



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 5 and 12 February 2023

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

SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY – 3 BEFORE LENT

11.00am Shipton United Benefice Holy Communion *livestreamed*

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR A)

Collect Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch: help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together, and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading **1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-end]** Paul tells the Corinthians that he did not come to them with lofty words or wisdom, and that God's wisdom is not of this age. God has revealed wisdom through the Spirit and those not taught by the Spirit do not receive spiritual gifts.

Gospel **Matthew 5:13-20** In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells his followers they are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Furthermore, he tells them he has not come to abolish the law and the prophets, but to fulfil them. Only those whose righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees will enter the kingdom of heaven.

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

Deanery: 5 February St Peter's Hook Norton. Pray for Janet Faull, Janet Collins, Keith Disney & churchwarden Mark Taylor. 12 February St James' Ramsden. Please pray for Paul Mansell, Gail Ward & churchwarden Rosalind Danks.

R.I.P. Amanda Pallant.

Funerals: The funeral of Amanda Pallant is on Wednesday 15 February 2pm at North Oxfordshire Crematorium.

SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY – 2 BEFORE LENT

9.30am Milton Holy Communion

11.00am Fifield BCP Morning Prayer

11.00am Shipton Holy Communion

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR A)

Collect Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Romans 8:18-25 Creation is fallen. Suffering is built into the fabric of life. Like a woman in labour, all of us must endure pain before the future promise of glory as God's children.

Gospel Matthew 6:25-end As part of Jesus' long discourse known as the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells us not to worry. We concern ourselves with how our needs will be met. But our heavenly Father is ahead of us. The key for us is to place God and God's kingdom first.

Wednesday Mid-Week Holy Communion 10.30am Milton Church.

Meetings Fifield PCC Monday 13 February 3pm, The Folly.

A bit more heat in Shipton Thanks to David Bates from DFB Plumbing Services in Milton, the heaters in Shipton church have been serviced and repaired, and several more are now working than have been in recent weeks. Hopefully services in Shipton should be slightly less chilly now. We are awaiting costs for getting parts to fix the remaining two heaters, but all the ones in the central nave are now back in action.

COME AND SEE Here at the Wychwood Benefice we will be looking at Come and See at our Lent Groups and also during Sunday services in Lent. We plan to show a short video on the theme for each week during the Sunday service. This will be explored further in the advent groups taking place the following week.

Session 1 – The vision (for Sunday 26 Feb. and Lent Groups from 27 Feb.)

The Beatitudes show us the very best of what it means to be human: how to live the most fruitful life we can. The way to live well is the way of humility before God, compassion, mercy and peace-making. We see these profound qualities in other people: the great saints of the past and the present. We glimpse them in our communities and ourselves. Jesus affirms that vision but also begins where we are with thanksgiving and appreciation for what is good and for this vision of humanity. (Matthew 5:1-10 & 13-16)

Session 2 – The mirror (for Sunday 5 March and Lent Groups from 6 March)

The paradox of human life – immense potential but immense frustration – also reflected in the Beatitudes. We long for a world of justice and harmony. We grapple with our mortality and with our own imperfections. The high standards of the sermon on the mount. The serious consequences of human sin and weakness – but God's grace in continued love for us and in coming to us as we are in all of our mess and poverty. (Matt. 5:1-10 & 17-30)

If you haven't yet registered sign up using the links below.

<https://mailchi.mp/oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see>

Sign up for the family emails here:

<https://mailchi.mp/oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see-for-families>

Come and See is completely free and all are welcome.

More details can also be found on the Oxford Diocese Website here:

<https://oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see>

Outreach: Care Homes, School and in the Community

Monday 6 February 2pm Holy Communion Tall Trees

Tuesday 7 February 10.30am Holy Communion The Paddocks

Tuesday 21 February 11am Holy Communion Old Prebendal House

Tuesday 28 February 11am Coffee Old Prebendal House

The Fifield Warm Hub in Fifield Parish Hall: Tues. 7 Feb. 11am-2pm

Coffee, Cake & Company, Homemade Soup & Bread £3 Parish Hall.

Contact Catherine Hitchens 01993 831881.

Tues. 21 Feb. 11am-1pm Tea, Coffee & Cake. Drop in Parish Hall. Free – all welcome. Contact Catherine Hitchens 01993 831881.

Also Drop in on Thursdays 2, 9, 16 & 23 Feb. 10.30-12.30pm for Tea, Coffee & Cake. Contact Amy Schlee 01993 831826.

Be part of a Pastoral Care Team

If you are already visiting or helping people in our villages or perhaps would be interested in doing so, do please get in touch with Geoffrey. He will be arranging a catch-up as a way of assessing the need and seeing how we can help as a team.

Monthly Prize Draw for Shipton for 2023

Still time to sign up for 2023! The draw will stay at £36 per ticket. If you would like to join, please complete a application form (available on the website wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Shipton-Prize-Draw-application-2023.pdf). If you are renewing, you don't need to fill out another form just confirm how many tickets you would like. Email hilarymatthews58@gmail.com

Diocesan News

We are pleased to announce that the Revd Canon David Tyler has been appointed as the new Archdeacon of Dorchester. [new-archdeacon-of-dorchester.php](#)

SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY – SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

9.30am Milton United Benefice Holy Communion *livestreamed*
6.00pm Shipton Choral Evensong

We welcome Karen Rizzello to our Ministry Team at the Milton United Benefice Service today. Do stay for some special refreshments after the service.

After a break for Christmas, Choral Evensongs return to the Benefice on Sunday 19th February at 6pm. This first one of the year will be in Shipton church. Do join us for a timeless service of readings, psalms, hymns and prayers, using the traditional words of the Book of Common Prayer together with beautiful music from the choir. This month's service will celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration featuring music by Charles Wood & Harold Darke, among others.

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.