



WELCOME

TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

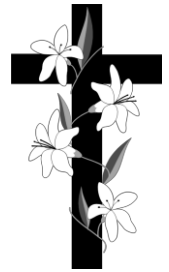
“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 24th May Seventh 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



Seventh Sunday of Easter

David Ahern is giving this week's talk.

Watch on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.
Available from 9am on Sunday 24th May.

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on Facebook.
5:30pm Evensong (BCP). Live on Facebook.

You don't need
a Facebook or YouTube account to join in!
A 'How To' guide can be downloaded
from the services page on our website.

Monday

7:00pm Bereavement Café. Live via Zoom.
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.

Thursday

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on Facebook.
6.30pm Anthem of the Week (Choir)

Friday

Saturday

5:45pm "Come Holy Spirit" Prayer Meeting
Live via Zoom.

Sunday 31st May Pentecost

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

Diocesan Survey – Online Services

Dr Simon Cross in Bishop Steven's office is looking at
the impact of churches being unable meet in person.

If you are attending online church services, you are
invited to complete this [short survey](#) as soon as possible
after the next online service you attend.

If you attend the Diocesan Church at Home service
and/or a number of other services from different
parishes, you are welcome to complete the survey for
each online service you've been to.

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live
and work in Kingstone Winslow.

Our condolences

to the family of the late Michael O'Dougan who has died
recently. The burial has taken place.

Virtual Bereavement Café



Image by Lolame from Pixabay

Monday 25th May from 7 – 8pm. Live via Zoom.

An informal online get-together for anyone who has been
bereaved at any time, hosted by Rose-Anne and Norma.
Open to all, regardless of faith or beliefs. Free of charge.

If you would like to 'drop in' please contact Rose-Anne or
Norma and they will send details of how to take part.

Rose-Anne O'Hare

roseanne.o@outlook.com 01793 784017

Rev'd Norma Fergusson

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk 01793 784338

Tuesday 26th May should have seen the licensing of the
Rev'd Nina Summerfield as Associate Vicar
to the Benefice. We look forward to welcoming her on
27th September.

Please keep Nina and her family in your prayers.

Pentecost "Come Holy Spirit" Prayer Meeting

Saturday 30th May at 5:45 pm. Live via Zoom.

Sunday 31st May is Pentecost, so on Saturday 30th May
we are inviting the churches of the Shrivenham &
Ashbury Benefice and beyond to join us at a Prayer
Meeting to thank God for sending the Holy Spirit. We will
be worshipping, reading scripture, and of course praying,
including a time to invite the Holy Spirit into our lives.

Contact David Ahern for details of how to take part.

01793 783521 thestable@protonmail.com

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

A Message from Maisey, Edna and Mabel



Watchfield Community Spirit

A major focal point during the pandemic has been the daily visit to the animals in the Church Paddock behind St Thomas'. Maisey the donkey and Edna and Mabel the sheep have become local celebrities and many, many families factor in a diversion to the field as part of their daily walks. The excited sounds toddlers shouting "Eee-Aww" and Maisey's replies can be heard around the village and the animals seem to have responded to the increased need for some comfort at this time. They move toward visitors for gentle contact and are especially responsive to their younger fans.

Maisey, Edna and Mabel have also stood vigil by the fence for funerals in the adjoining cemetery when family attendance has been limited. They sometimes announce their presence and join in with the occasional amen but are generally respectful.

Maisey, Edna and Mabel all hope the spirit of community, togetherness, appreciation for the environment and gentleness of spirit will continue long after we have forgotten about Covid-19.

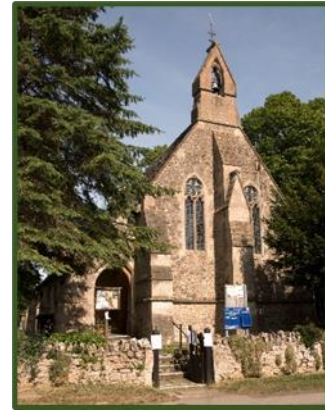


Photo by Les Minchinton-Smith

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 already make a 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

If you would like to make a text donation, please to use the numbers below.

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**

For Longcot and Fernham

Text **LONGCOT** to **70085** to donate **£4**

Your standard text message rate applies.

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.

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

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.

Loving God,

We pray for all those who are suffering because of the coronavirus,
may they know your healing power.
When we are afraid for ourselves and our loved ones,
give us your strength and courage.
When we feel alone and isolated,
reassure us with a sense of your presence.
Give wisdom to those in authority
and may our community work together for the good of all.
We give thanks for those who care for others and ask
you to bless them in all they do.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, healer and physician.
Amen

COLLECT

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus
Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in
heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not
comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen
us
and exalt us to the place where our
Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

PSALM Psalm 68:1-10. 33-36

R *Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
[sing praises to the Lord].*

Let God arise and let his enemies be
scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.
Let them vanish like smoke
when the wind drives it away;
as the wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence
of God. **R**

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice
before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.
Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens;
Yahweh is his name, rejoice before him! **R**

Father of orphans, defender of widows,
God in his holy habitation!
God gives the solitary a home
and brings forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in dry places. **R**

O God, when you went forth before your
people,
when you marched through the
wilderness,
The earth shook and the skies poured
down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God
of Israel. **R**

You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon
your inheritance;
you refreshed the land when it was
weary.
Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God,
you have made provision for the
poor. **R**

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.
He rides in the heavens, the ancient
heavens;
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice. **R**

Ascribe power to God;
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.
How wonderful is God in his holy places!
the God of Israel giving strength and
power to his people!
Blessèd be God! **R**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery
ordeal that is taking place among you to
test you, as though something strange
were happening to you. But rejoice in so
far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings,
so that you may also be glad and shout
for joy when his glory is revealed. If you
are reviled for the name of Christ, you
are blessed, because the spirit of glory,
which is the Spirit of God, is resting
on you. Humble yourselves therefore
under the mighty hand of God, so that
he may exalt you in due time. Cast all
your anxiety on him, because he cares
for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert.
Like a roaring lion your adversary the
devil prowls around, looking for someone
to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your

faith, for you know that your brothers
and sisters throughout the world are
undergoing the same kinds of suffering.
And after you have suffered for a little
while, the God of all grace, who has
called you to his eternal glory in Christ,
will himself restore, support, strengthen,
and establish you. To him be the power
for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL John 17:1-11

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said,
"Father, the hour has come; glorify
your Son so that the Son may glorify
you, since you have given him authority
over all people, to give eternal life to all
whom you have given him. And this is
eternal life, that they may know you, the
only true God, and Jesus Christ whom
you have sent. I glorified you on earth
by finishing the work that you gave me
to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your
own presence with the glory that I had in
your presence before the world existed.
I have made your name known to those
whom you gave me from the world. They
were yours, and you gave them to me,
and they have kept your word. Now they
know that everything you have given me
is from you; for the words that you gave
to me I have given to them, and they
have received them and know in truth
that I came from you; and they have
believed that you sent me. I am asking
on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf
of the world, but on behalf of those
whom you gave me, because they are
yours. All mine are yours, and yours are
mine; and I have been glorified in them.
And now I am no longer in the world, but
they are in the world, and I am coming
to you. Holy Father, protect them in your
name that you have given me, so that
they may be one, as we are one."

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all
the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we
proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 24 May 2020

John 17:1-11

7th Sunday of Easter

My name is _____

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

Jesus prays to his Father in heaven. Everything Jesus has done on earth has been to show us how much God the Father loves us. Now he has to leave them, Jesus prays for all his friends.

PRAY!

Jesus promises his friends that he will always be with them, even when he goes to heaven.

How can we keep in touch with Jesus?

Cross out all the letters B, X, Z to find out!

BIX ZCBAXNZ
PBRXAZY BTXOZ
BJXEZSBXUZS

Pray everywhere!

These children are all praying.



Join the dots to see where they are.

Praying without words

Use a finger labyrinth to pray. Be still and slowly trace the labyrinth path with your finger. When you get to the middle, keep your finger still and think about what is important to you. Then slowly trace the path backwards.



Wordsearch

When we pray we spend time with Jesus our friend.



Find these words connected to praying in the grid:

- JESUS DANCE
- FRIEND WORDS
- SING THANKS
- CHAT QUIET

T	E	I	U	Q	J
C	D	A	N	C	E
H	W	O	R	D	S
A	G	N	I	S	U
T	H	A	N	K	S
F	R	I	E	N	D

A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, today I would like to pray for _____
_____. I am talking to you about this because _____

Amen

Answers: I can pray to Jesus.