



# Wychwood Benefice

Church News 30 May 2021

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

## **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.*

### **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 short talk by Henry Astor about their produce and exciting plans for the future.

### **PRAYERS AND READINGS**

**Collect** Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**First Reading Romans 8:12-17** This is Paul at his most vivid, joyful, and enthusiastic. His excitement for his faith bubbles up as he tells his readers that, when we call to God, the Spirit – God's very self – joins with us.

**Gospel John 3:1-17** Nicodemus, a Jewish leader, has a powerful encounter with Jesus. Jesus speaks in mystical language about life, new birth, and the Spirit. It is too overwhelming for the Pharisee.

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

**R.I.P.:** Janet Search, Susan Ensor, Roger Gillespie, Dorothy Sansom and Barbara Wilson.

**Funerals:** Roger Gillespie's funeral is on Tuesday 1 June. Susan Ensor's funeral is on Friday 4 June. Dorothy Sansom's funeral is on 14 June.

### **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 will continue to livestream Sunday services from Milton church as well as the midweek Holy Communion service on Facebook [facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice](https://facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice). Where there is no service in Milton, another of the church services will be filmed or there will be a prerecorded service posted online to [youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice](https://youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice)

### **Can you Help us with filming and livestreaming our church services?**

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/](https://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](https://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](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 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 Church update**

The first stage of the work is now complete; this has involved replacing a substantial amount of stonework on the outside. The removal and repair of the Victorian cast iron supports to the nave clearstory, replacing damaged roof timbers, replastering, and fitting new lights in the nave and west end.

The church is now undergoing a thorough cleaning from head to toe. A big thank you to everyone who has been and currently is involved with the cleaning. Already with the addition of the new lighting the church is looking fantastic. There is a wedding in Shipton on Saturday 5th June, and we aim to have the church looking at its best by then. However, there is a lot more work to be done!

The next stage is to fix the S Aisle roof and of course carry out the improvements – heating, floor, kitchen area, toilets etc.

As well as the PCC I would like to thank everyone who has helped make this possible by their generous donations of time and money. Thank you! Geoffrey

### **Shipton Church Rota for Regular Cleaning**

In addition to the current clean-up of Shipton following the end of phase one work, we are trying to put together a rota for the regular cleaning that will start in a few weeks. If you would be willing to be part this do get in touch with Jane Graham tel 01993 830244 or email [janegraham.suw@gmail.com](mailto:janegraham.suw@gmail.com) .

### **Holidays:**

Geoffrey will be working reduced hours during half term.

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

### **Meeting Dates**

**JPCC:** Tuesday 8 June 10am in Milton 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**

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.

**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

All your donations are greatly appreciated. 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 6 JUNE – TRINITY I

11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion Church Service

11.00am Live Service on Zoom followed by coffee

*A Service will also be posted online*

**First Reading 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1** Paul encourages others to share his focused, faith-filled choice to trust in God's grace and eternal provision beyond this world's visible decay and distress.

**Gospel Mark 3:20-end** Jesus refutes accusations of madness and devilry, dismissing the charge that he is fighting evil with evil. He calls out the wickedness of declaring God's work as demonic.

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

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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