



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 4th September 2022

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

Please respect the concerns of others in the congregation. Hand sanitizer is available.

Sunday 4th September

Richard Fergusson is giving today's online sermon. Watch on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or our [website](#) from 9am.

- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun Matins (BCP)
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas. Matins (BCP)
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew. Family Service
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary. Morning Prayer
- 3:00pm Longcot Methodist Chapel. United Service

Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on Facebook

Wednesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9:15am Song and Stories Toddler Group Shrivenham Methodist Church
- 2:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#) ASK Afternoon Worship followed by refreshments

Thursday

- 9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#)
- 10:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#) Holy Communion
- 3:00pm Cremation – Mavis Mattingly RIP
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

Friday

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

Saturday

- 9:00am Children's Clothes Exchange St Andrew's Church Shrivenham
- 10:00am Café Inspire in Shrivenham School Hall

Sunday 11th September

- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary Holy Communion
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas Holy Communion by Extension (BCP)
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#) Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary Holy Communion
- 12:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew Baptism
- 3:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas Benefice Sunday School
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#) Compline and Benediction

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Rev'd Norma Fergusson is off duty from

Tuesday 30th August until Wednesday 7th September.

For pastoral emergencies please call 01793 783519.

For other church enquiries please contact your local churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator.

info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Thank You from St Andrew's

The Bottle Tombola at Shrivenham Village Fete raised £1100 for general church funds. Thank you to everyone who donated bottles or bought tickets.

The Coconut Shy and tower tours organised by the bell ringers raised £350 for the St Andrew's Restoration Fund.



Thank you also to those who helped organise and run these activities on the day.

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Pound Piece in Ashbury, and Roman Way and Trajan Road in Shrivenham.

Songs and Stories - Wednesday 7th September



Action songs, nursery rhymes and stories for pre-school children and their carers.

Every Wednesday (term-time only) at 9:15am (doors open 8:45am) in Shrivenham Methodist Church.

Welcome

Welcome to Rosie Willow Zak who was baptised at St James' Bourton on Saturday 27th August, and Matilda May Brown who was baptised at St Andrew's Shrivenham on Sunday 28th August.

Children's Clothes Exchange

Saturday 10th September from 9 – 11am
St Andrew's Church, Shrivenham

You will find a good selection of children's clothes (ages 0-13). It is free and you can donate on the day.
You do not have to donate clothes to take some home.

Café Inspire – Saturday 10th September

10 – 11:30am in Shrivenham School Hall
All ages welcome

Chat or browse the newspapers. Toys, craft-based activities and a Wii to entertain younger visitors.

Free tea, coffee and squash.

Bacon rolls £1.50 and cakes 60p per slice.

Benefice Sunday School – 11th September at 3pm

St Thomas' Church Watchfield
followed by refreshments in the Village Hall

Drop your child off at 3pm, then come along at 4pm for a cuppa and cake while the children share what they have been doing.

Parents who wish to stay for the whole time are welcome to do so.

Open to all children aged 4 – 11 in the Benefice.

OHCT Sponsored Ride and Stride Saturday 10th September



This annual event raises much needed funds for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and our local churches, most of which have received generous grants from OHCT towards projects including bell restorations and the installation of kitchen and toilet facilities.

Participants are sponsored to walk or cycle around a number of churches and can nominate their own church to receive 50% of all the money they raise.

The Shrivenham bellringers have organised a circular walk of just under 5 miles from Buscot Church, visiting Inglesham and Lechlade with either a picnic or pub lunch, and you are welcome to join them. For more information and sponsor forms contact Tony Crabtree tony.crabtree@talktalk.net or 01793 784064.

If you can't come along, maybe you could sponsor someone who is going or volunteer to be a welcomer in your church (and get sponsored for that!)?
For St Andrew's, please sign up on the list at the back of the church; for St Swithun's please contact Joanna Lambert jjlambert@aol.com or 07990 898 175; for other churches please contact the churchwarden or local Ride and Stride organiser. Thank you.

Congratulations

to Maxine Curtis and James Burge who were married at St Mary's Ashbury on Saturday 20th August.

Baby and Toddler Group Restarts on Thursday 22nd September



The Group meets in St Andrew's Church Shrivenham every Thursday (term-time only) from 9 - 10:45am.

All parents and carers with pre-school children are welcome, but please remember that you are at all times responsible for the children you bring along.

Refreshments are provided along with snacks for the children.

The group is run entirely by volunteers and there is no charge to attend, but a minimum donation of £1 towards costs would be appreciated.

More information from Jane Hollick on 07779 656 767

Wednesday Study Groups

The morning and evening study groups will restart on Wednesday 14th September, meeting at 7pm in St Andrew's Church to watch the film 'The Way' starring Martin Sheen and James Nesbitt, about a group of pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela.

The study groups will then look at 'The Long Road to Heaven' by Tim Heaton, which is based on that film. The morning group meets at 10:30am via Zoom; the other group meets at St Andrew's Vicarage at 7:30pm.

All are welcome to come along to the film, even if you don't plan to join one of the study groups.

Please contact Norma for more information.
vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Hymns and Pimms at St Mary's Ashbury

Sunday 18th September at 5:30pm



Before the summer is over, join us for a special Songs of Praise where we can enjoy singing some of our favourite hymns as well as a glass (or two!) of Pimms.

What would you like to sing? We would love to know both the hymn and the story behind it. The Benefice Choir will join us to lead the singing.

Please contact Norma by 14th September to help us devise the programme.

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COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than
we to pray
and to give more than either we desire
or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of
your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our
conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things which
we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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

Deuteronomy 30:15-end

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

PSALM Psalm 1

R *Lord, my delight is in your law.*

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on his law day and night. **R**

They are like trees planted by streams
of water,
bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.
It is not so with the wicked:
they are like chaff which the wind blows
away; **R**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand
upright
when judgement comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the
righteous.
For the Lord knows the way of the
righteous,
but the way of the wicked is doomed. **R**

SECOND READING Philemon 1-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love – and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but more than a

slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

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

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

POST COMMUNION

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our
sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in
Christ
may bring that healing to this broken
world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

LOOK

Sunday 4 September 2022
 Luke 14:25-33
 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the GOSPEL TODAY

Spot the disciple

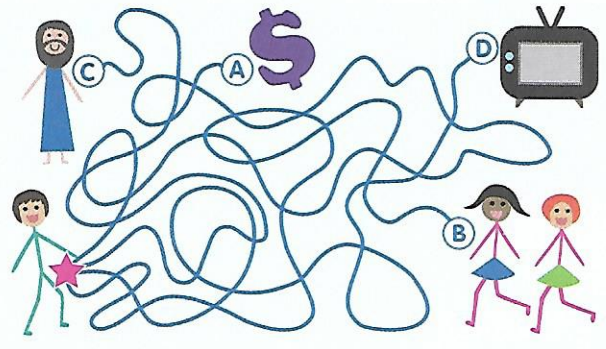
Which of these people is being like Jesus? Put a circle round anyone you think is being a disciple and copying what they have learned about Jesus.



Nothing is more important than Jesus! A builder makes sure his tower has firm foundations. Our lives will have firm foundations if we put Jesus first. Living as Jesus asks and loving other people may not always be easy, but Jesus will help us and we will be happy forever with Jesus as our friend.

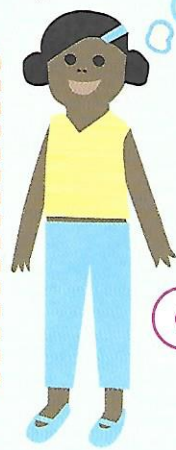
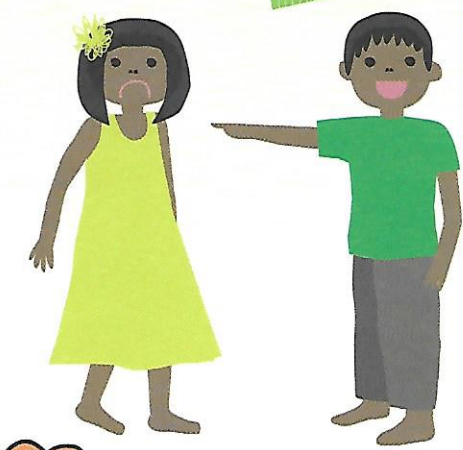
Which path?

It's not always easy following Jesus. Sometimes we go the wrong way. Can you find the right path to Jesus here?



I need...

Cross out the words that do not belong.



- love
- hate
- understanding
- kindness
- courage
- patience

What is Jesus like?

Colour in the boxes with dots to see some words which describe Jesus.

S	K	G	I	N	T	D	L
L	O	B	V	I	A	N	G
W	Y	F	Z	A	I	Q	R
H	E	O	N	U	E	S	T
P	B	R	V	A	N	V	E



A PRAYER TO SAY

Jesus, you are more important than anything else in the whole world! Thank you for loving me so much. Help me to share your love with everyone I meet. Amen.