



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 7 March, 2021

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

SUNDAY 7 MARCH – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

- 11.00am Fifiield BCP Holy Communion Church Service
(Please book via Catherine Hitchens 01993 831881)
- 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=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 Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading I Corinthians 1:18-25 Paul begins his letter to the Corinthians with a statement of the contradictory nature of the Gospel. What seems like utter foolishness to the unconvinced is new life and hope to the ones who have been transformed by its power.

Gospel John 2:13-22 Jesus violently disrupts the trading that takes place in the temple courts. Right at the beginning of John's Gospel, Jesus' actions shadow the great change and disruption his death and resurrection will bring about when the story closes.

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

Deanery: St Peters, Wilcote. Please pray for Paul Mansell and Gail Ward.

Mothering Sunday Sunday 14 March is Mothering Sunday – a time when many families often come to church, we distribute flowers and give thanks to God for all who mother us. This year we will be holding a Holy Communion Service in Milton church at 9.30am. In addition to this we will have a special family service for everyone at 11am on Zoom followed by online coffee and conversation. Do spread the word and join us for one of our services.

Palm Sunday 28 March

Our Palm Sunday Service will be held in Shipton church at 11am on 28 March and there will be also be a live zoom service at 11am. If you would like a palm cross, these will be available in our churches from this Sunday for you to take home.

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 to make sure that we can continue to welcome you safely into our church buildings.

If you think 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 – whether we continue to offer a live zoom service or a prerecorded service or perhaps film a church service. 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, and I will not be disappointed if there is no one attending.

Church services for the next few weeks are as follows. There is a rota of services up to the end of April on the website <https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Services-Feb-April-2021-onecol.pdf>

March: 21st Idbury I Iam BCP Holy Communion
28th Shipton I Iam Palm Sunday Holy Communion

Mid Week Communion in Milton every Wednesday 10.30am in Milton Church.

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.

Shipton Monthly Prize Draw – £100 prize every month!

Congratulations to February's winner. The lucky number was 61.

If you would haven't yet signed up to this and would like to (costs from £36 a year, £3 a month) see details on the website <https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-monthly-draw-100-prize-each-month-and-help-raise-funds-for-shipton-church/> or contact Mary: minifan2@gmail.com

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.

You can listen to Bishop Steven reading the first part of the book here:

[https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/wp-](https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/S4E11_Philippians_1.mp3)

[content/uploads/2020/07/S4E11_Philippians_1.mp3](https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/S4E11_Philippians_1.mp3) If you'd like to join our home groups on zoom get in touch with Geoffrey or Anne.

The pastoral team (Geoffrey, Anne and Elaine) are available if you or anyone you know might need pastoral or practical support. Please get in touch.

Supporting the North Oxfordshire Community Foodbank

There has been a great response by the community to the Food Bank trolley in Milton Co-op. The generosity of the people of Milton and the surrounding villages is heartening. As the winter progresses, I am sure we will all continue to remember those who are struggling.

Donations of long-life and non perishable foods, soap, toothpaste and basic cleaning materials can be left at the village Co-op store or our local churches.

Sunday 14 March 2021 Mothering Sunday

9.30am Milton Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Mothering Sunday Family Zoom Service followed by coffee

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.

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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Rest Day Thursday

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