



Fortnightly Church News for  
8 and 15 February 2026

# Wychwood Benefice

[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 8 FEBRUARY – 2 BEFORE LENT**

11.00am United Benefice Holy Communion **Shipton**

### **PRAYERS & READINGS – 2 BEFORE LENT 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**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Genesis 1.1 – 2.3, 23-26, **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** Romans 8.18-25 **Gospel** Matthew 6.25-34

**Prayer List:** Marian Clarke & Yvonne Cole.

**R.I.P.:** Derek Mill, Stuart Wallace, June French and Rosemary Colbeck.

**Funerals:** The funeral of Stuart Wallace is on Friday 20 February 12noon in Milton Church.

**Deanery:** 8 February: St John the Evangelist, Little Tew. William Burke and churchwarden Oliver Langdale. 15 February Wychwood Primary School Head – Katy Gent & Team.

## **SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY -SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

9.30am Holy Communion **Milton**

11.00am BCP Morning Prayer **Fifield**

11.00am Holy Communion **Shipton**

## **PRAYERS AND READINGS – THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT YEAR A**

**Collect** Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Post Communion** Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Exodus 24.12-end, **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** 2 Peter 1.16-end,  
**Gospel** Matthew 17.1-9.

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

### **WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY – ASH WEDNESDAY**

10.00am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion  
with imposition of ashes **Milton**

7.00pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion  
with imposition of ashes **Shipton**

### **Care Homes:**

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.

**Last chance to book: Quiet Day - Reflections at the Well Saturday 28 Feb. 10am-3pm, 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 asap by email at [revkaren@rizzello.co.uk](mailto:revkaren@rizzello.co.uk).

## Lent & Easter in the Benefice

We are hoping to have our new Lent & Easter leaflets ready to deliver around the villages soon. Look out for them – or even better why not pick up some from church and help deliver around where you live. There will be lists in church to indicate which areas need covering.



### 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.

There will also be a soup lunch after Fifield's service on 1 March.

### ST MARYS 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.

**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)

**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/)

**SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY – LENT I**

9.30am United Benefice Holy Communion **Milton**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading** Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7, **2<sup>nd</sup>** Romans 5.12-19, **Gospel** Matthew 4.1-11

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

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)

Rev'd Anne Hartley (Retired) [anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk](mailto:anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk)

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