



# WychwoodBenefice

Church News 23 May 2021

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

## **SUNDAY 23 MAY – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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

### **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](https://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](https://youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice).

### **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**First Reading Acts 2:1-21** The coming of the Spirit gives the first Christian leaders the energy and courage to proclaim the Gospel.

**Gospel John 15:26-27. 16:4b-15** Jesus speaks of the Spirit who will guide and enable the disciples when Jesus himself has gone.

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

**R.I.P.:** Janet Search.

### **Sun 23 May I 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.

### **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.

### **Pattern of Services**

We are pleased to now 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.

The next step on the Government Road takes effect from 17 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 17<sup>th</sup> May.

However, once we reach the 21<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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.

## **Holidays:**

Anne will be away from 21-28 May.

Geoffrey will be working reduced hours during half term.

Clare will only be working Tuesday 1 June during half term week

## **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).

## **Diocesan Synod election**

Diocesan Synod. Our deanery is represented at Diocesan Synod by two clergy and two lay members. You don't have to be a member of Deanery Synod, but you do need to be enthusiastic about how our Diocese is run, this is open to anyone on the church electoral role although the proposer and seconder need to be Deanery Synod members.

If you would like to be nominated or know that someone else would like to be nominated, please contact either Geoffrey or Anne. The proposer and seconder need to be lay members of Deanery Synod but (as I said earlier) the candidate does not. The closing date for nominations is Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June

## **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.

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.

## 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](mailto: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.

## A Pound for St Mary's

We are still collecting your old £1 coins (or any other old notes). 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. Thank you. **St Mary's Fundraising Group**

## Shipton Prize Draw

If you would like to sign up for the draw for a chance to win £100, please contact Mary: [minifan2@gmail.com](mailto:minifan2@gmail.com)

## SUNDAY 30 MAY – TRINITY SUNDAY

9.30am Milton United Benefice Rogation Church Service followed by walk to allotments and Bruern farm shop.  
*The service will be livestreamed on Facebook.*

**First Reading Romans 8:12-17.**

**Gospel John 3:1-17**

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

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Rest Day Thursday

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