

Benefice of Shrivenham and Ashbury

Renewal of Baptism Vows

Sunday After Ascension

After the Gospel Reading,

water is poured into the font.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
our light and our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
Now, as darkness is falling,
wash away our transgressions,
cleanse us by your refining fire
and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.
By the light of Christ,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
and make us ready to enter your kingdom,
where songs of praise for ever sound.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Let us Pray.

A moment of Silence follows.

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs
of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great
glory we may be made like him in his eternal
and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading: Genesis 1 :1- 5

In the beginning when God created the
heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless
void and darkness covered the face of the
deep, while a wind from God swept over the
face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there
be light'; and there was light. And God saw
that the light was good; and God separated the
light from the darkness. God called the light
Day, and the darkness he called Night. And
there was evening and there was morning, the
first day.

We turn to face "West".

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into
his marvellous light. To follow Christ means
dying to sin and rising to new life with him.
Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion
against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of
evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from
God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

We turn to face "East".

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and
the life?

I come to Christ.

May God, who has given you the desire to
follow Christ, give you the strength to
continue in the Way.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the
faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus
Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried; he descended to the dead. On the
third day he rose again; he ascended into
heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the
Father, and he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized into your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent, and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, I will.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.