



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338  
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**Sunday 2nd April 2023**

**Palm Sunday**



**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.

## Palm Sunday 2nd April

We are sharing Bishop Steven's weekly  
'Come and See' films during Lent.

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

Please come and join our Palm Sunday Procession  
with donkeys through Shrivenham followed by a  
Benefice Service with the Methodists in St Andrew's.

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:45am Palm Sunday Procession with donkeys  
starting at Shrivenham Methodist Church
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Palm Sunday Service with Benefice Choir

## Monday

- 6:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Compline for Lent

## Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Compline for Lent

## Wednesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 2:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
ASK Holy Communion
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Church, followed by
- 8:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Compline for Lent

## Maundy Thursday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's
- 7:00pm Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion with Foot Washing

## Good Friday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9.30am Shrivenham Methodist Church  
Good Friday Service
- 10:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Messy Church Easter Garden Drop-In  
More information on page 2
- 12 noon Longcot, St Mary  
An Hour at the Cross
- 2:00pm Ashbury, St Mary  
An Hour at the Cross

## Easter Eve Saturday 8th April

- 10:00am Café Inspire in Shrivenham School Hall
- 5:30pm Watchfield, St Thomas  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 8:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Easter Vigil with the Benefice Choir

The service will include an illustrated talk by  
Dr Peter Foot entitled 'Judas – one of us?'

The Easter Eve service is one of the most beautiful  
services of the Christian year, filled with imagery,  
symbolism and deep meaning as the new  
Easter Light is brought into the church.

## Easter Sunday 9th April

- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary  
Holy Communion
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion

## **Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group**

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday  
mornings are not open during the school Easter holidays.

## **Come and See**

### **The habits**

How can we live the Christian life with courage and compassion in an imperfect world?



**COME  
AND  
SEE**

The Beatitudes help us to put on the character of Christ.  
[oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see)

### **This week's film – 'The Habits'**

The Beatitudes invite us to put on the character of  
Jesus each time we read them - to inhabit a way of  
living and be the best we can be.

This is the final part of our Come and See journey for  
2023. But things don't end here...

The Diocese posts a link to each day's resources on its  
website. There is also a link to a weekly set of resources  
especially for children and families.

Visit <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/>

## **Community Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live and work in  
High Street in Ashbury, and Colton Road in Shrivenham.



### Messy Church Easter Garden Drop-In

Good Friday 7th April  
St Andrew's Church Shrivenham

Call in at any time between 10:00am & 11:30am, there's no need to book.

Plant some flowers, make a tree and help us construct the Easter Garden which will be displayed in the church porch throughout the Easter season.

There will also be hot cross buns, tea, coffee and squash to enjoy together.

### Ashbury Churchyard 'Spring Clean'



Thank you all so much for another fantastic spring clean of the old and new Churchyards on Saturday 25th March. What was particularly appreciated was that our team this year comprised so many "younger" couples many of whom have been in the village less than two years. Their agility, stamina and strength are a great help.

This year, whilst it was a consolidation of the work that had been achieved in previous years, there were an amazing number of twigs and branches to be cleared following the recent gales. Barrow load after barrow load were seen crossing to Charlie's bonfire.

Something we had not previously tackled was the southern boundary of the old Churchyard especially around the badger holes including removing the arisings from the holes falling onto the back footpath.

Also tackled this year for the first time in some years was the hedgerow on the right of the footpath going into the new churchyard. In addition, we continued for a second year to extend our works in the Church car park.

A real community effort. Even the weather was kind!

### Church Electoral Rolls

Church electoral rolls will be revised before the annual parish meetings. Please let your parish Electoral Roll Officer know if your contact details have changed since last year. If you would like to join the electoral roll, please contact your church's PCC Secretary or Churchwarden, or pick up an application form in church.

### Annual Parish Meetings

<b>Shrivenham, W &amp; B</b>	Tuesday 18th April 7pm
<b>Compton Beauchamp</b>	Saturday 22nd April 11am
<b>Longcot &amp; Fernham</b>	Tuesday 25th April 6pm
<b>Ashbury</b>	Thursday 27th April 7pm

All welcome

### Wednesday Study Groups from 19th April

We are offering two programmes for the five weeks from 19th April.

The morning, online, group will be looking at 1 John whilst the evening group will look at Living in Love and Faith, a course prepared by the national church, which helps us to explore Christian teaching and learning about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

We believe this course is more suited to face-to-face discussions and, if numbers are sufficient, we will meet in St Andrew's rather than the vicarage so please let Norma know if you are thinking about coming along. We believe it will be particularly helpful to PCCs who will be discussing the implications of any decisions made by the national church in the years ahead.

The choice of 1 John for the mornings was prayerfully made: it is John who tells us that "Those who live in love, live in God and God lives in them" and also "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." We want the evening discussions to be grounded in that love, even where we disagree on complicated and sensitive matters, so both groups will hold each other in prayer. If you'd like to know more, please contact Norma.

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

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

**Saturday** | **Starting at**  
**8th April** | **St Thomas' Church,**  
**1pm - 3:30 pm** | **Watchfield**

**Everyone welcome!** **£1.50 entry**

All proceeds to St Thomas' Church



### COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the  
human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of  
his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his  
resurrection;  
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.

### LITURGY OF THE PALMS

#### GOSPEL Matthew 21:1-11

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

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

#### PSALM Psalm 118:1-2. 19-end

**R** *This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever.  
Let Israel now proclaim,  
"His mercy endures for ever." **R**

Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the  
Lord.

"This is the gate of the Lord;  
whoever is righteous may enter." **R**

I will give thanks to you, for you answered  
me  
and have become my salvation.  
The same stone which the builders  
rejected  
has become the chief corner-stone. **R**

This is the Lord's doing,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.  
On this day the Lord has acted;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it. **R**

Hosanna, Lord, hosanna!  
Lord, send us now success.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of  
the Lord;  
we bless you from the house of the Lord. **R**

God is the Lord; he has shined upon us;  
form a procession with branches  
up to the horns of the altar.  
"You are my God and I will thank you;  
you are my God and I will exalt you."  
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever. **R**

#### Or Psalm 118:19-24

### LITURGY OF THE PASSION

#### FIRST READING Isaiah 50:4-9a

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

The servant of the LORD said: The Lord  
GOD has given me the tongue of a  
teacher, that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word. Morning by  
morning he wakens – wakens my ear to  
listen as those who are taught. The Lord  
GOD has opened my ear, and I was not  
rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I  
gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out  
the beard; I did not hide my face from  
insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps  
me; therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to  
shame; he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me? Let us stand  
up together. Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD  
who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

#### PSALM Psalm 31:9-16

**R** *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

Or

**R** *I have trusted in you. You are my God.*

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in  
trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
and also my throat and my belly.  
For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction,  
and my bones are consumed. **R**

I have become a reproach to all my  
enemies  
and even to my neighbours,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;  
when they see me in the street they avoid  
me.

I am forgotten like the dead, out of mind;  
I am as useless as a broken pot. **R**

For I have heard the whispering of the  
crowd;

fear is all around;  
they put their heads together against me;  
they plot to take my life.

But as for me, I have trusted in you,  
O Lord.

I have said, "You are my God.  
My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.  
Make your face to shine upon your  
servant,  
and in your loving-kindness save me." **R**

#### SECOND READING Philippians 2:5-11

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

Let the same mind be in you that was  
in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in  
the form of God, did not regard equality  
with God as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of  
a slave, being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form, he  
humbled himself and became obedient  
to the point of death – even death on a  
cross. Therefore God also highly exalted  
him and gave him the name that is above  
every name, so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend, in heaven and  
on earth and under the earth, and every  
tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is  
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### PASSION

Either **Matthew 26:14 – end of 27**

Or **Matthew 27:11-54**

### POST COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form  
of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for  
our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.





Sunday 2 April 2023  
 Matthew 26:14 – 27:66  
 Palm Sunday of the  
 Passion of the Lord

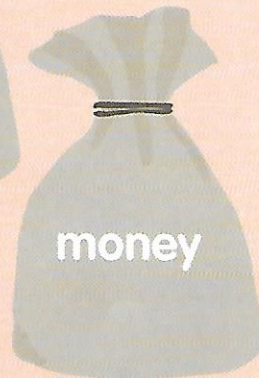
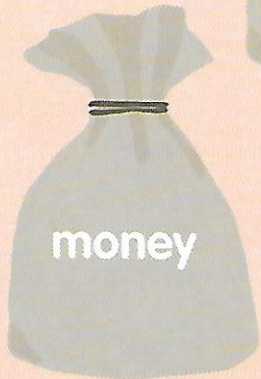
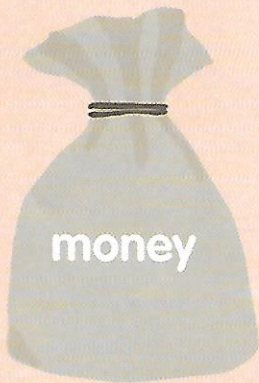
In the  
**GOSPEL TODAY**

**THIS IS  
 HOLY WEEK!**

## How much money?

Each of these bags contains 10 pieces of silver. Judas received this much money for letting Jesus down.

Can you work out how many pieces of silver altogether?



The crowds welcome Jesus as he arrives in Jerusalem. But everything changes this week. Jesus is let down by two of his friends. He is sentenced to death, mocked and beaten by the Roman soldiers. As he dies on the cross, Jesus is mocked by the crowds. This is a sad story... but it's not over yet!

## Listen to the crowd!

Unjumble the letters to find out what the crowd are saying, and write the word in the speech bubble.

S H A N N O A



## I can show LOVE when I...

Jesus died for us because he loves us.

Draw a picture in the heart of one way you can show love to your friends and family.



## A PRAYER TO SAY

Thank you, Jesus, for showing me how much you love me by choosing to die on the cross. You always put other people first. Help me to be brave and put other people first too. Amen.

## Which celebration?

Use the code to find the name of the festival which Jesus and his disciples celebrated.



A = ■ E = + O = ◆ P = \* R = ▲ S = ■ V = ✕