



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 24 December 2022 – 8 January 2023

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

CHRISTMAS EVE SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER

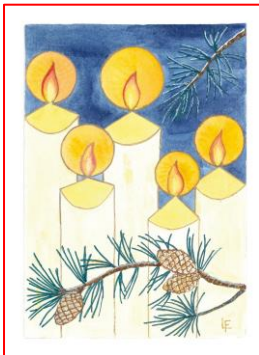
- 4pm Crib & Christingle Milton
- 4pm Crib & Christingle Shipton
- 4pm Crib & Christingle Fifield
- 11pm Midnight Communion Shipton

Village Carols around the Tree

- 6pm Milton
- 7pm Shipton

PRAYERS AND READINGS

Same as Christmas Day



CHRISTMAS DAY SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER

- 9.30am Christmas Communion Milton
- 11.00am Christmas Communion Shipton
- 11.00am Christmas Family Service Fifield

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR A)

Collect Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen**

Post Communion God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12] The writer explains that Christ is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's being. He was involved in creation and sustains all things. After purifying our sins he sat down at God's right hand, superior even to angels.

Gospel John 1:1-14 John sets out the main themes of his book in this prologue and introduces us to the idea of Jesus as the Word, an intrinsic part of all creation.

Prayer List: Marian Clark, Emma Bradford, Chris Seviour, Baby Humphrey Jupp, Catherine Wallace, Sian Jones, Julian Rizzello and Marie Gill.

R.I.P. Margaret Young, Emily Hickman, Oliver Chapple and Nigel Adams.

Funerals: The funeral for Oliver Chapple is on Saturday 7 January 12.30pm in Milton Church.

SUNDAY 1 JANUARY 2023 – CHRISTMAS 2

11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR A)

Collect God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love: gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Post Communion Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Hebrews 2:10-end Because of Jesus, we know that God does not stand apart from human beings in any part of our experience. Rather, God is with us even in the depths of our own suffering.

Gospel Matthew 2:13-end This is a story in three parts, each one fulfilling an Old Testament scripture. At the heart of it we see Mary, Joseph and Jesus fleeing as refugees from one land to another, seeking safety

Wednesday Mid-Week Holy Communion 10.30am Milton Church.

Epiphany will be celebrated on Friday 6 January 10.30am in Milton Church (so no Mid-Week Communion on Wednesday 4 January).

Contact over Christmas

Geoffrey will be on leave for the week after Christmas.

Clare will be on leave from 20th December, working 28th and 29th and then Friday 6th January.

During this time if you need to speak to a priest urgently, please contact Anne.

Care Homes and Warm Hubs

The Fifield Warm Hub in Fifield Parish Hall this Winter Tuesday 20th December 11am-1pm.

A chance to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and slice of cake, meet friends, perhaps do a jigsaw or some handicrafts or just enjoy a chat. No need to book and no charge.

Everyone very welcome. For more information contact Catherine Hitchens (01993 831881) or Rosemary Alexander (01993 830484).

Keeping warm in church

We will be turning on the heating in church, but it may not be turned on as early as usual. It would be a good idea to come to church well wrapped up, just in case.

Home Communion over Christmas?

If anyone would like communion at home over Christmas, please get in touch with Geoffrey or Anne.

The Christmas Experience in Shipton Church

The Experiencing Christmas Nativity scene is now in Shipton church. The church is open every day please feel free to drop in and take a look. As we move towards Christmas the scene will change - shepherds & wise men will be along in due course.

Helpers needed for making Christingles on Friday 23 December 10am-12noon, Milton Church Room We need as many adult helpers as possible to come and assemble the Christingles ahead of the popular Christingle services on Christmas Eve.

Bellringing Have a Go Taster Course, St Mary's, Shipton

Always wanted to try Bellringing, or are a lapsed ringer? Here's your chance.

Shipton Bellringers are looking for people to join their team.

An introductory, 4-week course on Saturdays 10am-12noon, January 7th-28th 2023.

Suitable for ages 11 and up, gentle light exercise, you need to be able to stand and raise arms above your head and climb the tower stairs.

Suggested donations to church restoration fund £40. Concessions available.

Under 18s to be accompanied by an adult.

Enquiries to Geoffrey 01993 832514, Chris Seers seerschris@gmail.com

07715522353 or Mike Brooks mikeandjoy18@gmail.com 01993 830014.

Shoebox Thank you!

With all shoeboxes now collected, checked and packed the warehouse is closed for this year. Nearly 23,000 shoeboxes have been processed through the Evesham warehouse and a big thank you to everybody who has helped make this possible.

Last weekend we sent the second lorry to Romania and we have enough cartons left to fill 3/4 or another lorry which will leave in the next week or so. At this stage we don't know where that lorry will go as that is still being decided.

SUNDAY 8 JANUARY – BAPTISM OF CHRIST

9.30am Milton Holy Communion

11.00am Fifield BCP Holy Communion

11.00am Shipton Holy Communion

First Reading Acts 10:34-43 Peter's sermon to the Gentiles is the Christian story from the preaching of John the Baptist to the resurrection and humankind's eventual judgement. Peter emphasises that God has no favourites.

Gospel Matthew 3:13-end Jesus is baptised at the beginning of his ministry, is publicly endorsed by God and receives the Holy Spirit.

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 Thurs

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.