



WELCOME

TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 13th September Trinity 14

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

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Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk



Saturday 12th September

10:00am Bible story & craft activity for children.
Watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).

Watch this week's sermon on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).
Available from 9am on Sunday 13th September.

**Face coverings are now mandatory in churches.
Please read the updated information opposite.**

Sunday 13th September Trinity 14

9 - 10:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun.
Church open for private prayer.

9:00am Longcot, St Mary
Morning Prayer for Harvest

10:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Holy Communion

11:00am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

Monday Rev'd Fergusson off duty

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

10:30am Bible Study Course resumes.
Live via Zoom.

See below for more information.

5 - 6:00pm Private prayer in Longcot Church.

6 - 7:30pm Private prayer in Watchfield Church.

Thursday

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

Friday

5:30pm Worship and Praise. Live via Zoom.

Contact David Ahern for details of how to take part.

01793 783521 thestable@protonmail.com

Saturday

11:00am Compton Beauchamp PCC

Sunday 20th September Trinity 15

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](#).

4:00pm Joint Harvest Service with Shrivenham
Methodist Church. Live on [Facebook](#).

All links, orders of services and readings
are posted on the services page of our website
www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Face Coverings are Mandatory in Churches

There is an exemption for those who are officiating at services and presiding at Holy Communion, and those who assist them (for instance by reading, preaching, or leading prayers) who do not always need to wear a face covering, although one should be worn if physical distancing cannot be maintained (such as at the distribution of Holy Communion).

In line with government advice, children under 11 and people with disabilities or certain health conditions are also exempt from wearing face coverings.

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

Everything is provisional!

I knew I shouldn't have commented
on the lack of new guidance recently!

But, being old enough to remember the Famous Five, the Secret Seven and the Gang of Four, I guess the Rule of Six shouldn't be too much of a problem.

Although churches are (or at least used to be) places of social gathering, worship, as Archbishop Justin says, "is the work of God and gives the strength to love and serve."

So far, we know that, as from Monday 14th September:

Churches are regarded as being Covid-secure venues (thank you so much wardens and cleaners) so are exempt from the overall limit of six people for public worship and private prayer.

However, individual groups inside church should not be larger than six people. Groups should not combine and there must continue to be social distancing between groups.

Weddings, funerals and other stand-alone services can proceed with a maximum limit of 30 people provided that the current capacity of the individual church can accommodate this number safely.

We don't yet know what the implications are for other groups which would normally meet in church such as PCCs or how this will affect APCMs. Please bear with us while we work it out.

Norma

Associate Vicar

Rev'd Canon Paul Richardson's licensing service will be held in St Mary's church Ashbury on Tuesday 3rd November at 7:30pm. More details to follow.

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

Wedding Congratulations



It was a wonderful, joyful day when Louise Trillwood and Jonathan Cooke were married in St Mary's Longcot last Saturday. Many thanks to them for allowing us to share this photograph with you.

Church Electoral Rolls

Church electoral rolls will be revised before the annual parish meetings. Please let your parish Electoral Roll Officer know if your contact details have changed since last year. If you would like to join the electoral roll, please contact your church's PCC Secretary or Churchwarden.

Benefice voices: lamentation and laughter



It's not too late to share your thoughts and ideas on life under lockdown. Please email Norma or drop a note through the Vicarage letter box in Shrivenham if that's easier or you'd prefer to remain anonymous. vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk



Alpha Online - ask the big questions of life and explore the Christian faith. Each session starts with a short video talk looking at different questions around faith, followed by discussion in small groups.

Interested?

The next course starts on 5th October, put the date in your diary!

Alpha Online will be held via Zoom on Monday evenings (8 - 9:30pm) from 5th October to 7th December.

More information from Jane Ahern
01793 783521 thestable@protonmail.com

or Gill & Paul Sharpe
07803 184306 gillinpaul.sharpe@btinternet.com

A joint venture with Shrivenham Methodist Church

Longcot Village Green Concerts



Sincere thanks to Vicky and the other members of the Clarinet Collective for an afternoon of wonderful music which raised a good sum for the Longcot Village Trust fund to build a community space in St Mary's Church. They played everything from Gershwin to Mozart – and the rain stayed away!

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Idstone Road.

Churches Open for Private Prayer

Most of our churches are usually open once a week for private prayer. See the services box for details. Shrivenham church is closed until late September while building work is undertaken. Fernham church is closed to allow Annabelle's pre-school exclusive access.

Our condolences

to the family and friends of the late Mrs Pat Amor and Mrs Maisie Brittain who died recently.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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

Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM

Psalm 103:[1-7]. 8-13

R *The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
[slow to anger and of great kindness].*

[Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits. **R**

He forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;
He redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness; **R**

He satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness

and judgement for all who are
oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel. **R]**

The Lord is full of compassion and
mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
He has not dealt with us according to
our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our
wickedness. **R**

For as the heavens are high above the
earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who
fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.
As a father cares for his children,
so does the Lord care for those who
fear him. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith,
but not for the purpose of quarrelling
over opinions. Some believe in eating
anything, while the weak eat only
vegetables. Those who eat must not
despise those who abstain, and those
who abstain must not pass judgement
on those who eat; for God has
welcomed them. Who are you to pass
judgement on servants of another? It is
before their own lord that they stand
or fall. And they will be upheld, for
the Lord is able to make them stand.
Some judge one day to be better than
another, while others judge all days to
be alike. Let all be fully convinced in
their own minds. Those who observe
the day, observe it in honour of the
Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour
of the Lord, since they give thanks to
God; while those who abstain, abstain
in honour of the Lord and give thanks
to God. We do not live to ourselves,
and we do not die to ourselves. If we
live, we live to the Lord, and if we die,
we die to the Lord; so then, whether
we live or whether we die, we are the
Lord's. For to this end Christ died and
lived again, so that he might be Lord
of both the dead and the living. Why do
you pass judgement on your brother or
sister? Or you, why do you despise your
brother or sister? For we will all stand
before the judgement seat of God. For

it is written, "As I live, says the Lord,
every knee shall bow to me, and every
tongue shall give praise to God." So
then, each of us will be accountable
to God.

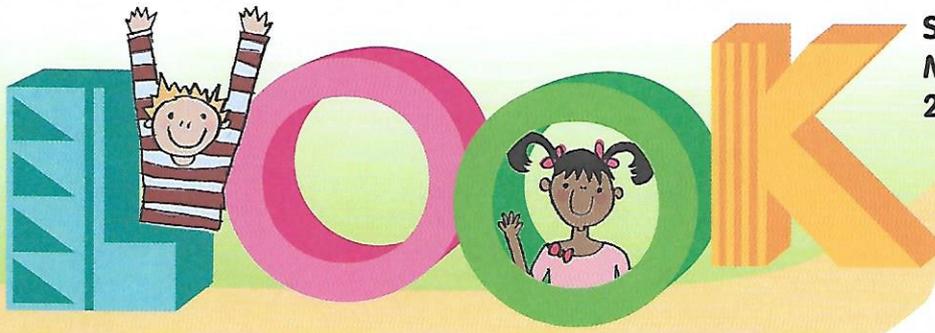
GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord,
if another member of the church sins
against me, how often should I forgive?
As many as seven times?" Jesus said
to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell
you, seventy-seven times. For this
reason the kingdom of heaven may
be compared to a king who wished to
settle accounts with his slaves. When he
began the reckoning, one who owed
him ten thousand talents was brought
to him; and, as he could not pay, his
lord ordered him to be sold, together
with his wife and children and all his
possessions, and payment to be made.
So the slave fell on his knees before
him, saying, 'Have patience with me,
and I will pay you everything.' And out
of pity for him, the lord of that slave
released him and forgave him the debt.
But that same slave, as he went out,
came upon one of his fellow-slaves
who owed him a hundred denarii; and
seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay
what you owe.' Then his fellow-slave
fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have
patience with me, and I will pay you.'
But he refused; then he went and threw
him into prison until he would pay
the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw
what had happened, they were greatly
distressed, and they went and reported
to their lord all that had taken place.
Then his lord summoned him and said
to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you
all that debt because you pleaded with
me. Should you not have had mercy
on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on
you?' And in anger his lord handed him
over to be tortured until he would pay
his entire debt. So my heavenly Father
will also do to every one of you, if you
do not forgive your brother or sister
from your heart."

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching
and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of
bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 13 September 2020
Matthew 18:21-35
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

My name is _____

I FORGIVE YOU!

Jesus says we should be ready to forgive someone **77** times!

$70+7=$

Put a circle around the sums which add up to **77**

$80-3=$

$7+3=$

Grow in love When we forgive someone, our heart grows bigger with God's love.

Can you put these hearts in size order, starting with the smallest?:

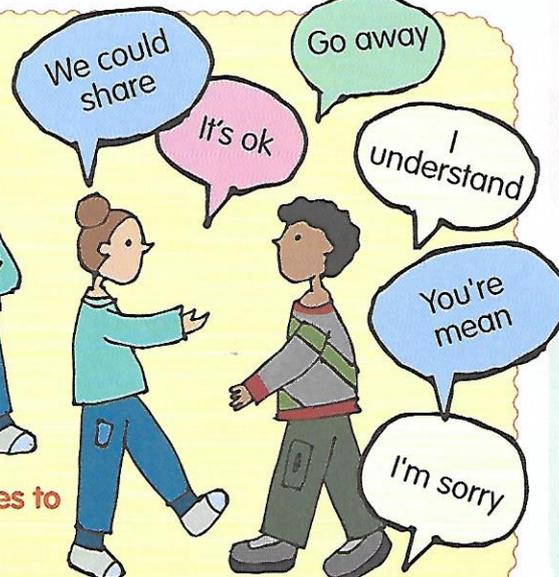
Smallest \longrightarrow Biggest



Share the love

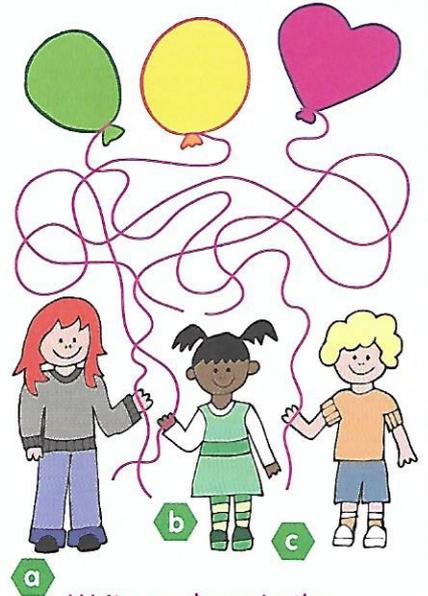
Thea and Arthur have fallen out. Circle the words that you think will help them to make up.

Put happy smiles on their faces to show they are friends again!



Which is free?

We feel free when we are forgiven. Whose balloon is about to float free?



Write or draw in the balloon something you'd like to say sorry for and be forgiven for doing.

A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving me. Help me to share your love with my family and friends so I can grow even closer to you in my heart. Amen.