



The Shrevenham and Ashbury Benefice

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 24th January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany



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

Service details were accurate at the time of publication. Please visit the Benefice website for up-to-date information.

www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Sunday 24th January

11.30am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

5:30pm Compline and Benediction.
Live on [Facebook](#).

Canon Paul Richardson is giving today's sermon.
Watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) from 9am.

Monday

4:00pm Bereavement Café via Zoom.
Full details below.

Tuesday

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#).
7:30pm Shrevenham, Watchfield & Bourton
PCC meeting via Zoom.

Wednesday

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#).
10:30am The Character Course via Zoom.
8:00pm The Character Course via Zoom.
It's not too late to join! See page 2.

Thursday

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#).
7:30pm Shrevenham, Watchfield & Bourton
PCC meeting via Zoom.

Sunday 31st January

11.30am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

Prayer Requests

I wonder whether you've found yourself praying more since the pandemic started? Anxious prayers for families and friends affected by the virus; prayers of protection for our communities or for those we know who work on what we've come to think of as the front line; prayers for a speedy roll-out of the vaccines; "oh my goodness" arrow prayers as we hear the ever increasing numbers of deaths and infections; even angry "what are you doing, God?" prayers as we struggle to understand what is happening in our world.

I've certainly prayed all these and more. Sometimes it helps to light a candle or, when possible, to hang my prayer on the prayer trees in St Andrew's, St James' (pictured below) or at Café Inspire. That way I know the prayer is being shared and prayed by others, which can be really helpful.

If you would like to share your prayers and concerns, please do get in touch with Norma (784338), Paul (710241) or Richard (780057). We can include them in our online services (anonymously if you wish) as well as in our private devotions. Norma



God our Father,
by whose mercy the world turns safely into darkness
and returns again to light:
we place in your hands our unfinished tasks,
our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes,
knowing that only what you bless will prosper.
To your love and protection
we commit each other and all those we love,
knowing that you alone are our sure defender,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Virtual Bereavement Café

Monday 25th January
from 4 – 5pm.
Live via Zoom.

An informal online get-together for anyone who has been bereaved at any time.
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

Come and See

'Come and See' is a new Diocesan programme, that our Benefice is signed up to, to help us all learn more about the basics of faith in Jesus.

Near the beginning of St John's Gospel we read of two disciples who start to follow Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them: "What are you looking for?" They said to him "Rabbi, where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see."

One in five people in online congregations across the diocese were not regular worshippers before COVID. So now we want to invite to everyone who is searching for truth and meaning to go deeper. As a Church across the Diocese we want to send out a big, warm, open invitation to everyone: Come and see.

We are going to offer that invitation over the next few weeks through our services, in person and through e-cards inviting people to respond and discover more.

Then in Lent, we hope that everyone will have the opportunity to go deeper as we explore the heart of the Christian faith together: through daily reflections, through weekly videos and podcasts, through one to one conversations and small groups meeting online.

Please pray that God will be at work and that in the Easter season, as we emerge from lockdown, there will be many people who want to be baptised and to renew their Christian faith. You can sign up for daily reflections and to walk this journey with us in the personal link below. This can be for everyone. Walk with us as we walk with Jesus and come and see.

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/>

Ashbury School Foodbank

With lockdown taking its toll on many in various ways, we would like to support our families through providing our own foodbank during this lockdown period.

We would like to invite you to support this by donating food items to our stand outside of the school grounds.

We would welcome donations of tinned food, dried foods, packet foods, anything that will not go off or perish, as well as any hygiene or sanitary products.

The aim will be to keep this topped up over the coming weeks to support everyone during the lockdown period.

Anyone is welcome to come and help themselves to things they may need to support their families.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Rachael Smith
Headteacher, Ashbury CE Primary School

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

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

Clergy Days Off

Rev'd Fergusson is off duty on Monday
Canon Richardson is off duty on Monday & Tuesday

Virtual Wine Tasting - A taste of Australia



Join us via Zoom at 7.30 pm on Friday 5th February for a fun and informative wine tasting evening with wine expert and educator Abbie Bennington.

Guided by Abbie, we'll be taking a virtual trip to sunny Australia - from the comfort of our own sofas!

We'll be tasting a Shiraz and a Viognier. Abbie will be telling us about each wine and talking us through how to taste them like an expert.

Tickets are £10 per household

and you will also need to purchase a bottle of each wine at approximately £10 each.

When you sign up you will receive details of Abbie's recommended wines which are available from Sainsburys. If you can't get those particular ones, any Australian Shiraz and Australian Viognier will be fine.

To book your place, email

claireroutley@btinternet.com.

Payment can be made via BACS, or via cheque/cash at Teallach Cottage, High Street, Ashbury.

In aid of St Mary's Church, Ashbury

The Character Course - it's not too late to join!

Each week, 'The Character Course' looks at one of eight themes: learning, hope, love, forgiveness, gratitude, humour, persistence and curiosity.

The sessions last about 75 minutes. There is a short video to watch and a bible passage to ponder.

The course is free and will run online via Zoom on Wednesdays from 13th January to 3rd March.

Join a morning session at 10:30am
or an evening session at 8:00pm.

Contact Jane Ahern to sign up for the course.
01793 783521 thestable@protonmail.com

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and
miracles
the wonder of your saving
presence:
renew your people with your
heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
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 14:17-20

A reading from the book of Genesis.

After Abram's return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

PSALM Psalm 128

*R Whoever fears the Lord
shall indeed be blessed.*

Happy are they all who fear the
Lord,
and who follow in his ways!
You shall eat the fruit of your
labour;
happiness and prosperity shall
be yours. **R**

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
within your house,
your children like olive shoots
round about your table.

Whoever fears the Lord
shall thus indeed be blessed. **R**

The Lord bless you from Zion,
and may you see the prosperity
of Jerusalem
all the days of our life.
May you live to see your
children's children;
may peace be upon Israel. **R**

SECOND READING Revelation 19:6-10

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure" – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God." Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

GOSPEL John 2:1-11

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

On the third day there was a
wedding in Cana of Galilee,

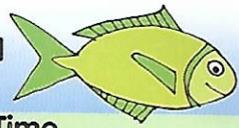
and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

POST COMMUNION

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and
sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known,
worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now
and for ever.

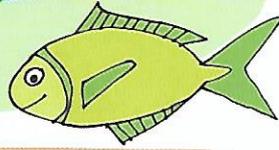


Sunday 24 January 2021
Mark 1:14-20
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

My name is _____



FOLLOW JESUS!

Jesus asked **four fishermen** to follow him and to become his disciples.

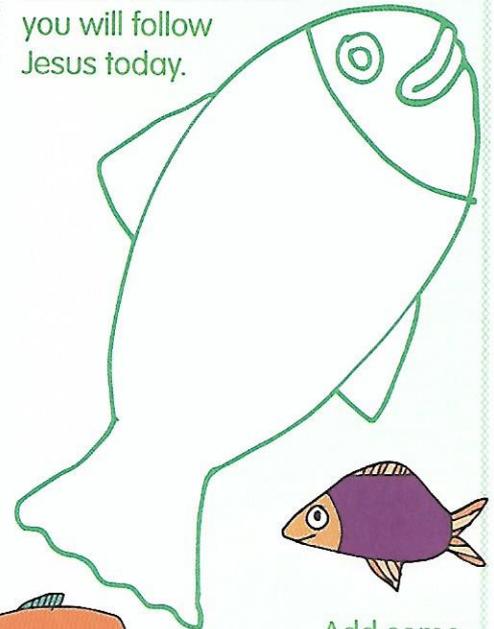
Join the dots to see them, and fill in the blanks to find out their names.

_____ ON (MIS) A _____ W (ERND) J _____ S (AEM) _____ (HNOJ)

As Jesus walks beside the Sea of Galilee, he sees fishermen working hard in their boats. Jesus asks Simon, John, James and Andrew to follow him, and they leave everything behind to become Jesus' friends.

I will follow Jesus when I...

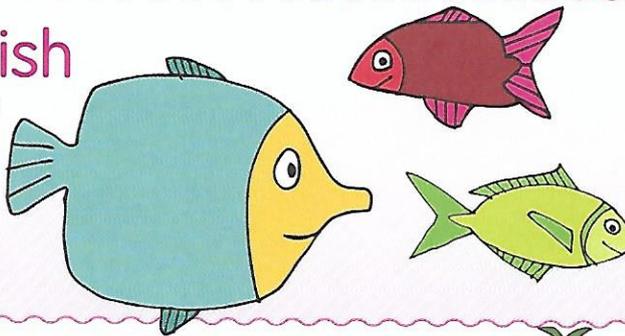
We can follow Jesus when we live as he asks, loving other people. Draw a picture inside the fish to show how you will follow Jesus today.



Add some things that make **YOU** happy!

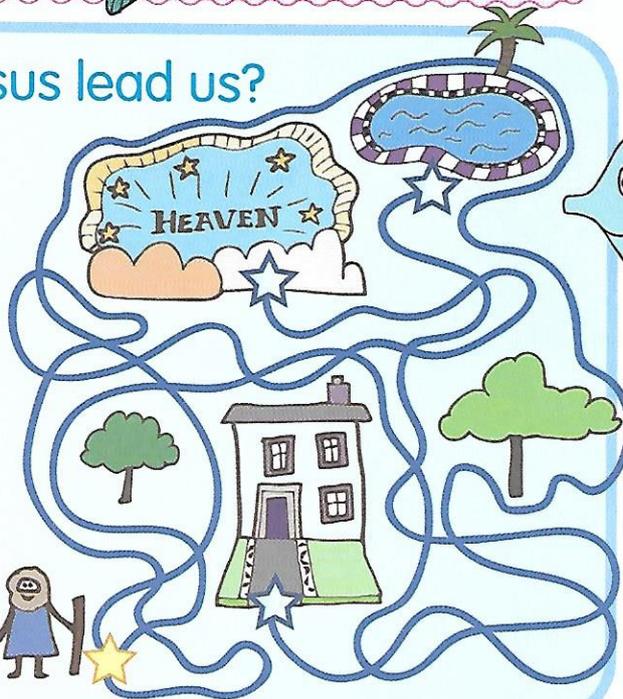
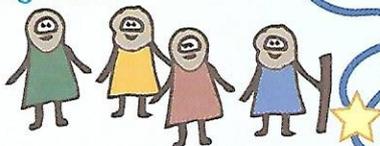
Find the Fish

Jesus' first disciples were fishermen. Can you catch the **ten** fish hidden around this page?



Where will Jesus lead us?

When Jesus asked **Simon, John, James** and **Andrew** to follow him, they had no idea where Jesus was leading them. Jesus' friends put their total faith and trust in him. Follow the path to see where Jesus is leading them.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, you called ordinary people like fishermen to become your closest followers. Thank you for reminding us that you call all sorts of people, people just like me, to be your best friends. Amen.

Answers: Simon, John, James and Andrew.