



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 14 March, 2021

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

SUNDAY 14 MARCH – MOTHERING SUNDAY

9.30am Milton Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Mothering Sunday Family Zoom Service followed by coffee

If you would like to email a photo of your mother (or anyone who has had a nurturing role in your life) to Geoffrey by Saturday, we will include them in a montage at the end of the services. Emails to vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

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=Uk5DcmRJamYlV0YrMFo0czdUdGZydz09>

Meeting ID: 838 3997 6916

Passcode: Service

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 God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Exodus 2:1-10 Moses is loved by his mother so much she is prepared to bear the pain of separation from him in order to protect his life.

Second Reading Colossians 3:12-17 As people of God we should treat each other with compassion and understanding and forgive each other as God has forgiven us.

Gospel John 19:25-27 Just before he died, Jesus entrusted his mother and his beloved disciple to each others' care.

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, Marian Clark, Emma Bradford, Robert Arlott, Joan Howard Drake and Wendy Cherry.

Deanery: All Saints, Shorthampton. Please pray for Sally Welch, Jan Fielden, Tish Bird and churchwardens Dine Glasgow and Paddy Gallagher.

R.I.P. Ivan Puschnik and Bill Izod.

Funerals: Bill Izod's funeral is on Tuesday 16 March.

Plans for Holy Week and Easter:

Palm Sunday 28 March *Don't forget the clocks go forward!*

This year our **Palm Sunday Service will be held at 11am on 28 March in Shipton Church.** We are also hoping the church will be free of scaffolding as phase one of the works will have been completed.

There will be also be a live zoom service at 11am.

If you would like a palm cross, these are available in our churches now.

We will be supporting Christian Aid's Lent and Easter campaign on Palm Sunday. A short film will be shown during coffee after the zoom service and during the prerecorded church service about the work of Christian Aid (who celebrate 75 years this year) and anyone who would like to make a donation will be able to do so. Visit their website for further details on the work CA do:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

Passover Service on Zoom: Wednesday 31 March 6.30pm

This year we are going to host a Passover Service on Zoom. This will be an interactive service where we learn about the Jewish tradition of the "Passover meal" You will need to book so that we can provide you with a "takeaway bag" with instructions and some of the items needed so that everyone can partake in the rituals.

We suggest that you have your meal prepared to have after the service and if anyone wishes to remain on zoom together you are very welcome to do so. Traditionally the supper would have been roast lamb but you can prepare whatever you like. Please let us know if you would like to join us - email anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk by Wednesday 24 March.

Maundy Thursday 1 April

Holy Communion Service 10.30am in Milton Church

Good Friday 2 April

On **Good Friday** we will have our **family service** in Milton church at 9.30am, followed by hot cross buns. After the service there is the opportunity to go on a leisurely walk across the countryside to **Fifield** for a **picnic** at 12noon. We then make our way to **Idbury Church for our 2pm Hour at the Cross service**. This year groups of 6 (from multiple households) or two households will be permitted to walk together and have a socially distanced picnic. We are asking people to let us know if they would like to do the walk this year so that we can a) stagger the groups if there are too many people and b) provide groups with a copy of the map and readings. Email office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

Easter Saturday 3 April – Easter Trail in Milton

This is a collaborative initiative and we have agreed to be part of an Easter Family Trail running in Milton on Saturday 3 April. The trail will begin in Milton church. Families can collect a booklet for the trail and then take part in the first of 6 stops or “stations” offering a chance to experience parts of the Easter Story. We will be depicting the Last Supper and hope to offer the chance for children/families to partake in an interactive experience. More details to follow.

Easter Sunday 4 April

9.30am Live Zoom Holy Communion Service

I I am Shipton Easter Communion Church Service*

**Please book seats for the Easter Day Service – email office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk*

Flowers for Easter

We are trying to raise some funds for flowers in our churches. If you would like to donate towards flowers over Easter, perhaps in memory of someone then please get in touch or leave a donation at the Benefice Centre or email Clare in the office.

Cleaning in Shipton Church

If you would be able to help with a one-off clean of Shipton church once the scaffolding is down, please get in touch with Anne.

Coming out of lockdown We are still awaiting further guidelines from the Church of England but are hoping to go back to our usual rota of services in our churches from May. As we finalise our plans, it is an opportunity to gather feedback from those who have attended, watched and joined in the different services we have made available during this time. We will of course be continuing with all the necessary covid measures.

If you would prefer to continue with some kind of online church service please can you let us know so that we can think about what we do next. It would be helpful to have any/all views that you are happy to share with us.

For now we are 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 urge you to think seriously about attending these services, your safety must come first.

Church services for the next few weeks are on the website

<https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Services-Feb-April-2021-onecol.pdf>

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.
- 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*

There are still some copies of our chosen Lent Book available. These are in Milton church and are £2.50 or you are welcome to borrow and then return a copy. *Living is Christ, Dying is Gain* is Bishop Steven's reflections on the book of Philipians.

Sunday 21 March 2021 Fifth Sunday of Lent

11.00am Idbury BCP Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Zoom Service followed by coffee

First Reading Hebrews 5:5-10, Gospel John 12:20-33

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

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

Rest Day Thursday

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