



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338  
[vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

**Sunday 12th February 2023**

**Second Sunday Before Lent**



**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 12th February

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

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

## Monday

- 6:00pm Benefice Wardens' Meeting  
St Andrew's Vicarage

## 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
- 10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom
- 6:00pm Longcot with Fernham PCC Meeting  
St Mary's Longcot
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Vicarage

## Thursday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9:00am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

## Friday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Worship and Praise

## Saturday

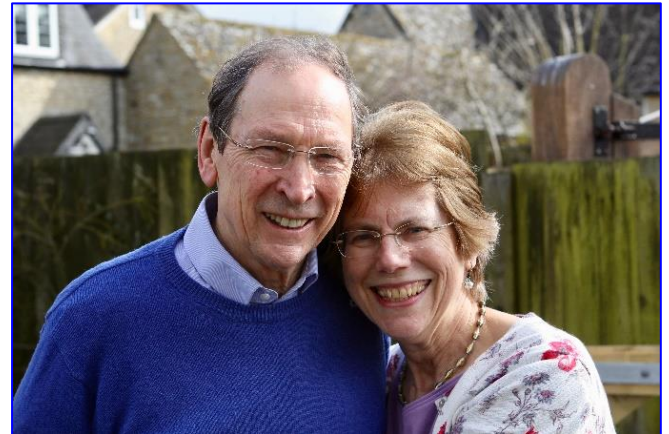
- 8:30am Men's Breakfast  
Prince of Wales, Shrivenham
- 11:00am Compton Beauchamp PCC Meeting  
St Andrew's Vicarage

## Sunday 19th February

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

## **Adventure in Lithuania**

Friday 17th February at 6:30pm  
St Andrew's Church Shrivenham



People in the Benefice will know Geoff and Hope Price from their visits to the churches as Geoff has kindly been leading services for us during the vacancy.

You may not know that they have jointly written a book on Miracles (true stories of how God acts today) or that Hope is the author of Angels. Both very interesting and worthwhile reads!

Twenty years ago, family connections and a Church invitation to take Alpha to Lithuania opened new opportunities for Geoff and Hope. They have kindly agreed to share with us the joys and reality of Christian life in Lithuania today.

Free admission

## **Men's Breakfast**

Saturday 18th February at 8:30am  
The Prince of Wales, Shrivenham

For catering purposes, please let David Ahern know by Thursday 16th if you plan to attend.

01793 783521 [davidmahern@gmail.com](mailto:davidmahern@gmail.com)

## **Community Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Ashbury Hill in Ashbury, and Charlbury Road in Shrivenham.

**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 1:1 – 2.3**

*A reading from the book of Genesis.*

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. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights – the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night – and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw

that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

**PSALM Psalm 136:1-9. 23-end**

**R** For his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, **R**  
Give thanks to the God of gods, **R**  
Give thanks to the Lord of lords, **R**  
Who only does great wonders, **R**  
Who by his wisdom made the heavens, **R**  
Who spread out the earth upon the waters, **R**  
Who created great lights, **R**  
The sun to rule the day, **R**  
The moon and the stars to govern the night, **R**  
It is he who remembered us in our low estate, **R**  
And delivered us from our enemies, **R**  
Who gives food to all creatures, **R**  
Give thanks to the God of heaven. **R**

**SECOND READING Romans 8:18-25**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

**GOSPEL Matthew 6:25-end**

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

Jesus taught his disciples, saying: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

**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.

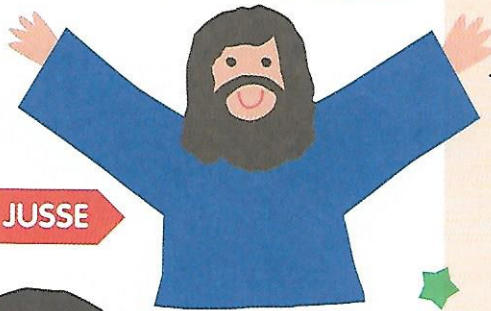
# LOOK

Sunday 12 February 2023  
Matthew 5:17-37  
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## In the GOSPEL TODAY

### Who's who?

Unmuddle these letters to show who each person is. Then draw a line from each person to the words which tell us what they do.



JUSSE



PRESTI



PLIEOC

Jesus tells his friends that he has come to help them to follow God's laws. God has given us commandments, so that we will know how to live and be safe and happy. God wants us to be kind and loving. If we follow Jesus, we will be following God's laws.

### Trust God

Jesus said that anyone who keeps the commandments will be

"great in the

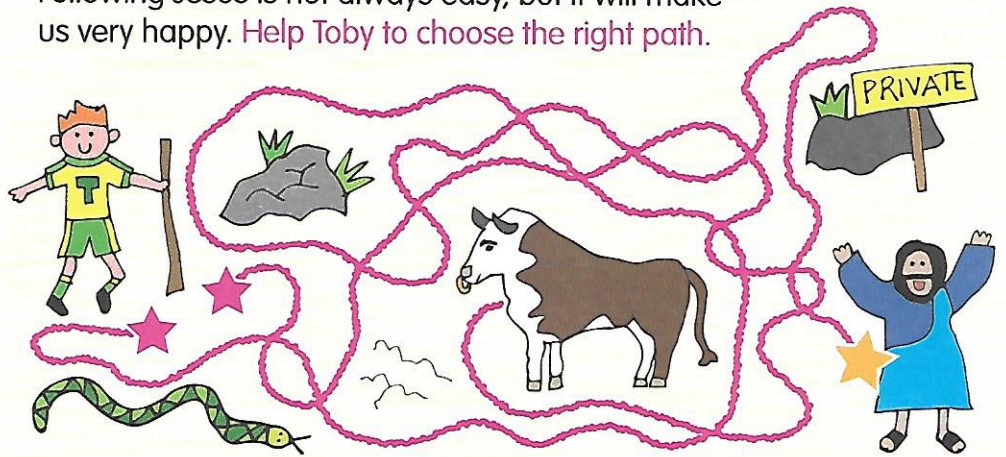
6 7 4 9 10 2 5 2 12

8 3 1 11 3 4

1=a	5=m	9=g
2=o	6=k	10=d
3=e	7=i	11=v
4=n	8=h	12=f

### BE FRIENDLY

Following Jesus is not always easy, but it will make us very happy. Help Toby to choose the right path.



tells us how to keep the law of the land;  
teaches us what God's laws are in the Bible;  
helps us to understand God's laws.

### A PRAYER TO SAY

Help me, Jesus, to be like you. Help me to share your love by following God's rules. Amen.

### Growing in God's love

We grow in God's love when we follow his rules. Draw or write in the heart how you will grow in God's love this week.

