



WychwoodBenefice

Church News 9 May 2021

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

SUNDAY 9 MAY – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion Church Service
This service will be recorded and posted to YouTube & 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 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 [facebook.com/WychwoodBenefice](https://www.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://www.youtube.com/wychwoodbenefice).

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Post Communion God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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).



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

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. It is an historic change.

What this means?

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.

A Pound for St Mary's

We are still collecting your old £1 coins (or even notes that are out of date). 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

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

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.

Shipton Prize Draw for April

Congratulations to this month's winner. The lucky number was 6. If you would like to sign up for the draw please contact Mary: minifan2@gmail.com

SUNDAY 16 MAY – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

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.

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