



The Shrevenham and Ashbury Benefice

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 22nd November Christ the King

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

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Associate Vicar: The Rev'd Canon Paul Richardson. Tel 01793 710241

associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



Sunday 22nd November

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

Richard Fergusson is giving this week's sermon. Watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#).

Available from 9am on Sunday 22nd November.

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

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

Thursday

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

Sunday 29th November

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

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

Rev'd Fergusson is off duty from 22nd to 26th November.

For pastoral emergencies

please contact Canon Richardson 01793 710241

For all other church enquiries

please contact a churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator 01793 783519 (shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com)

A Call to Prayer for the Nation

Our Archbishops and leaders of other denominations have together called for a month of prayer for the nation during this second Lockdown.

“We know that we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures forever.”

In response to this call, there will be a short time of prayer live on our Benefice Facebook page at 6.00pm each evening. Please join us.

Derrick Jeans, RIP

Derrick's funeral will be held in St Andrew's Church on Thursday 26th November at 10am. We are sorry that we cannot invite you to join us in the way that we (and he) would have wished.

However, the service will be livestreamed on Facebook and you are very welcome to join us there. Please share this information with anyone you know who would be interested – and remember, you don't need a Facebook account to watch. Thank you

Stir up Sunday

Sunday 22nd November, apart from being the feast of Christ the King and the last Sunday before Advent, is also known as “Stir up Sunday.” This is partly from the Book of Common Prayer Collect for the day

“Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen”



But also because it was the traditional day for making Christmas puddings in order to give them time to mature before Christmas. Maybe one of the good things to come out of lockdown will be having the time for those traditional preparations, rather than having to cram everything into the last days or minutes (depending on how organized you are) before the shops close on Christmas Eve. Or even, I have to confess, sometimes buying them at the reduced price on Boxing Day!

Everyone is telling us that Christmas will be different this year, but different doesn't always mean worse. Different can be rediscovering some of those old traditions as well as starting new ones for our families. Watching Granny make the pudding over Zoom perhaps? Other sites are available, but they do seem to have cornered the market don't they? Perhaps, like Hoover and biro, it will become one of those generic terms for an activity, whichever platform we use?

Something as simple as weighing, measuring and stirring our cakes and puddings might be just the thing we need to give us time to think, or remember, or daydream, or pray. Slowing us down in contrast to many things which might be stirring us up rather than our puddings. And if we save the pudding till the next time we're together, rather than having it on Christmas Day, that might be a lovely new tradition, too.

Norma

Lockdown & Giving

As we travel through another lockdown and are unable to hold services in our churches, the lack of donations usually received via our collection plates is having a serious impact on our finances. The costs associated with running the parishes is largely the same even with the churches closed except for private prayer.

We are very grateful to all those who already make a financial contribution towards our mission and ministry and the upkeep of our buildings. If you would like to find out more about our regular giving schemes, please telephone the Treasurers on the numbers below.

Shrivenham, Watchfield and Bourton 01793 784756
Longcot and Fernham 01793 783324
Compton Beauchamp 01793 710889
Ashbury 07929 494621

You can also make a text donation to support your local church or the Benefice using the numbers below.

For Ashbury

Text **STMARYS 5** to **70085** to donate **£5**
Text **STMARYS 10** to **70085** to donate **£10**

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**

For the Benefice as a whole

Text **GIVEfive** to **70470** to donate **£5**

Your standard text message rate applies.

Silent Auction



Raising funds for St Mary's Church, Ashbury

This year instead of our Church Bazaar and Raffle we are holding a Silent Auction. We have forty-four lovely things up for auction; many of them will make nice Christmas presents. We hope you will find something of interest in the catalogue.

This is a Silent Auction so the amount of your bid will not be revealed, and you also have the option for your name not to be revealed. Information on how to bid is included in the catalogue. Paul Richardson has kindly offered to be filmed opening the sealed bids at 4 pm on Saturday 28 November and this will be available live for anyone to watch on the Benefice Facebook page.

Catalogues containing details of each 'lot' and bidding forms are available from

Margaret mbsmith5@hotmail.co.uk
Judy judiethanclarke@outlook.com

Churches Open for Private Prayer in Lockdown

During lockdown the churches will remain open for private prayer once a week as follows:

Ashbury 10am – 4pm on Thursday
Compton Beauchamp 9am – 5pm on Sunday
Longcot 10am – 3pm on Wednesday
Shrivenham 9am – 5pm on Sunday
Watchfield 10am – 4pm on Wednesday
Fernham church remains closed to allow Annabelle's pre-school exclusive access during term time.

Face coverings are mandatory, and you should either scan the NHS test and trace QR code or use the sign-in sheets on entering. Hand sanitiser is available and remember to maintain social distancing.

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

Shrivenham Village Crossword Puzzle

First prize £20 - closing date 10th January 2021

You may know the answers, which refer to places or items visible in the village, or you may have to walk around to find them! Some of the clues are cryptic.

Set by the people who organised the Treasure Trail.

Entry is £5 for the crossword and clues.

Available from Shrivenham Post Office
David Watson 783405 or Julian Stevens 782065
In aid of St Andrews Church Restoration Project

Church Services by Telephone



Daily Hope is a free phone line offering 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 Archbishop Justin Welby, then choose from a range of options, including traditional morning and evening prayer, hymns, prayers and reflections.

Calls are free of charge.

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Wixes Piece.

Clergy Days Off

Rev'd Fergusson's day off is Monday
Canon Richardson's days off are Monday & Tuesday

COLLECT

Eternal Father,
 whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the
 throne of heaven that he might rule
 over all things as Lord and King:
 keep the Church in the unity of the
 Spirit
 and in the bond of peace,
 and bring the whole created order to
 worship at his feet;
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16. 20-24

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Psalm 95:1-7a

R *The Lord is a great God,
 and a great king above all gods.*

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
 let us shout for joy to the rock of
 our salvation.
 Let us come before his presence with
 thanksgiving
 and raise a loud shout to him
 with psalms.
 For the Lord is a great God,
 and a great king above all gods. **R**

In his hand are the depths of the earth,
 and the heights of the hills are his also.
 The sea is his, for he made it,
 and his hands have moulded the
 dry land. **R**

Come, let us bow down and bend
 the knee,
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
 For he is our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture
 and the sheep of his hand. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

GOSPEL

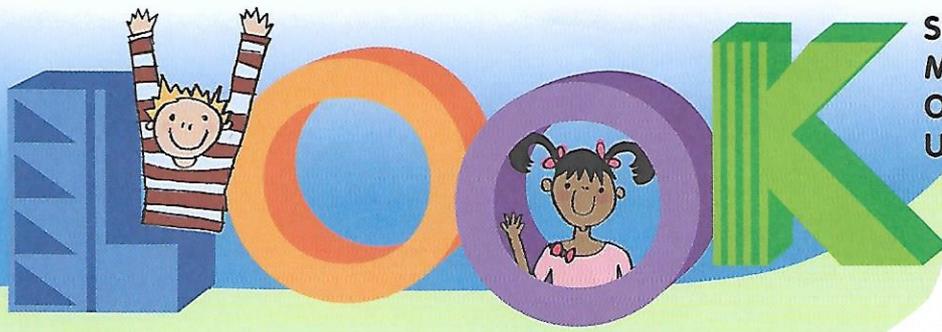
Matthew 25:31-46

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

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

POST COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord,
 the wills of your faithful people;
 that they, plenteously bringing forth the
 fruit of good works,
 may by you be plenteously rewarded;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 22 November 2020
 Matthew 25:31-46
 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

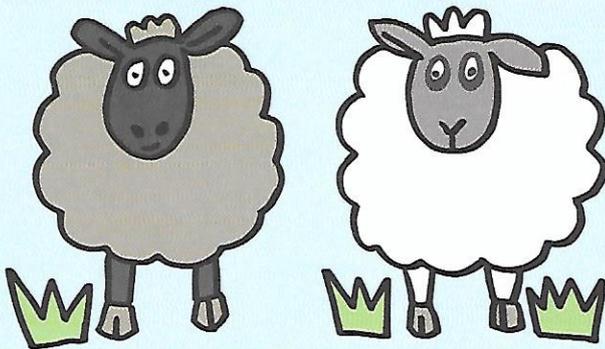
IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

Jesus says that whenever we are kind to another person we are being kind to him.

My name is _____

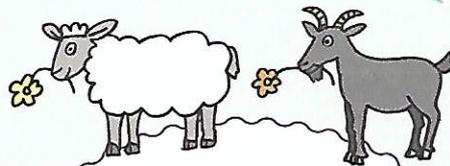
LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER

Spot the **five** differences between these sheep.



Sheep or goat?

Here are some clues which describe sheep and goats. Can you tell which is which?



My coat is woolly, my tail hangs down, my young are called lambs, and a shepherd looks after me.
 I am a _____

My coat is hairy, my tail sticks up, my young are called kids, and a goatherd looks after me.
 I am a _____

Try to draw each one on the back of the sheet!

Being kind

Jesus says how we can to be kind to others.

Draw lines between the **action** and the **people who need our help**.

Give water to...

Welcome...

Visit...

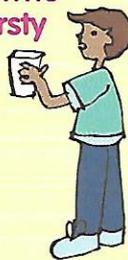
Give food to...

people who are thirsty

people who are sick

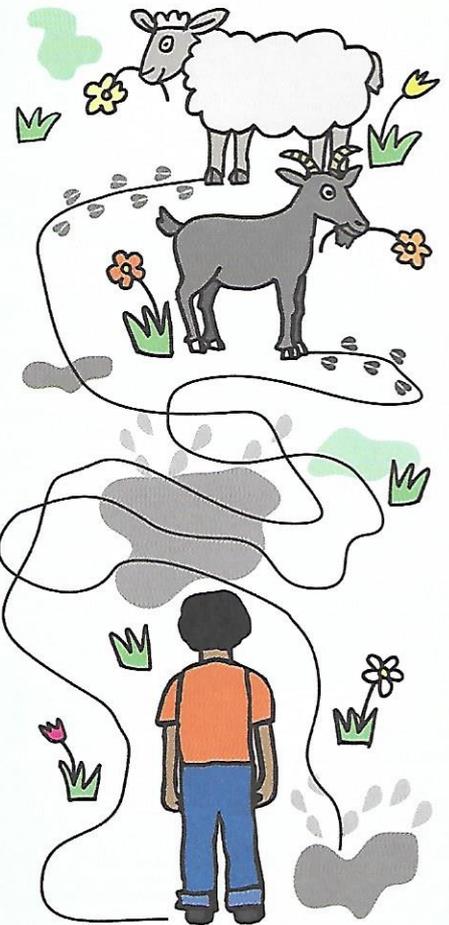
anyone who is hungry

strangers



Kind or not?

Jesus said that people are like sheep and goats; some are kind and some are not.



Follow the hoof prints to see if this child is a sheep or a goat.

A PRAYER TO SAY

Father God, you are so good to us. Help us to be as kind as we can be to all the people we meet every day. Amen.

Shrivenham

Oxfordshire



So you think you know a lot about

Shrivenham?

from the people who brought you the Treasure Trail
try our village



Puzzle

All the answers refer to places or items visible in the village.

You may know some of the answers, or you may have to walk around to find them! Some of the clues are cryptic.....

Entry is £5 for the crossword and clues....available now from :-

Shrivenham Post Office

Churchwardens... David 783405 or Julian 782065

and..... there is a first prize of £20 - closing date 10th January 2021

All profits will go to the St Andrews Church Restoration Project