



Fortnightly Church News for
8 and 15 March 2026

Wychwood Benefice

www.achurchnearyou.com/wychwood-benefice

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

SUNDAY 8 MARCH – LENT 3

11.00am United Benefice Holy Communion **Sipton**

PRAYERS & READINGS – LENT 3 YEAR A

Collect Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post Communion Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

1st Reading Exodus 17.1-7, Romans 5.1-11, **Gospel** John 4.5-42

Prayer List: Marian Clarke & Yvonne Cole.

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

Funerals: There will be a Memorial Service for Joy Wiseman on Thursday 12 March 11.30am in Sipton church. There will be a Memorial Service for Edwina Hebden on Friday 20 March, 11am in Milton church.

Deanery: 8 March: St Mary, Swerford: INTEREGNUM Janet Collins, Keith Disney and churchwardens Jennifer Tustian and Charles Campion.

15 March: Leafield Primary School: Head Rhiannon Abberley and Team.

SUNDAY 15 MARCH – MOTHERING SUNDAY / LENT 4

9.30am Holy Communion **Milton**

11.00am Morning Worship **Fifield**

11.00am Holy Communion **Sipton**

with posies at all services



PRAYERS & READINGS LENT 4/ MOTHERING SUNDAY YEAR A

Collect God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

1st Reading I Samuel 1.20-end, **2nd Reading** Colossians 3.12-17, **Gospel** Luke 2.33-35 or John 19.25-27.

Mid-Week Communion Wednesdays, 10am in Milton

Care Homes:

Fri 6 March 10.30am Holy Communion The Paddocks.

Mon 9 March 2.30pm Holy Communion Old Prebendal.

Mon 6 April 2.15pm No Holy Communion Tall Trees. Bank Holiday.

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

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 Look out for the Lent & Easter leaflets with details of services.

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 followed by a short reflection from Sarah. Donations to Christian Aid. **On Friday 6, 13, 20 & 27 March.**

HOMEGROUPS: During Lent anyone is welcome to come along to the homegroups – even if you don't usually come. These run 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



**Benefice Palm Sunday Holy Communion
Sunday 29 March 11am Fifield**

**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
07836 613540

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

ST MARYS PRIZE DRAW Relaunching 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.

Introducing a season of...

**“Give What You Can”
Fundraising Concerts 2026**



**St Mary the Virgin,
Shipton-u-Wychwood**

**St Simon and St Jude,
Milton-u-Wychwood**

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. Leaflets detailing all six of our concerts will be available soon and we hope that you will take them to all your clubs and societies and invite your friends. Watch this space.

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.

SUNDAY 22 MARCH – LENT 5

9.30am United Benefice Holy Communion **Milton**

1st Reading Ezekiel 37.1-14, **2nd Romans** 8.6-11, **Gospel** John 11.1-45

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

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

Curate Rev James Elward revjames23@gmail.com

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

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

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