



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Associate Vicar: Vacancy

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



Sunday 20th February 2022

Second Sunday before Lent

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

Wearing a face covering indoors is no longer mandatory but we would encourage you to exercise discretion, especially in larger services or smaller churches.

Please respect the concerns of others in the congregation, sign in or use the NHS QR code and continue to observe social distancing.

Hand sanitizer is available.

Holy Communion will be offered in one kind only.

Sunday 20th February

Rev'd Norma Fergusson is giving today's sermon.

Watch on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or our [website](#) from 9:00am

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun Matins (BCP)
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas. Matins (BCP)
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary Morning Prayer
- 10:00am Bourton, St James Holy Communion
- 10:30am Shrivenham Methodist Church & [Facebook](#) Covenant Service
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary. Taizé Service
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & Facebook Compline and Benediction

Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 1:00pm Bereavement Café 5 Martens Road, Shrivenham

Wednesday

- 9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#) Morning Prayer
- 10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group St Andrew's Vicarage

Thursday

- 9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew ASK Evening Prayer
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

Friday

- 9:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#) Matins (BCP)

Sunday 27th February

- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & Facebook Benefice Holy Communion with Choir

Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday mornings are not meeting this week as it is half-term.

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Chapel Lane in Ashbury, and Charlotte Close in Shrivenham

Pennyhooks Farm on TV



The TV programme featuring the work of Lydia Otter and her team at Pennyhooks Farm was broadcast last week and is now available to watch on [BBC iPlayer](#).

Bereavement Café in Shrivenham

Tuesday 22nd February at 1pm at 5 Martens Road, Shrivenham All are welcome and there is no charge. We meet to talk, share our stories and have a cuppa together.

If you want to know more or have any questions, please contact Rose-Anne 017937 84017

roseanne.o@outlook.com

or Norma 01793 784338

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Soup on Saturday

Saturday 19th March from 12 noon - 2pm in St Andrew's Church Shrivenham

Come along for a mug of soup and a natter.

Raffle and sale table.

In aid of St Andrew's Church.

Lead Theft

Thieves have stolen lead from the roof of a church just outside the Benefice. Please be vigilant and do alert the police if you see anything suspicious.

Online Services – Can You Help?

We now live-stream Morning Prayer every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, as well as Holy Communion on a Sunday, to our Facebook page. With Paul's departure and the holiday season not far off, we are hoping to recruit additional volunteers to join our team of service leaders and camera operators to 'spread the load' and enable our online congregation to continue sharing worship with us.

Julian and Ann Stevens have been leading online services throughout the pandemic. This is what Julian had to say about the experience: *"It is not a difficult or onerous task and your services would only be required approximately once a month. It has been said and I quote, 'If Julian and Ann can do it then it cannot be that difficult' !?! Should we be flattered or !?! Line-up to volunteer then, please."*

If you are not sure about appearing in front of the camera, please consider helping from the other side of the lens – all you need is a smart phone and we can teach you how to do it in about 15 minutes.

Please contact Lucy Laird if you would like to help or find out more about what is involved.

01793 783519 info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Lent Challenge for 2022

Our Lent Challenge for this year is a Knitalong. With thanks to the Victoria Methodist Church in Bristol for sharing their resources.

The knitalong will take the format of weekly emails throughout Lent, consisting of a set of daily knitting instructions (or 'clues') and specially written meditations for each day.



We've also set up a local Facebook [group](#) for participants to chat to other knitters, share their progress, ask for help etc.

By the end of the knitalong, each knitter will have completed a cushion cover. Those participating may like to buy a cushion pad in advance so it can be sewn up/finished on Easter morning - full details of dimensions etc. will be available on the information sheet.

The design of the cushion cover is a surprise but will only use simple knit and purl stitches, so should be achievable by knitters of all abilities.

Alongside each knitting clue will be a daily meditation which knitters may wish to use as they knit and enjoy some quiet, reflective time as they journey through Lent.

There is an information sheet, containing details of yarn/needles needed, and a practice swatch pattern to check gauge (for those worried about these things!)

Contact Norma for further information.

01793 784338

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

The Torriano Ensemble in Concert

Sunday 20th March at 7:30pm
St Andrew's Church Shrivenham



The Torriano Ensemble are a group of professional musicians. Their programme will feature music for piano and wind instruments. More details to follow.

Tickets £15 on sale soon

In aid of St Andrew's Restoration Fund

World Day of Prayer Service

Friday 4th March at 2pm

Shrivenham Methodist Church and [Facebook](#)

World Day of Prayer is a women led, global, ecumenical movement which raises awareness and funds to help the women of countries around the world which are part of the Movement. This is mainly achieved by holding a special ecumenical Service in all these countries on the first Friday of March every year.

This year the service is focusing on the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and as our Methodist Minister, the Rev'd Rachael Wilson, was part of the Committee that put the service together, it was felt that the venue should be Shrivenham Methodist Church. Although we have been part of the movement for many years, it will certainly feel very different as we prepare this year, knowing that people at services around the world will be looking towards England, Wales and Northern Ireland; praying for us as they learn about how these countries have changed over the years and are now places of great diversity both in topography and population.

The theme for the service is "I know the plans I have for you" (Jeremiah chapter 29, verses 1-14).

The theme was chosen before the pandemic and we hope that knowing this will help you find reassurance and encouragement in our current situation. God's plans are not always what we expect.

If you are unable to attend (or still do not feel comfortable coming into church) the service will also be live-streamed on the Benefice [Facebook](#) page so you can join in from home. Copies of the service will be available online or I can drop one into you together with an envelope in which you might like to make a donation and return to me (or ask me to collect from you). You can also donate to the WDP Organisation [online](#).

Morva White WDP local area co-ordinator

01793 783245 morvawhite@gmx.com

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and
the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all
your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:4b-9. 15-end

A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up – for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground – then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.” Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

PSALM Psalm 65

R *You visit the earth and water it, [you make it very plenteous].*

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be performed in
Jerusalem.
To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come,
because of their transgressions.
Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you will blot them out. **R**
Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there!
they will be satisfied by the beauty of
your house,
by the holiness of your temple.
Awesome things will you show us in your
righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
O Hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away. **R**

You make fast the mountains by your power;
they are girded about with might.
You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
and the clamour of the peoples.
Those who dwell at the ends of the earth
will tremble at your marvellous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk
to sing for joy. **R**

You visit the earth and water it
abundantly;
you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain,
for so you provide for the earth.
You drench the furrows and smooth out
the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground
and bless its increase. **R**

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
May the fields of the wilderness be rich
for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.
May the meadows cover themselves
with flocks
and the valleys cloak themselves
with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing. **R**

SECOND READING Revelation 4

A reading from the book of Revelation.

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white

robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, “Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.” And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

GOSPEL Luke 8:22-25

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

One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side of the lake.” So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, “Master, Master, we are perishing!” And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, “Where is your faith?” They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?”

POST COMMUNION

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the
earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of
your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your
table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the
Saviour’s cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



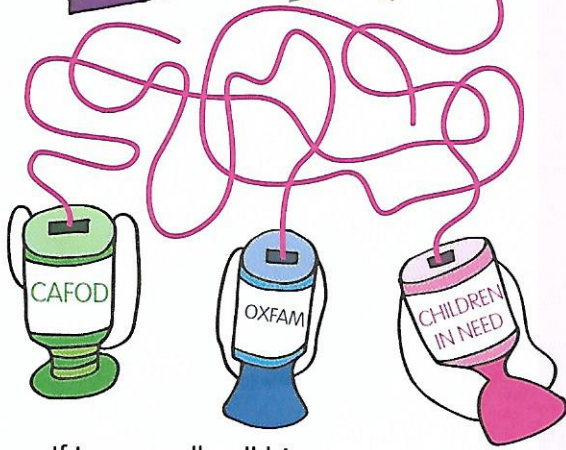
Sunday 20 February 2022
 Luke 6:27-38
 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the **GOSPEL TODAY**

Cake sale

Lucas has made cakes and is having a cake sale to help people. Follow the jumbled strings to find out which charity Lucas is helping today.

cakes



If Lucas sells all his cakes, how much money will he be giving to charity?

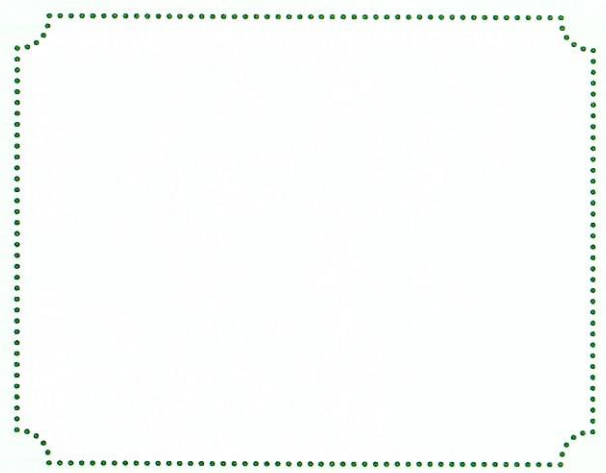
£

Jesus tells us to treat everyone we meet with kindness and to love our neighbour, just as much as God loves each one of us.

Love others!

If we love others and do good, then Jesus says we will get a reward!

Draw a picture of the reward you would like to get from God and write below what it is.



Here is your heart

In the other hearts write the names of the people you will love this week. Colour them all in.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, please help me to love other people, especially when it is hard and they are not being kind to me. Help me to remember how much you love me and to know that you are with me. Amen.

A puzzle

How many "kind" words can you find? A new word begins with the last letter of the one before it...



Answers: Ten words. Lucas is helping Cafod and will make £5.