



# WELCOME

## TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

"Mirroring the hospitality of God"

Sunday 3rd May Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

[www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)



### Fourth Sunday of Easter

Rev'd Robin Cardwell is giving this Sunday's sermon.

Watch on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

Available from 9am.

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on Facebook.

**You don't need  
a Facebook or YouTube account to join in!**

### Monday

7:30pm Alpha. Live via Zoom.

### Tuesday

9:00am Morning Prayer using the Iona Liturgy.  
Live on Facebook.

### Wednesday

10:30am The Prayer Course. Live via Zoom.  
See page 2 for more information.  
2:00pm ASK Holy Communion.  
Live on Facebook.

### Thursday

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on Facebook.  
6:30pm Anthem of the Week (Choir)

### Friday

11:00am VE Day Service. Live on Facebook.

### Sunday 10th May

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on Facebook

All links, orders of services and readings will be posted  
on the services page of our website

[www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### A Message from Bourton

Never have we as a community felt so blessed to live where we do, than now. For those of us living in Bourton the sense of community has never been stronger. Whether it's the new 50 strong WhatsApp group offering to help each other; the new village Facebook page which shares news from around the area; the village website which religiously posts important updates to us all, or indeed the set of volunteers who delivered leaflets to every home in the village offering help and support for those who need it. Our village hall now boasts a hoard of emergency supplies, kindly donated by villagers, and initiatives abound to keep us occupied.



The village children have been particularly creative with decorating the Churchyard with colourful Easter pictures; organising treasure hunts across the village to encourage us to venture out for our daily exercise (not all at the same time I hasten to add!); or writing interesting quizzes for us to take part in. Pinewood School continues to operate albeit via the magic of Google classrooms, and the playing fields and the new classroom block eagerly await the return of the children, indeed the village feels quiet without them.

In summary. Every cloud has a silver lining, and certainly village unity is ours.

Sarah Howell and Amanda Benbow, Churchwardens

### Church Services by Telephone



**Daily Hope** offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England.

Dial 0800 804 8044 to hear a special greeting from the Archbishop, then choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections, traditional morning and evening prayer and advice on COVID-19.

Calls are free of charge.

**Church at Home** services from the Diocese of Oxford can be accessed by telephone.

Dial 01865 920930 to hear the latest service (press 0= short service, 1= full service).

Normal call rates apply.

### Other ways to join in with worship

Visit the 'other ways to worship' page on our website for links to on-line services, phone apps for daily prayers and other useful resources. If you know anyone who is not on-line and would like a paper copy, let us know.

[www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### Light a Candle of Hope

Place a lighted candle in the window at 7pm on Sunday as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished.



Image by congerdesign from Pixabay

### God of compassion,

be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;

in their anxiety, be their hope;

in their darkness, be their light;

through him who suffered alone on the cross,

but reigns with you in glory,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

### Thank You for Your Support!

Although our buildings are closed, our churches still rely on donations to stay active and provide care and pastoral support to everyone.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all those who feel able to continue their financial contribution towards our mission and ministry and the upkeep of our buildings during this difficult and uncertain time.

If you would like to know more about supporting us, please telephone our Treasurers on the numbers below.

Shrivenham, Watchfield and Bourton 01793 784756

Longcot and Fernham 01793 783324

Compton Beauchamp 01793 710889

Ashbury 01793 710208



Ashbury New Churchyard is looking tidy!

Thank you Roger.

## the prayer course

An eight week journey through the Lord's Prayer using the course devised by Pete Greig, founder of the 24/7 global prayer movement.

**We are running the Prayer Course live via Zoom every Wednesday. Each session starts at 10:30am.**

**It's not too late to join in!**

Contact David Ahern for details of how to take part.  
01793 783521 thestable@protonmail.com

### Donate by Text

You can now donate by text to Ashbury, Shrivenham, Watchfield and Bourton.

#### For Ashbury

Text **STMARYS 5** to **70085** to donate **£5**

#### For Shrivenham, Watchfield & Bourton

Text **SWB** to **70460** to donate **£5**

Text **SWB** to **70450** to donate **£10**

Your standard text message rate applies.

### Ashbury CE Primary School Humility Prayer

Thank you for the people who show humility.

Thank you for everyone who takes the time to help others.

Thank you for all those people who put others before themselves – especially the Key Workers at these tricky times.

Sorry that we can sometimes be selfish in the way we act.

We are sorry for not always showing humility and boasting to others.

We apologise that sometimes we want more than we have and don't appreciate the things we already have.

Please help us to understand the true meaning of humility and show this to others.

Please show us how to help others when necessary and to do it with no fuss.

Right now, please help us to be patient and kind to others, especially in these strange and difficult times.

Amen

### Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in High Street.

Please contact Rev'd Fergusson for pastoral issues, and a churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator ([shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com](mailto:shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com)) for other church enquiries.



## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the  
resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life  
of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things  
which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

**Acts 2:42-47**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

Many were baptized and were added to the community. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## PSALM Psalm 23

**R** *The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.  
He makes me lie down in green  
pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.

**R**

He revives my soul  
and guides me along right  
pathways for his name's sake.  
Though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they  
comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who  
trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with  
oil,  
and my cup is running over.  
Surely your goodness and mercy  
shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of  
the Lord for ever. **R**

## SECOND READING

**1 Peter 2:19-25**

*A reading from the first letter of Peter.*

Brothers and sisters: It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## GOSPEL John 10:1-10

*Hear the gospel of our Lord  
Jesus Christ according to John.*

Jesus said to the Pharisees:  
"Very truly, I tell you, anyone  
who does not enter the

sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

## POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ  
to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down  
his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his  
protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his  
steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 3 May 2020

John 10:1-10

4th Sunday of Easter

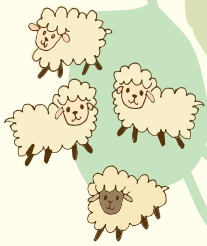
My name is \_\_\_\_\_



Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He goes ahead of his sheep and leads them to safety. Jesus wants us all to live happy and full lives.

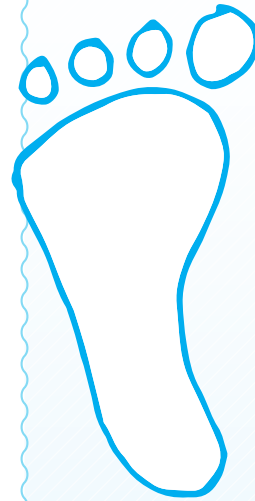
## JESUS GIVES US LIFE!

Jesus wants us all to be safe and happy.

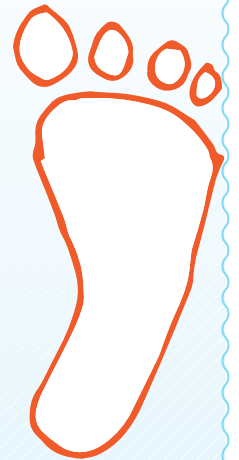


Help these sheep to get through the gate to safety.

I can follow Jesus when I...



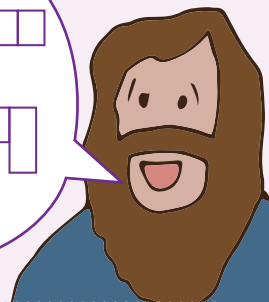
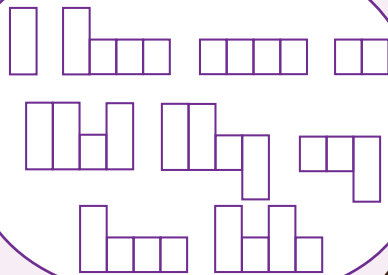
Jesus shows us how to live and asks us to follow him.



Draw or write in the footprints things that you can do today, to share Jesus' love.

## Jesus' message

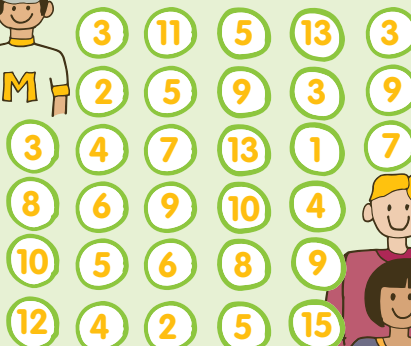
What did Jesus tell his friends?  
Write the correct words in the boxes, based on the shape of the letters.



life come I have that so may have they

## Happy at home

Michael is very happy when he is with his family. Help Michael to find his way home by colouring in numbers that can be divided by two.



## A PRAYER TO SAY

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me and for showing me how to live. I know that if I follow you I will be happy. Help me to be loving, even when it is hard. Amen.

Answers: Jesus' message: I have come so that they may have life.