



Fortnightly Church News for
22 and 29 March 2026

Wychwood Benefice

www.achurchnearyou.com/wychwood-benefice

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

SUNDAY 22 MARCH – LENT 5

9.30am United Benefice Holy Communion **Milton**

PRAYERS & READINGS LENT 5 YEAR A

Collect Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

1st Reading Ezekiel 37.1-14, Romans 8.6-11, **Gospel** John 11.1-45

Prayer List: Marian Clarke, Yvonne Cole and Emma Gridley.

Baptisms: Arlo who is being baptised on 4 April in Shipton.

R.I.P.: Edwina Hebden, Joy Wiseman and Jane Murphy.

Funerals: There will be a Memorial Service for Edwina Hebden on Friday 20 March, 11am in Milton church. The funeral of Jane Murphy is on Tuesday 24 March 2pm in Shipton church.

Deanery: 22 March: SS Simon & Jude, Milton-under-Wychwood. Sarah Sharp, Karen Rizzello, Anne Hartley, James Elward and churchwardens Liz Watts and Mike Hartley.



SUNDAY 29 MARCH – PALM SUNDAY

11.00am United Benefice Holy Communion **Fifield**

*With dramatized reading of the Passion Story from
St Matthew's Gospel followed by refreshments*

PRAYERS & READINGS PALM SUNDAY YEAR A

Collect True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. **Amen**

Post Communion Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Readings for Palm Sunday before the passion narrative: Isaiah 50:4-9a and Philippians 2:5-11.

Mid-Week Communion Wednesdays, 10am in Milton

Care Homes:

Fri 10 April 10.30am Holy Communion The Paddocks.

Mon 6 April 2.15pm **No Holy Communion** Tall Trees due to the Bank Holiday.

Mon 13 April 2.30pm Holy Communion Old Prebendal.

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

With a special pre-Easter party morning on 2 April.

Produce Sale Fifield Church - Saturday 11 April from 10.30am.

You are warmly invited to our **Annual Parochial Church Meetings** Fifield 6pm in church on Monday 13 April, Shipton after 11am service in church on 19 April, Milton after 9.30am service in church on 26 April. These are very important meetings in which the Church wardens and PCC are elected for the coming year. Perhaps you would like to give it a go or consider electing someone. Please speak to your church wardens.



Lent & Easter in the Benefice

LENT LUNCHES FRIDAYS

12.30 - 1.30pm

Final Lent Lunch on 27 March.

There will be a simple soup and bread lunch on at 12.30 followed by a short reflection from Sarah. Donations to Christian Aid.



HOMEGROUPS: On Mondays at 10.30 in The Paddocks – contact Liz elizabethw@bfocus.co.uk and Wednesdays at 2pm in The Paddocks – contact Anne for details anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

HOLY WEEK & EASTER WEEKEND

There will be stations for reflection in Shipton and Milton from Palm Sunday afternoon.

Wednesday 1 April: 10am Milton Church Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday 2 April: 7pm Shipton Church - a celebration of the Institution of Holy Communion

Good Friday 3 April – *join at any point:*

- ❖ Leave Shipton church at **9am** for a prayer walk to Milton church.
 - ❖ **10am Service of Reflection in Milton Church**
 - ❖ There will be Prayer Stations in Milton Church
 - ❖ Bring a picnic lunch for a walk to Fifield arriving 11.30/12. Coffee and hot cross buns.
- ❖ Leave Fifield around 1pm to walk to **Idbury for the Last Hour Service of Reflection at 2pm**

Easter Day Sunday 5 April

9.30am All Age Communion Service
with refreshments in **Milton**

11am Choral led Communion Service
followed by refreshments in **Shipton**

11am Communion Service
with Easter egg hunt & refreshments in **Fifield**

Introducing a season of...

Concert Season leaflets are **now available**. Please take to any groups/clubs/venues you belong to or visit.



Welcome to our first season of “give what you can” concerts, fundraising together for Milton and Shipton churches. There are six exciting and diverse concerts to enjoy from April through to September and we believe that by offering them as 'give what you can' invitations we will enable everyone to be able to enjoy them. These are all sponsored events so we should be able to raise a large amount of money to keep our churches open and in good order.

Save the Date: The First concert is: **The Sage String Quartet** – an afternoon concert in **Milton church on Sunday 26 April 4pm**.

Formed in 2023 at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, the Sage Quartet has been a finalist in no less than 3 Chamber Music Prizes and in the summer of 2025 participated and performed at the IV International String Quartet Seminar, City of Guadix, Spain. The Sage Quartet will perform for us as part of an educational project run by Gina and Michael Bochmann.

Programme

Borodin; String Quartet No. 2 (mvt. 1 & 2)

Trotignon; Quatuor à Cordes 'Empreintes' (mvt. IV 'Pulsation')

Haydn; String Quartet Op. 20 No. 4

Rev Canon Sarah Sharp vicar@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk Tel 01993 832514 Day Off Tuesday

Rev Karen Rizzello available Mon & Weds revkaren@rizzello.co.uk

Rev'd Anne Hartley (Retired) anne@wychwoodbenefice.org.uk

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