



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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

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

[associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

## Sunday 9th January 2022 Baptism of Christ

**Wearing a face covering is mandatory. Please don't come to church if you think you may have symptoms of Covid.**

Please sign in or use the QR code and continue to observe social distancing. Hand sanitiser is available.

Holy Communion will be offered in one kind only.



### Sunday 9th January

Canon Paul Richardson is giving today's sermon.

Watch on Facebook or YouTube from 9:00am.

9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas & Facebook.

Matins (BCP)

9:30am Longcot, St Mary

Holy Communion

10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & Facebook.

Holy Communion

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary.

Holy Communion

3:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas

Benefice Sunday School

### Tuesday

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on Facebook

### Wednesday

9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & Facebook

Morning Prayer

9:15am Song and Stories Toddler Group

Shrivenham Methodist Church

10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom

7:00pm Longcot & Fernham PCC Meeting

### Thursday

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

9:00am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's

10:00am Ashbury, St Mary & Facebook

Holy Communion

6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

### Friday

9:00am Ashbury, St Mary & Facebook.

Matins (BCP)

### Saturday

8:30am Men's Breakfast, St Andrew's

### Sunday 16th

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & Facebook

Benefice Holy Communion with Choir

### Canon Paul Richardson

As you know, Paul will be leaving us soon to become Priest in Charge of Tickhill and Stainton in the Diocese of Sheffield on 7th February.

His farewell service is on Sunday 16th January at 11am in St Mary's Church Ashbury and everyone is welcome.

Although Paul has only been with us for a little over a year, he has made a tremendous difference – particularly in children's ministry both in starting Sunday School and as a governor at Longcot school – but also through pastoral, prayerful ministry in all seven churches and, of course, as a valued friend and colleague. We will miss Paul, but the calls of family and vocation cannot be ignored and in answering them he is, as always, showing us what it means to live a life of discipleship.

Please hold Paul, Katriona and their family in your prayers as they prepare for this next stage in their lives.

### **Rev'd Norma Fergusson is off duty from Monday 3rd January until Friday 14th January.**

Please contact Canon Paul Richardson for pastoral issues, and your local churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator for other church enquiries.

### Community Cycles of Prayer

There are many cycles of prayer in the church year and one of the most important is that of praying intentionally for our local communities – schools, businesses, families and friends.

This week please pray for all who live and work in The Malhouses Ashbury, and Ballingers and Gealer Grove Shrivenham.

### Wednesday Study Groups

The online Zoom group will restart on 12th January at 10.30am. The group that meets at the Vicarage restarts on 19th January at 7pm.

We will be looking at 'Holy Habits', an adventure in Christian discipleship based upon Luke's picture of the early church in Acts 2:42-47. It explores and encourages the practice of ten disciplines, or holy habits: biblical teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, prayer, sharing resources, serving, eating together, gladness and generosity, worship and making more disciples.

If you would like to join either group, please contact the Benefice Administrator (Lucy Laird).

[info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk) 01793 783519

### Helpers Urgently Needed for St Andrew's Baby and Toddler Group



One of the leaders has had to step back for health reasons and the group urgently needs some extra helpers. They meet on a Thursday from 9 - 11am (term-time only) in St Andrew's Church.

If you can help (even occasionally) or would like more information, please contact Lucy Laird. 01793 783519

[info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### Men's Breakfast in Shrivenham

Saturday 15th January at 8:30am (Covid permitting!)



Meet at 8:30am in St Andrew's for a short time of prayer then put the world to rights over breakfast.

The Taylor's are hosting this month. For catering purposes, please let Chris know if you plan to attend.  
07867 520824 [cstaylor1974@hotmail.com](mailto:cstaylor1974@hotmail.com).

Men's Breakfast will run monthly on the 3rd Saturday.

### Shrivenham Bereavement Café

Last Tuesday of each month from 1 - 2pm and occasional evening cafés at 6pm.

All are welcome and there is no charge.

We meet to talk, share our stories and have a cuppa together.

Tuesday 25th January at 1pm at the Vicarage  
Tuesday 22nd February at 1pm at 5 Martens Road  
Tuesday 29th March at 1pm at the Vicarage  
Tuesday 26th April at 1pm at 5 Martens Road

Norma and Rose-Anne are experienced bereavement workers. Do feel free to contact them if you want to know more or have any questions.

Rose-Anne

017937 84017 [roseanne.o@outlook.com](mailto:roseanne.o@outlook.com)

Norma

01793 784338 [vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### Valentine's Concert

Saturday 12th February at 7:30pm  
St Andrew's Church Shrivenham

A date for your diary - more details to follow.  
In aid of St Andrew's Restoration Fund



### Community Coffee Morning

Friday 21st January  
from 10.30am – noon  
in St Andrew's Church  
Shrivenham

Come for cake and a cuppa.

Catch up with old friends  
and maybe make  
some new ones.

Supported by

 **Home Instead.**  
*To us, it's personal*

If you would like to make a text donation to support the work of the churches in our Benefice, please

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

**Text GIVEten to 70470 to donate £10**

Your standard text message rate applies.

**Thank you!**

### The Nativity in St Andrew's Church

The Magi have arrived



## COLLECT

Eternal Father,  
 who at the baptism of Jesus  
 revealed him to be your Son,  
 anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
 grant to us, who are born again by  
 water and the Spirit,  
 that we may be faithful to our  
 calling as your adopted children;  
 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 Isaiah 43:1-7

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah.*

Thus says the LORD, he who  
 created you, O Jacob, he who  
 formed you, O Israel: Do not  
 fear, for I have redeemed you; I  
 have called you by name, you are  
 mine. When you pass through  
 the waters, I will be with you;  
 and through the rivers, they shall  
 not overwhelm you; when you  
 walk through fire you shall not  
 be burned, and the flame shall  
 not consume you. For I am the  
 LORD your God, the Holy One of  
 Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt  
 as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba  
 in exchange for you. Because  
 you are precious in my sight, and  
 honoured, and I love you, I give  
 people in return for you, nations  
 in exchange for your life. Do not  
 fear, for I am with you; I will bring  
 your offspring from the east, and  
 from the west I will gather you; I  
 will say to the north, "Give them  
 up," and to the south, "Do not  
 withhold; bring my sons from  
 far away and my daughters from  
 the end of the earth – everyone  
 who is called by my name, whom  
 I created for my glory, whom I  
 formed and made."

## PSALM Psalm 29

**R** *The voice of the Lord is upon  
 the waters  
 [the God of glory thunders].*

Or

**R** *The Lord shall give his people  
 the blessing of peace.*

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,  
 ascribe to the Lord glory and  
 strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due  
 to his name;  
 worship the Lord in the beauty of  
 holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon the  
 waters;  
 the God of glory thunders;  
 the Lord is upon the mighty waters.  
 The voice of the Lord is a powerful  
 voice;  
 the voice of the Lord is a voice  
 of splendour. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the  
 cedar trees;  
 the Lord breaks the cedars of  
 Lebanon;  
 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
 and Mount Hermon like a young  
 wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the  
 flames of fire;  
 the voice of the Lord shakes the  
 wilderness;  
 the Lord shakes the wilderness  
 of Kadesh.  
 The voice of the Lord makes the  
 oak trees writhe  
 and strips the forests bare.  
 And in the temple of the Lord  
 all are crying, "Glory!" **R**

The Lord sits enthroned above  
 the flood;  
 the Lord sits enthroned as king  
 for evermore.  
 The Lord shall give strength to  
 his people;  
 the Lord shall give his people the  
 blessing of peace. **R**

## SECOND READING Acts 8:14-17

*A reading from the Acts of the  
 Apostles.*

When the apostles at Jerusalem  
 heard that Samaria had accepted

the word of God, they sent Peter  
 and John to them. The two went  
 down and prayed for them that  
 they might receive the Holy Spirit  
 (for as yet the Spirit had not come  
 upon any of them; they had only  
 been baptised in the name of the  
 Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John  
 laid their hands on them, and they  
 received the Holy Spirit.

## GOSPEL Luke 3:15-17. 21-22

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

In the wilderness John proclaimed  
 a baptism of repentance. As the  
 people were filled with expectation,  
 and all were questioning in their  
 hearts concerning John, whether  
 he might be the Messiah, John  
 answered all of them by saying,  
 "I baptise you with water; but one  
 who is more powerful than I is  
 coming; I am not worthy to untie  
 the thong of his sandals. He will  
 baptise you with the Holy Spirit  
 and fire. His winnowing-fork is in  
 his hand, to clear his threshing-  
 floor and to gather the wheat into  
 his granary; but the chaff he will  
 burn with unquenchable fire."  
 Now when all the people were  
 baptised, and when Jesus also had  
 been baptised and was praying,  
 the heaven was opened, and the  
 Holy Spirit descended upon him  
 in bodily form like a dove. And a  
 voice came from heaven, "You are  
 my Son, the Beloved; with you I  
 am well pleased."

## POST COMMUNION

Lord of all time and eternity,  
 you opened the heavens and  
 revealed yourself as Father  
 in the baptism of Jesus your  
 beloved Son:  
 by the power of your Spirit  
 complete the heavenly work of  
 our rebirth  
 through the waters of the new  
 creation;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

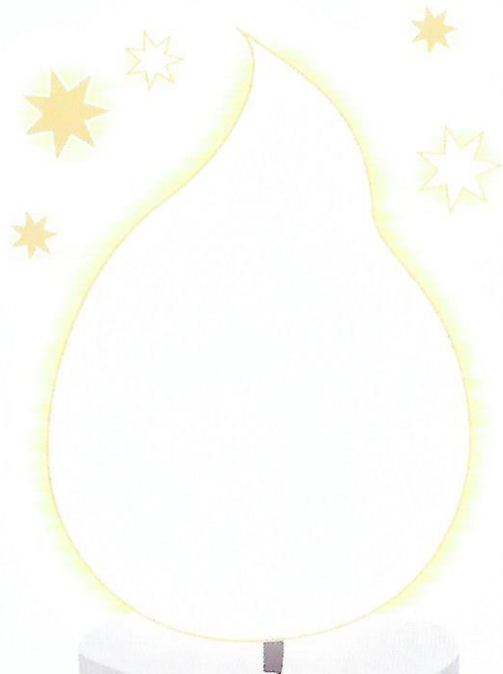


Sunday 9 January 2022  
 Luke 3:15-16. 21-22  
 The Baptism of the Lord

In the  
**GOSPEL TODAY**

## Sharing God's love

After his baptism Jesus began his new job telling everyone the Good News and sharing God's love. When we were baptised we were given this job too.



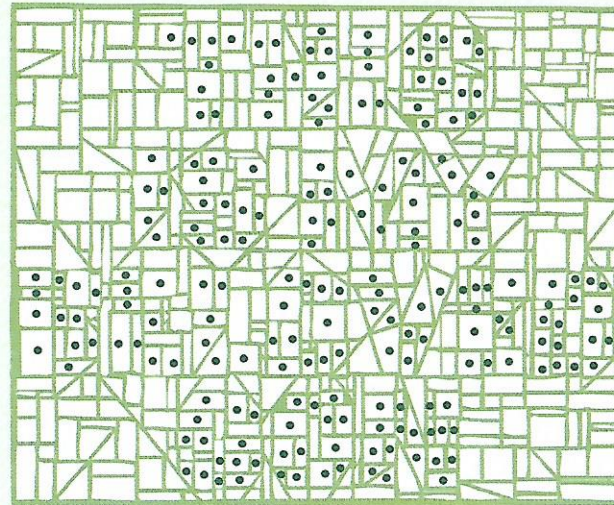
How will you share God's love today? Draw or write your ideas in the flame.

## A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, after your baptism you began to tell everyone all about God's love. Help me to tell people all about God's love by what I do and by what I say. Amen.

Jesus comes to his cousin John to be baptised. While Jesus prays, the Holy Spirit comes down on him and God the Father is heard, saying that Jesus is his Son.

## A new start!



When Jesus is baptised a voice comes from heaven. Find out what God the Father says about Jesus by completing the puzzle.

First colour in the squares that have dots to find the hidden message, then colour in all the other squares in whatever colours you like.

## Symbols in Baptism

Just like Jesus, we are baptised too. Different symbols are used during baptism. Can you unscramble the words to find out what the symbols are?



w \_ \_ \_ \_

tehi

w \_ \_ \_ \_ clothes

## Join the dots

When God the Son, Jesus, is baptised God the Holy Spirit comes down on him. Find out the shape of the Holy Spirit in this story by joining the dots.



Answers: This is my beloved Son. Water, oil, white, light.