



WELCOME



TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 19th July Trinity 6

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

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Sunday 19th July Trinity 6

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

Watch on our [Facebook](#) page or [YouTube](#) channel.

Available from 9am on Sunday 19th July.

Please do not come into church if you think you may have symptoms of Covid 19.

- 9 - 10:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun.
Church open for private prayer.
- 10:00am Bourton, St James.
Holy Communion
- 11.00am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).
- 5:30pm Evensong (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#).

Monday Rev'd Fergusson Day Off

Tuesday

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#).

Wednesday

- 10:30am Bible Study Course. Live via Zoom.
- 5 - 6:00pm Private prayer in Longcot Church.
- 6 - 7:30pm Private prayer in Watchfield Church.

Thursday

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#).

Sunday 26th July Trinity 7

- 9 - 10:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun.
Church open for private prayer.
- 9:00am Ashbury, St Mary.
Morning Prayer.
- 10:00am Longcot, St Mary
Holy Communion
- 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

You know the churches are open again when you find yourself planning a wedding!



Last weekend, Harriet Weller and Matthew Robson were married in St Mary's, Ashbury. Current guidelines notwithstanding, it was a joyous event on a beautifully sunny day; we managed to incorporate many of the traditions which make a wedding special and friends gathered in the churchyard to greet them after the service. Everyone was delighted to hear the church bells ring out across the village for the first time in many weeks and I am so grateful to Allister, Susie, Colin and Amanda for agreeing to ring at such short notice.

Norma

If you would like to make a text donation to support your local church, please 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**

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Ashbury Hill.

Churches Open for Private Prayer

Our churches in Compton Beauchamp, Longcot and Watchfield are now open once a week for private prayer. See the services box for details.

Ashbury and Shrivenham churches are closed while building work is undertaken.

Fernham church is also closed for worship to allow Annabelle's pre-school exclusive access.

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

Thank you from St Andrew's Restoration Project



With great appreciation, I write to thank you all for your contribution to the success of Shrevenham Open Gardens on Sunday 5th July.

Firstly, to all those brave souls who agreed to open their gardens (eleven) as without them the event could not happen. Many thanks to Shrevenham Post Office for selling £355's worth of tickets. And many thanks to all the people who supported this 'risky' event by purchasing tickets.

The debate over whether or not to hold this event in 2020 with the Covid-19 problem, the 'lock-down' and the closure of all churches was, as you can imagine, quite long and difficult. Luckily, we made the right decision and welcomed 150 visitors.

In 2019 we raised £1229.10 which included £293 from the sale of tea and cakes. This year the total was £906.25 (including Gift Aid), but we were not able to offer refreshments - so didn't we do well?

We also had an online Virtual Gardens Tour for those apprehensive about venturing out. You can still view this on [Facebook](#) if you missed it.

Many people have commented to me how much they enjoyed the afternoon with the opportunity to see such a spread of gardens (types and size – not distance!) and it stayed dry.

So many thanks once again for your support.

Julian Stevens, Shrevenham Churchwarden

Church Services by Telephone

Daily Hope 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
Dial 01865 920930 to hear the latest service (press 0= short service, 1= full service).
Normal call rates apply.

Still Lighting the Candle and a New Prayer

One of the lessons of lockdown has been the reminder that God is everywhere – in our kitchens as much as in our cathedrals and churches. The simple act of lighting a candle can help us focus on his presence alongside us as we pray.

Dear God,

As we emerge from the lockdown that has closed our churches,

And we go once again into the House of the Lord,

We find much that we held dear taken from us,

The ones we love, the places we go, the things we do,

Be with us in our endings,

bring us peace and acceptance.

We find much that we have learnt to do,

That we had hoped to put behind us,

But with which we must persevere,

Be with us in our continuings,

Sustain us as we keep going.

As we step forward into things new and unforeseen,

Things which both challenge and inspire us,

Be with us in our beginnings,

And enfold us in your love.

Amen

Sunday 12th July - St Mary's Church Longcot



COLLECT

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love
you
such good things as pass our
understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward
you
that we, loving you in all things and
above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

Either

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13. 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

There is not any god besides you, Lord,
whose care is for all people, to whom
you should prove that you have not
judged unjustly; for your strength is
the source of righteousness, and your
sovereignty over all causes you to spare
all. For you show your strength when
people doubt the completeness of your
power, and you rebuke any insolence
among those who know it. Although you
are sovereign in strength, you judge with
mildness, and with great forbearance
you govern us; for you have power to
act whenever you choose. Through such
works you have taught your people that
the righteous must be kind, and you
have filled your children with good hope,
because you give repentance for sins.

Or Isaiah 44:6-8

*A reading from the book of the prophet
Isaiah.*

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last; besides
me there is no god. Who is like me? Let
them proclaim it, let them declare and set
it forth before me. Who has announced
from of old the things to come? Let them
tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or
be afraid; have I not told you from of old
and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is
there any god besides me? There is no
other rock; I know not one.

PSALM Psalm 86:11-17

R You, Lord, are gracious and full of
compassion.

Teach me your way, O Lord,
and I will walk in your truth;

knit my heart to you that I may fear your
name.

I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all
my heart,
and glorify your name for evermore.
For great is your love towards me;
you have delivered me from the
nethermost Pit. **R**

The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a violent band seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.
But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of
compassion,
slow to anger and full of kindness and
truth. **R**

Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
Show me a sign of your favour,
so that those who hate me may see it
and be ashamed;
because you, O Lord, have helped me
and comforted me. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the
Romans.*

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not
to the flesh, to live according to the flesh
– for if you live according to the flesh,
you will die; but if by the Spirit you put
to death the deeds of the body, you will
live. For all who are led by the Spirit of
God are children of God. For you did not
receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into
fear, but you have received a spirit of
adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!”
it is that very Spirit bearing witness with
our spirit that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs, heirs of God
and joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact,
we suffer with him so that we may also
be glorified with him. I consider that the
sufferings of this present time are not
worth comparing with the glory about to
be revealed to us. For the creation waits
with eager longing for the revealing of
the children of God; for the creation was
subjected to futility, not of its own will
but by the will of the one who subjected
it, in hope that the creation itself will
be set free from its bondage to decay
and will obtain the freedom of the glory
of the children of God. We know that
the whole creation has been groaning
in labour pains until now; and not only
the creation, but we ourselves, who
have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan
inwardly while we wait for adoption, the
redemption of our bodies. For in hope

we were saved. Now hope that is seen
is not hope. For who hopes for what is
seen? But if we hope for what we do not
see, we wait for it with patience.

GOSPEL

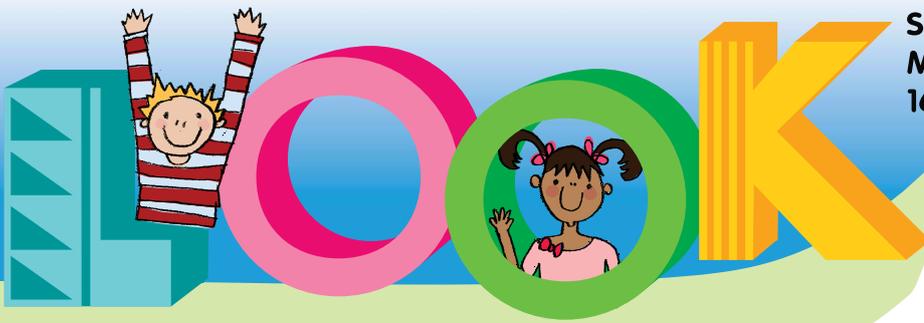
Matthew 13:24-30. 36-43

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

Jesus put before the crowd another
parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be
compared to someone who sowed good
seed in his field; but while everybody
was asleep, an enemy came and sowed
weeds among the wheat, and then went
away. So when the plants came up and
bore grain then the weeds appeared as
well. And the slaves of the householder
came and said to him, ‘Master, did you
not sow good seed in your field? Where,
then, did these weeds come from?’ He
answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The
slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us
to go and gather them?’ But he replied,
‘No; for in gathering the weeds you
would uproot the wheat along with them.
Let both of them grow together until
the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell
the reapers, Collect the weeds first and
bind them in bundles to be burned, but
gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then
Jesus left the crowds and went into the
house. And his disciples approached
him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of
the weeds of the field.” He answered,
“The one who sows the good seed is
the Son of Man; the field is the world,
and the good seed are the children of
the kingdom; the weeds are the children
of the evil one and the enemy who
sowed them is the devil; the harvest is
the end of the age, and the reapers are
angels. Just as the weeds are collected
and burned up with fire, so will it be at
the end of the age. The Son of Man will
send his angels, and they will collect out
of his kingdom all causes of sin and all
evildoers, and they will throw them into
the furnace of fire, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the
righteous will shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with
ears listen!”

POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 19 July 2020
Matthew 13:24-43
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

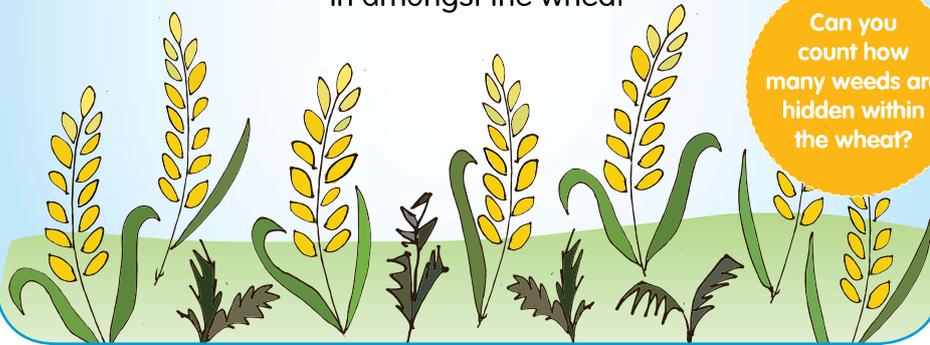
My name is _____

Jesus tells the story of a man who sowed good seed in a field. When everyone was asleep, his enemy went and sowed weeds there too. The farmer let both the wheat and weeds grow together until harvest time. Only then did he separate them out.

DO GOOD!

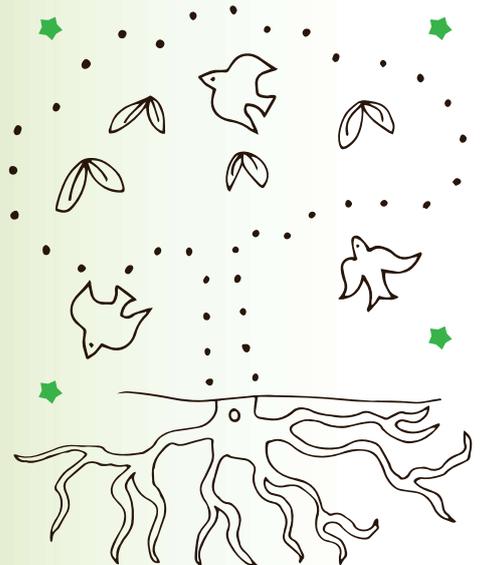
Separating the weeds from the wheat

Someone has sown weeds in amongst the wheat



Safe and sheltered

Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed that grows into a big, strong tree.



Join the dots and watch the tree grow!

God's amazing kingdom

The kingdom of God is might have very small beginnings, but it can make amazing things happen!



Match up the small item on the top with the big thing that it becomes.

Keep the harvest safe

Help the farmer to put his wheat safely into the barn.

Follow the orange paths.

Avoid the fires that are there to burn the weeds.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, at times I am like the field with both good seed and weeds growing in my heart. Help me to look after the good seed so that I can be full of love to share with the people I meet. Amen.

Do good: four weeds.