



WychwoodBenefice

Church News 16 May 2021

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

SUNDAY 16 MAY – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 9.30am Milton United Benefice Holy Communion Church Service
This service will be Livestreamed to Facebook
- 11.00am Live Zoom Service followed by coffee

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.

Livestreaming/ Online/ Zoom Services:

In June we will hold a live zoom services on Sunday 6 June. We are then planning to stop the zoom services over the summer and possibly resume them later in the year.

We are now able to livestream services from Milton church to Facebook facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice. This includes Midweek Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 10.30am and the Sunday Service. Where there is no service in Milton, another of the church services will be filmed and posted online to Facebook and YouTube youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice.

Can you Help?

As we continue to offer services online as well as in church, we really need a team of people to assist us with the livestreaming and recording of services. Tasks range from simple things like checking the camera remains on during a service to helping set up the equipment. Training will be provided and all offers of help would be much appreciated. Please get in touch with Geoffrey to find out more.

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Acts 1:15-17. 21-26 The disciples are waiting in the city for “the promise of the Father”. While they wait they choose Matthias to take the place of Judas.

Gospel John 17:6-19 At the Last Supper Jesus prays that his disciples will keep the faith and abide by God’s word; by this, Jesus’ name is glorified in the world.

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

R.I.P.: Janet Search.

NEW Monthly Discussion Group starts Tues 18 May 10.30 Milton Church

Each month we will watch a sermon or talk on a thought-provoking issue which we will then explore and discuss from a Christian perspective.

For our first session we will be watching a Sermon given by Amy-Jill Levine exploring Jewish- Christian perspectives on the Bible. Amy-Jill Levine is Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, Department of Religious Studies, and Graduate Department of Religion.

Sun 23 May I am Milton Church Informal Service with Mini Messy Church

This month’s Messy Church Takeaway Bags will be available at this service. We will conclude with refreshments, but you will need to bring your own, so please bring a snack (cake or biscuit). The theme will be Pentecost and we will be celebrating the Birthday of the Church so please include a piece of cake (or cupcake) by way of Birthday Cake.

Rogation Service Sunday 30 May 9.30am in Milton

We will walk over to the allotments for final prayers and the blessing. Coffee will be provided after the service (outdoors). We will then walk across the fields to Bruern Farm Shop (approx. 30 minute walk). The shop will be open and there will be a talk about their produce and exciting plans for the future.

Christian Aid Week 10-16 May Thanks to everyone who has donated.

christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-donate/give-thanks-your-coronavirus-vaccine

Services from May onwards

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/ or email the office.

The next step on the Government Road map will take effect on 17th May.

For services this will not mean any great changes. We still need to practice distancing, and the wearing of masks. The choir will still need to be limited to few in number and congregational singing is not permitted. For the present refreshments can only be served for “take out” purposes, this may change as of 17th May.

However, once we reach the 21st June there should be further relaxations of all restrictions.

Messy Church is considered as being the same as mainstream “Church” and so all the usual guidelines apply.

The most recent updated guidance from the Church of England can be read here:

www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance?utm_source=newsletter#na

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.
- 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 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.

Meeting Dates

Shipton's APCM is now Sunday 23 May 4pm -hopefully in the 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).

Changes to Marriage Registration from 4 May 2021

The responsibility for registering a marriage now lies with the local civil Registrar of the district where the marriage takes place. The church will no longer give couples a legal certificate of marriage.

The new registration process will enable all marriages to be recorded and stored online. As the changes were being considered, it was also an opportunity for the

General Register Office (GRO) to enable the details of mothers and step-parents/adoptive parents to be included on the marriage certificate for the first time. Churches will no longer issue certificates or hold Marriage Registers. Instead, clergy, couples and witnesses will sign a Marriage Document during the Marriage Service which is then sent by the Minister to the Registrar. The couple can then order their marriage certificate/s direct from the Registrar.

This also means that any requests for copies of certificates (of Marriages of any date) will need to be made direct to the Registrar.

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. Contact Revd Anne Hartley: anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk Tel: 07770745621.

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 23 MAY – PENTECOST

- 8.15am Shipton BCP Holy Communion Church Service
 - 11.00am Milton Informal Service with Mini Messy Church
 - 11.00am Idbury BCP Holy Communion Church Service
 - 11.00am Shipton BCP Morning Prayer Church Service
- A Service will be posted online.

First Reading Acts 2:1-21

Gospel John 15:26-27. 16:4b-15

Clare is working mainly 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