



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 20 and 27 March 2022

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

SUNDAY 20 MARCH – LENT 3

- 9.30am Milton United Benefice Holy Communion **livestreamed**
3-5pm Messy Church at Wychwood School - *activities and games ending with a shared tea.*
6pm Shipton Choral Evensong

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR C)

Collect Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading **1 Corinthians 10:1-13** Paul warns Christians against turning from God as the people did in the Sinai wilderness. Believers are to be alert to the dangers of immorality, idolatry and testing God's patience, but confident that they will never be tempted beyond their capacity to endure.

Gospel **Luke 13:1-9** Jesus teaches that, while disaster is not necessarily a punishment for sin, all need to repent of behaviour that leads to destructive outcomes. God's grace may bring opportunities to turn away from our sins, and it is wise to use them.

Prayer List: Hostage John Cantlie, Marian Clark, Emma Bradford and Craig Smith.

R.I.P.: Nicholas Meredith.

Deanery: 20 March St Giles' Wigginton. Please pray for Janet Faull, Janet Collins, Keith Disney and churchwardens Hugo Brown and Nicholas Case. 27 March St Peter's Cornwell. Please pray for David Salter, James Kennedy, Martha Simpson, Roger Simpson, Judith Marshall and churchwarden Charles Colston.

SUNDAY 27 MARCH – MOTHERING SUNDAY

Clocks go forward today

8.15am	Shipton BCP Holy Communion
9.30am	Milton Mothering Sunday livestreamed
11.00am	Shipton Mothering Sunday
11.00am	Fifield Mothering Sunday

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR C)

Collect God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Exodus 2:1-10 The story of Moses' mother, who entrusted her baby son to a basket among the reeds because she knew he would be slaughtered if he remained with her. Through a clever plan, when the baby was found by Pharaoh's daughter, his own mother was asked to be his nurse.

Colossians 3:12-17 Paul's guidance for the life of love that God's children are called to live. It is too difficult for us, but God gives us all we need to make it completely possible.

Luke 2:33-35 The words of Simeon to the mother of Jesus, which give huge blessing but also prophesy the pain that she will suffer because of her son.

MID WEEK HOLY COMMUNION Wednesdays at 10.30am in Milton Church.

Messy Church Sunday 20 March 3-5pm The theme for this month is "From Small Beginnings". We will be celebrating small seeds, plants and birds.

Palm Sunday 10 April

This year we will be processing from Milton Green at 10.45 (with pony) to arrive for an I Am United Benefice Service in Milton Church. The service will be followed by a simple Lent Lunch in the church (soup, bread and cheese) and children's activities. This year donations will be in aid of Ukraine.

To help us cater, please can you book for your lunch by Friday 10 April. Email office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk or tel 01993 832467.

If you can help with making soup or help on the day please call Heather: 01993 830381.

Ways to help Ukraine

Firstly thank you to everyone who helped with the collections at Milton and Shipton churches. We are delighted to report that the lorry with our donations has now reached Ukraine.

If you are interested in offering accommodation the Government have set up a scheme to do this. However it may be easier to register your interest with Sanctuary Foundation -an organisation with experience of matching refugees to families which is supported by many churches and is there to help people navigate the steps. Details here: <https://sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk/>

Donations of Money

If you would like to you can donate via the DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee) Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. You'll help DEC charities provide food, water, shelter and healthcare to refugees and displaced families.

Details here: donation.dec.org.uk/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal

There is also a more local organisation collecting funds:

<https://www.oursupport4ukraine.com/>

Cake & Produce Sale Saturday 19 March 10.30-12noon Fifield Churchyard

Home made Cakes and produce. Proceeds for Fifield Church Funds. All contributions Welcome. More information from Catherine Hitchens 01993 831881.

Garage Sale in Fifield House Stable Yard Saturday 2 April

Stalls. Bar. Barbecue. A new venture for Fifield – with some very good items including antique china for sale. Details from Catherine Hitchens 01993 831881.

Donating to Milton church is now even easier!

There is now a card reader at Milton Church (Goodbox). We would encourage people to use this with their bank card in preference to cash. There is less administration and it will also help us work out small donations eligible for Gift Aid at the end of the year.

Tall Trees, Old Prebendal House and The Paddocks

We are once again able to offer visits and services to those in elderly Care in our parishes including informal Songs of Praise, Holy Communion and coffee and chat. If you can support an elderly person so that they can engage with a service or join in a conversation, or you can help with music or lead a service, please contact Anne 07770745621 anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk .

Shipton Monthly Prize Draw

The winning number for February was 43! If you have not yet signed up for this year, you can complete the application form here (also available in Shipton church).

wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Shipton-Prize-Draw-application-2022.pdf

The monthly prize draw starts at just £36 a year for one number (12 x £3) you can sign up to as many numbers as you like. **Each month there will be a £100 prize.** All funds raised go towards the next phase of Shipton's repair work.

Guidance on coming to church now restrictions have been removed

We ask that you continue to please stay at home if you are feeling at all unwell.

- **Hand sanitizer** is readily available.
- **Face coverings** are no longer mandatory but are recommended in enclosed or crowded places. We still recommend wearing a mask whilst singing.
- **Space and Seating:** Where possible there are pews in church for those who prefer to keep their distance. We will also provide cards to place next to you asking people to leave the seats next to you free.
- **Communion Services** Clergy will wear a mask whilst preparing the elements and distributing the Communion as at present.

Thank You.

SUNDAY 3 APRIL – LENT 5

11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion **livestreamed**

READINGS

First Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14 Paul's former righteousness has been overturned by Christ. Paul longs to be one with him, and presses on to his goal – fulfilling Christ's call.

Gospel John 12:1-8 Jesus attends a dinner at the home of Lazarus. Mary anoints Jesus with costly perfume and so reveals the path of true discipleship.

Clare is working Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

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

Contactable on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings

If you'd like to receive the Church News by email, please contact the office.