



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 5 & 12 September 2021

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

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER – TRINITY 14

- 9.30am Milton Holy Communion ***livestreamed on Facebook***
11.00am Fifield BCP Holy Communion
11.00am Shipton Holy Communion

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17 Our faith in the God of justice and mercy has to be acted out in our lives for it to mean anything at all.

Gospel Mark 7:24-end Jesus heals a girl with an unclean spirit and a deaf man with a speech impediment, to the crowd's amazement.

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, Marian Clark, Emma Bradford and Iain Russell-Jarvie.

R.I.P.: Philip Buckingham and Daphne Waugh.

SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER – TRINITY 15

- 11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion with Bishop Gavin
livestreamed on Facebook

Do join us for this special service and stay afterwards for refreshments.

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Collect Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading James 3:1-12 Not many should become teachers. They will be judged more harshly. Although small, the tongue is a fire which no one can tame. It blesses God, but also curses those who were made in the likeness of God.

Gospel Mark 8:27-end Jesus asks his disciples who people say that he is. John the Baptist or Elijah, they reply. He then asks who the disciples say that he is and Peter declares, "You are the Messiah." Jesus then foretells his death and resurrection and Peter rebukes him. But Jesus tells them that those who want to follow him must take up their cross.

MID WEEK HOLY COMMUNION Wednesdays at 10.30am in Milton Church

Current Guidance on Coming to Church

- **We ask you please not to come if you or anyone in your household is unwell with Covid symptoms.**
- **Masks** Although not obliged to do so, please consider wearing a mask in Church.
- **Hand sanitizer** is readily available.
- **Space and Seating** We will have an area in church for those who prefer to keep their distance.
- **Communion Services** Clergy will wear a mask whilst preparing the elements and distributing the Communion as at present.
- **Congregational singing** Where services have congregational singing, we strongly recommend wearing a mask whilst singing. Please also consider singing more softly than you might usually do, as louder singing increases the risk to other members of the church. The quantity of congregational singing in services may be limited at first.
- **Register of Attendance in Church** We are encouraging people to continue to sign in and check in using the QR code displayed on the posters in church. These are not the same as close contact alerts issues by the NHS Covid app.

Details of Services

For the most up to date details of services, please visit the Benefice Calendar on the homepage of the website (scroll to the bottom of the home page or select *Main Benefice Calendar* from the Menu at the top) <https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/>

Back to Church Season

As we emerge from the restrictions, we would like to invite people to come back to join us in church. The **“Back to Church Season”** gives us an opportunity to invite people to come and join us, to “come and see”. There are some seasonal services that lend themselves to this kind of invitation: Harvest, All Souls, Remembrance, Shoe Box Sunday and of course in December the Carol services.

We have special invitation cards that you can use to invite someone, friend neighbour or someone you haven't seen in church for a while. In addition, we will be extending an invitation to those on the Electoral Roll.

The next step is down to YOU! Think of who you would like to invite and ask them: “Would you like to...?” “Would you mind...?” “Why not come...?”

Now in church: Look out for the invitation cards and the flyers in church.

Money Matters!

During lockdown it is no secret that church giving took a slight downturn. In the case of Milton, the deficit for 2020 was £1,000 per month. With this in mind a small group decided that their lockdown experience meant they have slightly healthier finances as their usual outgoings have been less. They therefore took the decision to anonymously make one-off donations of £500. I would like to express my gratitude to those who have given so generously, as well as encourage us all to consider how we might help bridge the gap which has appeared in the finances of all our churches in the benefice. Geoffrey

Cleaning Rota for Shipton Church starting Thursday 9 September

We hope to start our church cleaning rota on Thursday September 9 from 9.30.

This involves only 2 hours every 3 months and the more volunteers, the quicker it is done. Please join us. Please get in touch with Jane Graham who is putting together the rota tel 01993 830244 or email janegraham.suw@gmail.com.

Local Pilgrim Paths Walks 11 & 12 September

There are several walks over the weekend including one leaving from Milton Church walking to Fifield and Idbury. For details and to book please see:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/chipping-norton-deanery-17544154393>

Car Boot Sale Success! The Bank Holiday Car Boot Sale raised £1200 for Shipton Church. Thanks to all who sold, helped organise and supported it on the day.

Ride and Stride Saturday 11 September

If you are interested in taking part please visit the website for further details:

<https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

Messy Church is back

After the summer holidays we are planning on restarting Messy Church in person. The first get-together will be Sunday 3rd October the venue will be confirmed once the school reopens in September. Then the next will be 21st November and then Monday 20th December for a Christmas Special.

Pastoral Support

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 always 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.

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER – TRINITY 16

9.30am Milton United Benefice Holy Communion
livestreamed on Facebook

11.00am Live Zoom Service

First Reading James 3:13 – 4:3. 7-8a The root causes of human conflict are greed and personal ambition. Sinners who are penitent, however, receive God's forgiveness.

Gospel Mark 9:30-37 Jesus uses the example of a little child to remind the disciples that life in the kingdom will have very different priorities.

Clare is working Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

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Rest Day Thursday

Rev'd Anne Hartley anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk 01993 830160