



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 2 May 2021

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

## **SUNDAY 2 MAY – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 9.30am Milton Holy Communion Church Service *-ALSO LIVESTREAMED*  
11.00am Fifield BCP Holy Communion Church Service - *Please contact Catherine Hitchens to book seats on 01993 831881.*  
11.00am Shipton Holy Communion Church Service

*N.B. No Zoom Service today to enable people to attend church services.*

**Livestreaming Services:** We are now able to livestream services from Milton Church to Facebook (which can also be watched at a later date). This includes Midweek Holy Communion and the Sunday Service. Where there is not a Sunday Church Service in Milton, another Service will be recorded and posted online to YouTube and Facebook [youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice](https://www.youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice) [facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice](https://www.facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice)

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

**First Reading Acts 8:26-40** The Spirit of Jesus went out with Philip and his understanding drew the Ethiopian towards faith in Jesus.

**Gospel John 15:1-8** Jesus the vine nurtures and sustains us and we can only bear fruit through connection with him.

**Prayer List:** Hostage John Cantlie, Marian Clark, Emma Bradford, Robert Arlott, Joan Howard Drake, Sheilah Peregrine and Paul Ricketts.

### **Services from May onwards**

As we come out of a period of lockdown, we are pleased to return to a more normal pattern of services. A rota of services is available on the [wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/rota-of-services-may-december-2021/](http://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/rota-of-services-may-december-2021/) or email the office

### **Guidelines on coming to church:**

- Please 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 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.

### **Livestreaming/ Online/ Zoom Services:**

In May we will hold live zoom services on Sunday 9 & 16 May.

We will review our zoom services again in June.

We are now able to livestream services from Milton church to Facebook. Where there is no service in Milton, another of the church services will be filmed and posted online.

### **Mid-Week Holy Communion for Ascension Day**

We will hold Mid-Week Holy Communion on **Thursday 13 May** (instead of Wednesday 12 May) at 10.30am in Milton Church to celebrate Ascension Day.

### **Meeting Dates**

**Shipton's APCM** has been pushed back to Sunday 23 May 4pm. This will hopefully take place in church.

**Fifield with Idbury's APCM** is on 15 June, 6.30pm in Fifield Church.

**Milton APCM** is now on Sunday 20 June at 11.15am (after the service).



## **Christian Aid Week 10-16 May**

### **Have you or your loved ones had your vaccine?**

Please give thanks with a donation to help protect our global neighbours while the vaccine is out of reach at:

[christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-donate/give-thanks-your-coronavirus-vaccine](https://christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-donate/give-thanks-your-coronavirus-vaccine)

### **A Pound for St Mary's**

The programme of events to raise money for St Mary's Church will be announced soon, but here is a simple way you can help right now, from the comfort of your sofa.

There are apparently some £130m old £1 coins still in circulation, that can't be used. We probably all have some at home (check the back of the sofa) and in our cars but can't do anything with them. They are not legal tender in shops etc. but can be paid into a bank account and returned to the Royal Mint.

So the hunt is on! See how many you and your family can find

You can either leave them in the special old £1 coin collection box in Shipton church or post them through the Vicar's letterbox in Shipton.

There's no need to stop at £1 coins - if you have any notes that are out of date please bring them along too! Good luck - and thank you.

We've also asked school to take part over the Bank Holiday weekend. If you have children at school, please bring your £1 coins to drop off on Tuesday 4 May.

**St Mary's Fundraising Group**

### **Baptisms**

We are pleased to be able to offer baptisms once more. Please get in touch with Geoffrey or Anne if you would like to discuss having a child baptized.

### **Confirmation**

A small group will be meeting on Tuesdays to explore faith in Jesus and what it means to be a Christian in the world today. If you would like to join us, whether you have been confirmed or are considering confirmation in the future, please let me know. All are welcome.

The first session will be on Tuesday 27th April at 1.30pm

Contact Revd Anne Hartley: [anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) Tel: 07770745621

## **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.

**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 9 MAY – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Live Zoom Service followed by coffee

### **First Reading** Isaiah 55:1-11

The prophet invites the hungry and thirsty people to partake freely of food and drink.

### **Gospel** John 15:9-17

Abide in love, Jesus says, before calling his disciples friends, not servants.

Clare is working mainly from home and will be checking emails and phone messages Mon – Fri.

Tel 01993 832467 [office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)

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