



Wychwood Benefice

Church News 8 and 15 October 2023

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

SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER – TRINITY 18

9.30am Milton Holy Communion

11.00am Shipton Harvest Festival followed by bring and share lunch

11.00am Fifield Harvest Festival

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR A)

Collect God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **Amen**

Harvest Readings Deuteronomy 26. 1-11 (First fruits), **Matthew 6. 25-33** (lilies of the field).

First Reading Philipians 3:4b-14 Paul has confidence, not because of his status but because he belongs to Christ.

Gospel Matthew 21:33-end The kingdom of God belongs to those who live according to the way of the kingdom of God and not through any other status.

SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER – TRINITY 19

9.30am Milton United Benefice Holy Communion

6.00pm Fifield Choral Evensong

PRAYERS AND READINGS (YEAR A)

Collect Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Philippians 4:1-9 Paul urges Christians to direct their hearts and minds to maintaining an active faith in Christ by every means – resolving quarrels, praying, expressing trust and focusing on all that is good.

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14 Jesus presents God's response to Israel's refusal to honour the Son. He extends an invitation. All are now welcome at the kingdom celebrations.

Prayer List: Emma Bradford, Catherine Wallace, Sian Jones, Marie Gill, Jeffrey Bell-Taylor, Chris Seviour and Myra Hoyle.

R.I.P.: Rosemary Hitchcock.

Funerals: The funeral of Rosemary Hitchcock is on Friday 13 October, 11.30am in Milton church.

Deanery: 8 October, St Mary's Chipping Norton. Pray for James Kennedy, David Salter, Martha Simpson, Matt White & churchwardens Graham Povey & Tim Woolcock. 15 October, St James', Ramsden. Pray for Paul Mansell, Gail Ward and churchwarden Roz Danks.

Wednesday Mid-week Communion at 10.30 in Milton Church

Harvest Festivals in the Benefice This year we are pleased to support the local *Life Larder* which is responsible for Foodbank provision in the Benefice as well as supporting others struggling with food prices. We will also continue to support the *North Oxfordshire Foodbank* which remains extremely busy. The Life Larder can take fresh or frozen produce as well as Foodbank provisions. Details of the foodbank's current most needed items can be found on the website:

northoxfordshirecommunityfoodbank.org.uk

Donations can be brought to any of the Harvest Festivals and can also be left in the churches in the days before the services.

Fri 6 Oct 9.15am Wychwood Primary School Harvest, Shipton (Key Stage 1)

Saturday 7 October St Mary's Church, Shipton will be hosting The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers 6 Bell Striking Competition.

The bells will be ringing intermittently between 1:30pm & 5:00pm. We hope you enjoy listening to the bells.

Planning Meeting Monday 9 October 9am Benefice Centre

To look at services and events for December, Christmas, January, and February. All welcome.

Open Meeting for everyone to talk about what we would like in our next Vicar: Saturday 14 October 2.30-4pm Milton Church

Please come and invite others in the community. R.S.V.P. to Clare in the office. So far numbers are low....

A wide consultation process is starting with an Open Meeting on Saturday 14th October from 2.30 – 4.00, Milton Church.

The process is being led for us by the Reverend Canon Charles Chadwick, Parish Development Adviser for the Dorchester Archdeaconry and Mission Department Lead for the Rural Church.

He writes, 'Over recent years it has been found productive and beneficial for people across a benefice - both church attendees, other parishioners, those who represent schools, businesses and other institution such as parish councils - to come together and acknowledge what is going well and what we want to thank God for, to consider what might be the key areas to consider over the next few years that the churches may develop their work, and in the light of this to think about what gifts and skills we should be seeking in our next vicar. These occasions, which are informal and always positive, go particularly well when there is a broad range of people present.'

The churchwardens would really like everyone's thoughts and views in all of this that across the three parishes in each church we may worship and serve God and help people in a range of ways to catch a glimpse of the joy of the Christian faith that, in the words of our Benefice vision, "We may build God's kingdom here on earth as in heaven".

It would be useful to have an idea of who is attending. **Please contact Clare Harper in the Benefice Office office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk
Tel 01993 832467.**

Prayer as we enter a new vacancy – there is also a copy of this in each of the churches: <https://wychwoodbenefice.org.uk/prayer-as-we-enter-a-new-vacancy/>

Shipton Prize Draw Winning Number for September is no 12. Congratulations!

Care Homes

Tuesday 17 October 11am Holy Communion Old Prebendal House

Tuesday 24 October 11am Coffee Morning Old Prebendal House.

Monday 6 November 2pm Holy Communion Tall Trees

Tuesday 7 November 11am Holy Communion The Paddocks

All Souls's Service Sunday 29 October 10.00am Milton Church

(the clocks go back)

We will once again be reading out the names of those who have died recently and remembering other departed loved ones we hold dear at this special service.

During the service, there will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of your own loved ones. If you would like to add someone to the list of those to be remembered please call or email the office office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk or write on the sheets which will be in each of the churches until 22 October.

New Children's Group: Suitable for children 4 – 9yrs. The first meeting of **Fifield Little Fishes**, a new family-friendly group will be on Sunday 22 October, 2.30-4pm. Theme: Harvest/Wonder of Creation. Activities including crafts, games and stories. Ending with cake and soft drink. Meeting at Fifield church and finishing in Fifield village hall. All welcome – we'd love to see you - whether you've been to church before or not. FREE. Please contact Rev Karen Rizzello tel 01993 832467 for more information.

SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER – TRINITY 20

8.15am Shipton BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Milton Worship for All

11.00am Shipton BCP Morning Prayer

11.00am Fifield BCP Holy Communion

First Reading | Thessalonians 1:1-10, Gospel Matthew 22:15-22

Clare works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Tel 01993 832467 office@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

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

Contactable on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings

Rev Karen Rizzello available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

revkaren@rizzello.co.uk