



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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**Sunday 30th April 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**



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

## Sunday 30th April

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

11:00am Fernham, St John & [Facebook](#)  
Benefice Holy Communion  
with the Benefice Choir

## Tuesday 2nd May

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

2:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
ASK Holy Communion

7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Church

## Thursday

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

9:00am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's  
Shrivenham, St Andrew's  
Messy Church

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

## Friday

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

3:00pm Bourton, St James  
Ashes Interment – Mary Hatherall RIP

## Sunday 7th May

7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion (BCP)

10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Benefice Holy Communion with the Choir  
In celebration of the Coronation

3:00pm Longcot Methodist Chapel  
United Service

5:30pm Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Choral Evensong with the Benefice Choir

## **Choral Evensong with the Benefice Choir**

St Mary's Church Longcot  
Sunday 7th May at 5:30pm



A wonderful, peaceful end to a day of celebrations.  
Collection in aid of church funds.

## **Community Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live and work in  
Malthouse Close in Ashbury, and Cozens Grove  
in Shrivenham.



St Andrew's Shrivenham  
Thursday 4th April  
from 3:15 – 5pm

Messy Church is a church  
with a difference!

A chance to be creative, hear Bible stories, eat yummy  
food and have fun with friends and family.  
Suggested donation of £1.50 per child.

To book click [here](#),  
scan the QR code or email  
[standfast.shrivenham@yahoo.com](mailto:standfast.shrivenham@yahoo.com)

**Messy Church is open to  
the whole Benefice.**



## **Coffee Morning**

Friday 12th May from 10am - 12 noon  
in St Andrew's Church Shrivenham  
Come and join us for coffee and a chat.

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

**Compton Beauchamp** Saturday 20th May 10:30am

## Longcot Flower Festival



The bell ringers have made a start on their display!

## Art and Poetry for Performance

St Mary's Church Longcot

A lively and fun presentation in which local poet and author Diana Moore shares ways of seeing art on a range of subjects (from pets to museum pieces) and how to write and present to an audience. Includes creating a song lyric from a poem.

Two sessions are available:

Wednesday 10th May from 10:15am to 11am  
Friday 12th May 4pm – 4:45pm. This session is aimed at people with school age children. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

No charge, but places must be booked in advance by email to [diana@diana-moore.com](mailto:diana@diana-moore.com)

## Condolences

Our condolences to the family and friends of the late Paddy Forty.  
Please keep them in your prayers.



St. Mary's Church, Longcot

## LONGCOT FLOWER FESTIVAL

### 'Ring for the King'

Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> – Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023 Open daily 10am - 4pm



### & CONCERT

by The Clarinet Collective

### 'Music fit for a King'

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30 pm

To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III the village of Longcot is holding a special flower festival and concert in St. Mary's church. Floral displays will centre around the coronation colours of gold, purple and white and reflect the joy of the occasion.

The programme for the concert will feature music from across the centuries with a royal connection, including works by Mozart, Bach and Benny Goodman, and will open in festive mood with the overture from Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks.



Admission free with donations. No booking is needed for the flower festival, however all seats for the concert will need to be reserved in advance by emailing [victorialmedcalf@gmail.com](mailto:victorialmedcalf@gmail.com) Bar open from 6 pm.



## Fernham Big Coronation Tea



Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May

St John's Church Fernham from 3pm onwards

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the  
resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life  
of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things  
which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

*The reading from Acts must be used as either the first or second reading.*

### Either **Acts 2:42-end**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

Many were baptized and were added to the community. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Or **Genesis 7**

## PSALM Psalm 23

**R** *The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.  
He makes me lie down in green  
pastures  
and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He revives my soul  
and guides me along right  
pathways for his name's sake.  
Though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they  
comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who  
trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with  
oil,  
and my cup is running over.  
Surely your goodness and mercy  
shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of  
the Lord for ever. **R**

## SECOND READING

### 1 **Peter 2:19-end**

*A reading from the first letter of Peter.*

Brothers and sisters: It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## GOSPEL John 10:1-10

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

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

## POST COMMUNION

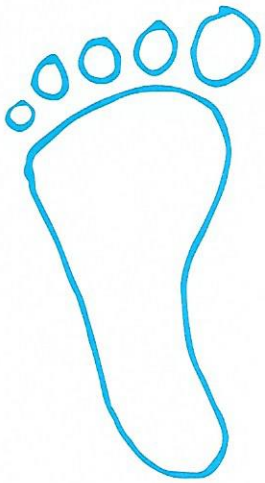
Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ  
to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down  
his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his  
protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his  
steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



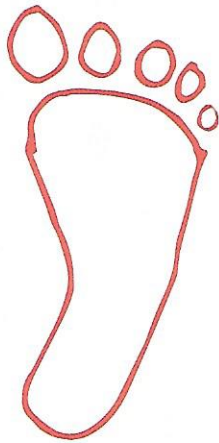
In the  
**GOSPEL TODAY**

**JESUS LEADS  
 THE WAY!**

I can follow  
 Jesus when I...



Jesus shows  
 us how to live  
 and asks us  
 to follow him.

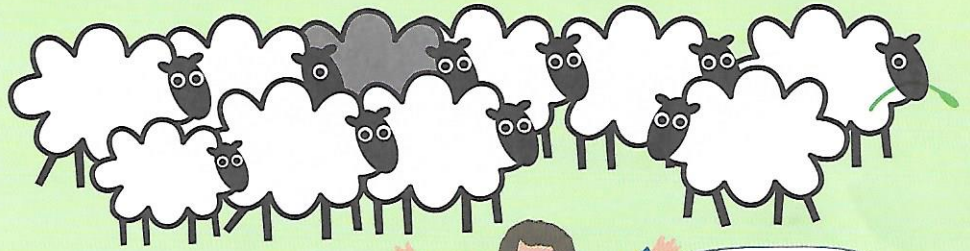


Draw or write  
 in the footprints  
 things that you  
 can do today, to  
 share Jesus' love.

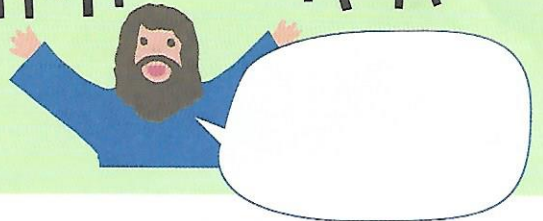
Jesus goes up a hill and teaches his disciples. He tells them how people can be really happy. If we trust God, we will have the kind of happiness that lasts forever.

**Follow Jesus!**

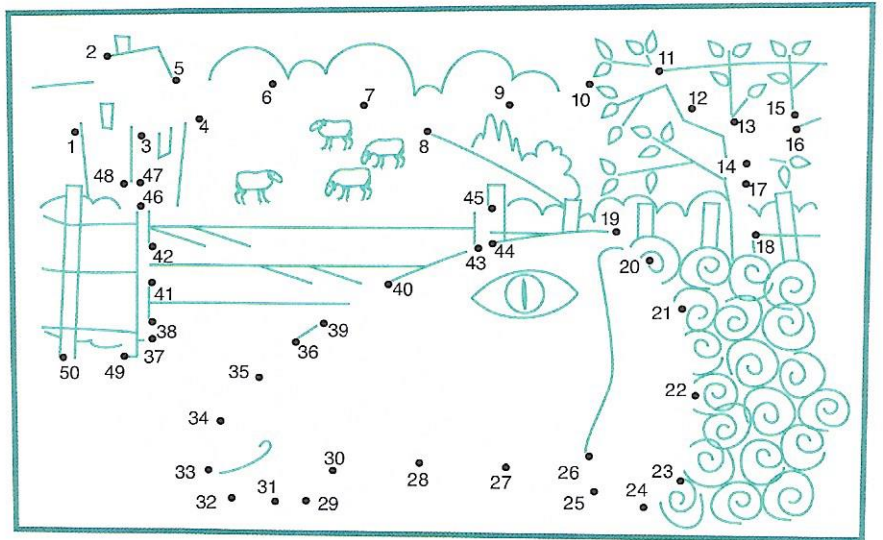
How many sheep are following Jesus the Good Shepherd?



Jesus calls us by name.  
 Write your name in his  
 speech bubble.



**Puzzle** Dot to dot of sheep in a field with a gate

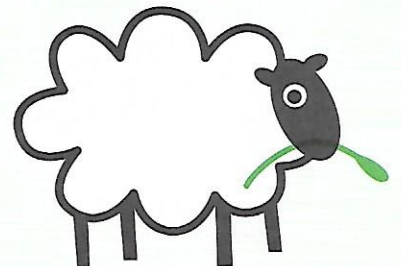


**A PRAYER TO SAY**

Help me, Jesus, to listen to  
 you. You show me the way to  
 live. Help me to live like you,  
 sharing love and kindness  
 with everyone I meet. Amen.

**Spot the difference**

Can you spot five differences  
 between these sheep?



Answers: Follow Jesus: Ten sheep. Spot the differences: colour, grass in mouth, grass on ground, eye, leg.