



WELCOME

TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 31st May Pentecost

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

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk



Pentecost

Richard Fergusson is giving this week's talk.

Watch on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

Available from 9am on Sunday 31st May.

11.00am Holy Communion. 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

7:30pm 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.
2:00pm ASK Holy Communion.
Live on Facebook.

Thursday

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on Facebook.
11:00am Compton Beauchamp PCC via Zoom.
6.30pm Anthem of the Week (Choir)

Friday

Sunday 7th June Trinity Sunday

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.

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

Re-opening our churches

People have been asking me when and how the
churches will re-open. The honest answer is that I still
don't know definitively, but we hope it may be possible
from 4 July. I am working with the churchwardens to find
a safe, sustainable way to make this possible and am
very grateful for the care and creativity they are showing,
but social distancing will mean that maximum numbers in
church at any one time will be much smaller.

There won't be an immediate return to the service
pattern we had before the pandemic: initially there is
likely to be one public communion service and one public
service of the word each Sunday. Some churches may
be open for private prayer; we will let you know where
and when. Meanwhile, the regular online services i.e.
Sunday 11am communion services; Morning Prayer on
Tuesdays and Thursdays; together with the monthly ASK
and Worship & Praise services will continue online.

I am writing this on 29th May; as you know, advice is
changing quite rapidly at the moment and we will try to
keep you updated. Thank you for your support during
these difficult times.

Blessings, Norma

Church Services by Telephone



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers



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.

A Message from Ashbury



Like all our local villages Ashbury has supportive groups working to help the more vulnerable through the period of lock down. We have all got to know each other during this time and we thank everyone for all that they are doing.

We were sad that St Mary the Virgin had to shut its doors, as did all our religious buildings, just as we finished the work in the vestry to install an accessible toilet and kitchenette. However, as soon as it is safe to open up the church again, we will be able to offer true hospitality to our visitors.

Whilst the church has been closed, we have continued to work to improve it. Thanks to a generous donation we now have new oak handrails up both sides of the church steps which will help access for many who find the cobbles difficult. In addition, we have been keeping the grass cut in both churchyards while leaving the areas of lovely wildflowers for all to enjoy.

Finally, we have applied for a Faculty which will allow us to install hot pipes under the central pews making the church a warmer and more welcoming place to be through the winter. Work on this can start as soon as we have all the necessary permissions and are able to work in the church.

St Mary's House in Chapel Lane which will be home to Rev'd Nina Summerfield when she moves to Ashbury, hopefully in August or September, has also had considerable work done. A new kitchen and shower room have been installed and a lot of garden maintenance has been undertaken.

We sincerely hope that we will be able to welcome everyone back into St Mary the Virgin as soon as it is safe to do so.

Maggie Simons, Churchwarden

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Malthouse Close.



New handrails at St Mary's Ashbury

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.

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

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your

Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

The reading from Acts must be used as either the first or second reading.

Either **Acts 2:1-21**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out

my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Or **Numbers 11:24-30**

PSALM Psalm 104:25-35. 37

R Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

O Lord, how manifold are your works! in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. **R**

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great. There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it. **R**

All of them look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it to them, they gather it; you open your hand and they are filled with good things. You hide your face and they are terrified; you take away their breath and they die and return to their dust. **R**

You send forth your Spirit and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works. He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke. **R**

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

May these words of mine please him; I will rejoice in the Lord. Bless the Lord, O my soul. Alleluia! **R**

SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

Either **1 Corinthians 12:3b-13**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are

varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Or **Acts 2:1-21** (as above)

GOSPEL (Alternative readings)

Either **John 20:19-23**

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

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Or **John 7:37-39**

POST COMMUNION

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 31 May 2020
John 20:19-23
Pentecost Sunday

My name is _____

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

Jesus surprises his friends by appearing to them in the locked room where they are hiding. He says, "Peace be with you!" and shows them his hands and his side.

PEACE

This is Callum.

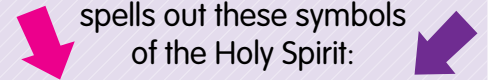
His name means "dove", a symbol of peace. Callum feels peaceful when he is relaxed and calm. Being with his dog helps Callum feel peaceful.

What makes you feel relaxed and calm? Write or draw your ideas on the dove.



Path word puzzle

Help Callum find a path that starts on the **F** and which spells out these symbols of the Holy Spirit:



fire

dove

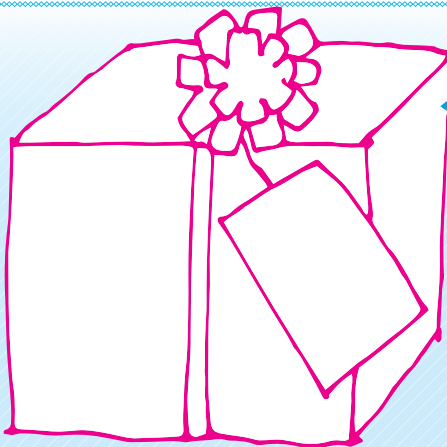
wind

You can go in any direction, but you can't go back across the path you make with your pencil.

The gift of peace

How can you share the gift of peace this week?

Write or draw your ideas in the gift box.



Who will you give this to?



Let's celebrate!

The day the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost is when the Christian Church was born. **Today is the Church's birthday!**

Fill the grid with the pictures: each row, column and mini-grid should have just **one** of each of the different pictures.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, after the Holy Spirit came, your friends weren't frightened anymore. Thank you for sending us the Holy Spirit to help us. Amen.