

Milton Abbey News

A New Ministry: at Milton Abbey Church

The Abbey at Milton has long associations with the Benedictines as well as with the patronage of St. Mary, St. Samson and St. Branwallder. In 964 Benedictine monks established a community at Milton Abbey under Abbot Cyneward. This monastic community continued its work of prayer and service until its dissolution in 1539.

The history of the Abbey has been well documented in books and pamphlets, but now a new Christian ministry is unfolding in the Abbey and whilst it is not seeking to re-establish a settled Benedictine community in this glorious north-west corner of Dorset, the new work will reflect certain Benedictine principles.



One important feature of what is planned is to be of service to the local community, churches, deaneries and the diocese through prayer, teaching, worship and hospitality. In celebrating St. Benedict's Day on the 11th July we are both looking back in gratitude and forward with resolve and commitment; we are launching the new ministry.

Your participation in this is very welcome and we have created a number of ways for you to be informed of progress and if you wish, to be involved with our work. You will find there are several opportunities open to you.

There are three ways in which you can be affiliated to the Abbey and its ongoing programme and activities. Find out about joining The Abbey Community as a 'Member', an 'Associate' or a 'Companion'. Which one of these will be right for you? The Abbey Community will be delighted to welcome you to join us and encourage you to complete the simple application on line at our Community Membership site. Just select Join the Abbey Community at the top of the home page at www.miltonabbey.org or collect a Community leaflet from the Abbey Welcome Desk.

Summer Exhibition 2017: History Heritage & Landscape

Following the popular Capability Brown exhibition last year, a new event is taking place in The Abbey, from 7th July this year. A main element of the exhibition will still be the Landscape, with work by prize winning artists and photographers, as well as artists from Dorset Visual Arts and Tim Scott- Bolton, very popular last year. In addition, there will be films, as well as recommended countryside walks and children's games. All of these will feature our remarkable Milton Abbey landscape, which is rated by John Phibbs, the leading expert on Capability Brown, as one of the top five Brown landscapes in the whole of England.

Milton Abbey is also listed in the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest as 'being of exceptional historic interest'.



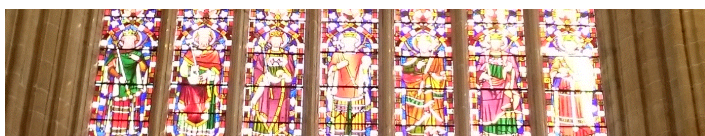
A new feature will be displays recording the History and Heritage associated with the Abbey. ranging from the foundation by King Athelstan, the first king of all England, to the monastic period, the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry V111, to the dramatic tenure of Lord Milton, who destroyed the old town of Middleton, created the village of Milton Abbas, and hired Capability Brown to create the glorious landscape that we all enjoy today.

Laudemus Choir presents: Choral Evensong at 6pm on 19th July

On Wednesday 19 July, the touring evensong choir, Laudemus, will visit Milton Abbey Church as part of their 2017 tour. Laudemus! has been singing cathedral-style evensong in Dorset annually since 1991.

The music for 19 July comprises an introit by a former organist at Westminster Abbey, Orlando Gibbons, 'O Lord, in thy wrath'; Evening Canticles in A by Charles Villiers Stanford (an Irishman by birth and one of the founding professors of the Royal College of Music); and 'Expectans expectavi' (a text inspired by Psalm 40) by Charles Wood, another Irishman and a pupil of Stanford's at the RCM. The responses are those by William Smith.

Evensong is at 6.00pm and there is a retiring collection which will be shared between the choir's own scholarship fund and the Wimborne-based Michael James Music Trust.



Do come along for an hour of peace and calm framed by this very lovely service: ancient words; beautiful music; prayers for a troubled world.

The Big Sing: from 10 till 3.30pm & perform at 4pm on 18th November

A day of Choral participation and celebration with Noel Tredinnick of All Souls London.

Come and join us to experience an exciting day in the Abbey from 10am until 3.30pm with others who love to sing. You will be able to buy soup and bread at lunch time or bring a packed lunch to enjoy in the Abbey. Then at 4pm put the practice into purpose by joining in a mass choir Celebration Songs of Praise. A great day for singers – from enthusiastic amateurs to expert divas!



Why not invite your friends, family and neighbours to the late afternoon performance / sing-a-long. Book your place at www.miltonabbey.org or complete an application at the Abbey Welcome Desk.

New Services: at the Abbey

From September, this year through to Easter 2018 the first programme of Friday evening services has been planned. These will be approximately fortnightly and accessible to all. There will be a mix of important foundational scriptural passages and a number of key themes, some of which will focus on certain Benedictine emphases.

Forthcoming dates: for Your Diary

- ⊕ July 7th to August 31st – Summer Exhibition
- ⊕ July 11th at 7pm – St Benedict's day service
- ⊕ July 19th at 6pm – Laudemus Choral Evensong
- ⊕ July 31st at 8pm – Compline with VOCES8
- ⊕ September 1st at 6.30pm – Friday Service
- ⊕ September 15th at 6.30pm – Friday Service
- ⊕ September 29th at 6.30pm – Friday Service
- ⊕ October 13th at 6.30pm – Friday Service
- ⊕ October 27th at 6.30pm – Friday Service
- ⊕ October 29th at 10.30am – Joint Benefice
- ⊕ November 10th at 6.30pm – Friday Service
- ⊕ November Saturday 18th at 10am The Big Sing
- ⊕ November 24th at 6.30pm – Friday Service