



Fortnightly Church News for  
25 January & 1 February 2026

# WychwoodBenefice

[www.achurchnearyou.com/wychwood-benefice](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/wychwood-benefice)

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

## **SUNDAY 25 JANUARY - CONVERSION OF PAUL**

9.30am United Benefice Holy Communion **Milton**

**Followed by**

**The Big Thank You**

**A light brunch in celebration of  
ministry across the benefice**

An invitation to thank everyone for their support and service within our churches. From cleaners to bell ringers; to flower arrangers & refreshment providers and to all those who support our churches with their prayers, time, talents, and treasures.

Please come and extend the invitation to anyone who contributes in any way.

## **PRAYERS & READINGS CONVERSION OF PAUL - YEAR A**

**Collect** Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **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**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Acts 9.1-22, **2<sup>nd</sup>** Galatians 1.11-16a **Gospel** Matthew 19.27-30

**Prayer List:** Stuart Wallace, Marian Clarke & Yvonne Cole.

**Baptisms:** Skylar Adams who is getting Baptised on 1 February in Milton.

**R.I.P.:** Edna French, Jenny Hayward and Derek Mill.

**Funerals:** The funeral of Edna French is on Wednesday 28 January 11.30am in Shipton church. The funeral of Derek Mill is on Thursday 5 February 10am in Shipton Parish Burial Ground.

**Deanery:** 25 January: St Andrew's, Great Rollright. Janet Collins, Keith Disney and churchwardens Michael Napier and Gavin Southwell. 1 February: All Saints, Spelsbury. Mark Abrey, Ilona Cheyne and churchwarden Ken Wakefield.

## **SUNDAY 1 FEBRUARY**

### **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)**

8.15am BCP Holy Communion **Shipton**

9.30am Worship for All with Baptism **Milton**

11.00am BCP Holy Communion **Fifield**

6.00pm Carols for Candlemas with Choir **Shipton**

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS – The Presentation of Christ - YEAR A**

**Collect** Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Malachi 3.1-5, **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Hebrews 2.14-end,

**Gospel** Luke 2.22-40

**Mid-Week Communion Wednesdays, 10am in Milton**

## **Care Homes:**

Mon 2 February 2.15pm Tall Trees Holy Communion.

Fri 6 February 10.30am The Paddocks Holy Communion.

Mon 9 February 2.30pm Old Prebendal Holy Communion.

**Meeting Dates:** Fifield with Idbury PCC Thurs 12 February 4pm.

**Coffee, Cake & Company, Fifield Parish Hall, Thursdays 10.30-12.30.**

**Memory Lane Café: Mon 16 February 10am-12pm Old Prebendal House.** For people experiencing memory loss, their carers, family, friends, and those who have lost loved ones. Contact [davidensor@mac.com](mailto:davidensor@mac.com) 07836 613540.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18 – 25 January 2026**  
Resources available at [ctbi.org.uk/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity](http://ctbi.org.uk/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity)

**Free online 8-week Bible Study Course. “Grasp God's big story in 8 weeks”** Join the Monday morning Homegroup - 10.30am at The Paddocks on Mondays or sign up to do it at home. Also available on YouTube.  
[biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course/register](http://biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course/register)

**Shipton's Quiz** last weekend raised around £1000! Thank you to those who helped organise and who came and took part.



### **LENT LUNCHES FRIDAYS 12.30-1.30pm**

There will be a simple soup and bread lunch on Fridays during lent in the Benefice Centre. Lunch will be at 12.30 with a short reflection from Sarah afterwards. Donations to Christian Aid. On Friday 27 February, 6, 13, 20 & 27 March.

***a few places available***

## **Quiet Day - Reflections at the Well**

**Saturday 28 February 10am-3pm**

We are planning a quiet day at the House of Bread in Shipston-on-Stour. The theme will be 'Reflections at the Well.' There are limited spaces, and we will need to pool cars. There is no charge.

If you are interested, please contact Reverend Karen by the end of January by email at [revkaren@rizzello.co.uk](mailto:revkaren@rizzello.co.uk).

**TALK BY  
WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER  
SIMON BOOKER  
"STOKERPIX"**

7pm Friday 13th March 2026

New Beaconsfield Hall,  
Shipton-u-Wychwood OX76BQ



Tickets £10 - Raffle - Bar  
Tickets from [davidensor@mac.com](mailto:davidensor@mac.com)  
07836 613540

Simon will also be selling cards  
Fundraising for St Mary's Church, Shipton u Wychwood  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/wychwood-benefice/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/wychwood-benefice/)

## St Mary's Prize Draw

We are relaunching this starting after Easter. Each month there will be **two prizes of £50**. The cost is £48 per year (£4 a month). We hope you will join us in this new improved monthly draw.

If you are already a member you do not need to fill in a new form, but please pay £48 per ticket (you can have as many tickets as you like) either by bank transfer with your name and DRAW as the reference.

Shipton under Wychwood  
PCC - Sort code 40-52-40

Account number 00032492 or  
give a cheque to Hilary  
Matthews.

If you are not already a member and would like to support the Church in this way, please ask Clare in the office or Hilary for a form.

## SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY – 2 BEFORE LENT

11.00am United Benefice Holy Communion **Shipton**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Genesis 1.1 – 2.3, **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Romans 8.18-25, **Gospel** Matthew 6.25-34

Rev Canon Sarah Sharp [vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) Tel 01993 832514 Day Off Tuesday

Rev'd Anne Hartley [anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk) 07770 745621 Mon, Tues & Weds am

Rev Karen Rizzello available Mon & Weds [revkaren@rizzello.co.uk](mailto:revkaren@rizzello.co.uk)

Curate Rev James Elward [revdjames23@gmail.com](mailto:revdjames23@gmail.com)

Clare Harper, Administrator (Mon, Tues & Weds mornings) Tel 01993 832467  
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