zoom Service - Sundays at 11am**

Join our Zoom Sunday Service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83839976916?pwd=Uk5DcmRJamY1V0YrMFo0czdUdGZydz09>

Meeting ID: 838 3997 6916

Passcode: Service

### **Zoom by phone**

It is also possible to join the zoom service by phone if you don't have internet or an alternative option. If you would like some help with zoom, get in touch with Liz 01993 684286 or Anne 01993 830160.

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Post Communion** God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **Second Sunday before Lent**

**First Reading Colossians 1:15-20** Paul proclaims that Christ is “the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation”. All things have been created through Christ, and in him “all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell”.

**Gospel John 1:1-14** In the prologue to his Gospel, John proclaims Christ as the Word who is God, and who was with God from the very beginning. His herald was John the Baptist; not the light himself, but the one chosen to bear witness to the light. The Word became flesh in Jesus, and those who received him were given power to become children of God.

**Prayer List:** Hostage John Cantlie, Marian Clark, Emma Bradford, Shauni McGregor (who is now in Katharine House), Robert Arlott, Joan Howard Drake and Wendy Cherry.

**Deanery:** St Kenelms, Enstone. Please pray for Mark Abrey and Ilona Cheyne.

**R.I.P.:** Phillip Pittaway

**Funerals:** Phillip Pittaway's funeral is on Thursday 18 February.

**Intercessions** In our prayers we are particularly praying for all in our care homes – especially those at Old Prebendal (staff and residents) following the recent flooding and evacuation. Also we pray for Tall Trees and The Paddocks; and all the elderly in our villages.

We pray for all affected by the flooding. We pray for the work of the foodbank.

We also pray for our school – for the teachers and staff and all the children.

## **Update from Geoffrey**

Here in the Wychwood Benefice we are for now continuing with one service of Communion each Sunday for the duration of the lockdown as well as the Wednesday Service in Milton. An online service will continue to be posted for those who wish to stay at home, as well as a Zoom Sunday service.

These will be simple said services, I do not wish to oblige anyone to attend who does not wish to, this includes sides-men/women or sacristans, readers, intercessors, so please can we suspend any rotas for the duration. I will bring my own Chalice and Pattern to minimise the involvement of others. I urge you to think seriously about attending these services, your safety must come first, and I will not be disappointed if there is no one attending.

**Church services for February are as follows. There is now also a rota of services up to the end of April which is on the website or available from the office.**

**February:**

7 Shipton 11am

14 Fifield 11am

17 Ash Wednesday 10.30am Milton

21 Milton 9.30am

28 Idbury 11am

**Mid Week Communion in Milton**

This will continue to be every Wednesday in Milton Church at 10.30am.

**Guidelines on coming to church:**

- **Booking:** It will be necessary to book to attend services in Fifield church. Contact Catherine, who will allocate seating 01993 831881 [catherine.lordlandry@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.lordlandry@gmail.com).
- We ask you please not to come if you (or anyone in your household) are unwell.
- Please wear a mask or covering and use hand sanitizer on entering church.
- Please sign in and use the track and trace system if possible.
- Please adhere to the advice displayed on signs in church with regards to social distancing and where to sit.

**Churches are still open for private prayer** and there will be copies of the orders of service and Church News available for you to take home in the churches.

**Lent Groups and Lent Book *Living is Christ, Dying is Gain***

As we enter Lent we will be looking at our chosen lent book during our home groups for 4 weeks from 22 February.

***Living is Christ, Dying is Gain*** is “Bishop Steven’s reflections on the book of Philippians. In this new and challenging season for the church, we are returning to the centre and rediscovering what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ in small groups and along simpler paths.

None of us would have chosen this journey in this way. But that does not mean that we have nothing to learn. Paul calls the Philippians out of lockdown to return to Christ as the centre and the pattern of their faith: to be contemplative, compassionate and courageous no matter what they are facing. The same call comes to us.

*Living is Christ, Dying is Gain* will be helpful to individuals and small groups of Christians meeting together online or in person in the coming months. Readers and small groups will, again, hear the simple call of Christ: follow me.”

If you’d like to join our home groups on zoom get in touch.

Or, if you would like to order a copy of the book for £2.50, let Geoffrey know.

## **Shipton prize draw**

The winner for the £100 for January was number 95!

If you would like to sign up to the monthly draw with the chance to win £100 a month (starting from £36 a year - £3 a month) see details on the website [monthly-draw-shipton-church/](http://monthly-draw-shipton-church/) or contact Mary: [minifan2@gmail.com](mailto:minifan2@gmail.com)

## **Prayer for the Nation**

Starting on 1 February, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York invite you to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. Details here:

[www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/20210126%20Letter%20to%20the%20nation.pdf](http://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/20210126%20Letter%20to%20the%20nation.pdf)

**The pastoral team** (Geoffrey, Anne and Elaine) are available if you or anyone you know might need pastoral or practical support. They are only too happy to receive your calls or emails.

## **Supporting the North Oxfordshire Community Foodbank**

We are continuing to support our local foodbank. Donations of long-life and non perishable foods, soap, toothpaste and basic cleaning materials eg. Washing-up liquid can be left at the village Co-op store or our local churches.

## **Sunday 14 February 2021 – Sunday Before Lent**

11.00am Fifeild BCP Holy Communion Church Service  
11.00am Zoom Service followed by coffee

## **First Reading 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

God's glory is revealed in Christ, but it is only clear to those who believe the Gospel, while the minds of unbelievers are blind to it.

## **Gospel Mark 9:2-9**

Jesus' true nature and identity are revealed on a mountain top to Peter, James and John. In his terror Peter makes a foolish suggestion, but he is interrupted by the appearance of a cloud and God's voice, ordering them to listen to God's Son.

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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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