



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338  
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Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

**Sunday 9th July 2023**

**Fifth Sunday after Trinity**



**The service times listed below were correct at the time of publication (7th July).  
Our website will be updated daily to reflect any changes.**

## Sunday 9th July

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

- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas  
Matins
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary  
Morning Prayer
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Morning Prayer

## Monday

- 11:00am Longcot, St Mary  
Burial - Christine Joyce Burden RIP

## Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 7:00pm Shrivenham with Watchfield & Bourton PCC

## 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

## Thursday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9:00am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's
- 10:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

## Friday

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

## Saturday 15th July

- 8:30am Men's Breakfast  
Prince of Wales, Shrivenham

### **Community Cycle of Prayer**

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

### **Welcome**

Welcome to Evelyn Alice Legg and Sophia Joyce Legg  
who were baptised at St Andrew's Church  
Shrivenham on Saturday 1st July.

### **Cakes Please**

We need cakes for the refreshment stall for Shrivenham  
Open Gardens on Sunday 9th July. Please contact Pip  
(01793 783481 or Marilyn (01793 782508)  
if you are able to help.

## Sunday 16th July

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10:00am Bourton, St James & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun  
Holy Communion (BCP)  
for the Feast of St Swithun

Ashbury, Longcot and Fernham parishioners –  
please join the congregation at Compton Beauchamp

Shrivenham and Watchfield parishioners –  
please join the congregation at Bourton

### **Faringdon Singers Summer Concert Dreams of the Countryside**

Sunday 9th July at 7pm  
St Mary's Church Longcot

The programme includes works by  
Vaughan Williams, Holst and Saint-Saëns

Musical Director: Clare Woodall  
Accompanist: Terence Carter

Doors open 6:30pm  
Bar

**Free entry - donations in aid of St Mary's Church**

### **Shrivenham Open Gardens**

Sunday 9th July  
from 2pm till 5pm

There will be at least  
10 gardens to explore  
including two that are  
opening for the first  
time, and another that  
hasn't been open  
for several years now.

Refreshments will be  
available in St  
Andrew's Church  
during the afternoon.



Map and list of gardens £5.00 available from  
Shrivenham Post Office in advance,  
or the church and open gardens on the day.

No charge for accompanied children.

**In aid of St Andrew's Church Restoration Project**

## Longcot Methodist Chapel – End of an Era



Sunday 2nd July saw the end of an era with the final service in Longcot Methodist Chapel. It wasn't a sad occasion, but a wonderful celebration of all that had been achieved and all the good things that would continue to happen as the seeds sown over the years continue to blossom and flourish.



Wendy Smith had made a miniature Chapel out of cake, which was almost (only almost) too pretty to eat, and tasted delicious.



Stella Tidmarsh was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a picture of the Chapel as a token of thanks for all she had done and would continue to do in the future. Retirement may be beckoning, but only from a distance.

## Two Wonderful Concerts

Thank you to Avebury Vocal Ensemble and the Wayland Recorder Orchestra for giving two very enjoyable concerts last weekend. Both were well-attended and raised good sums for St Mary's Ashbury and St Andrew's Restoration Project.



Avebury Vocal Ensemble in St Mary's, Ashbury



Wayland Recorder Orchestra



Conductor and soloist Helen Hooker with Rosemary Robinson on spinet

## COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of  
the Church is governed and  
sanctified:

hear our prayer which we offer for  
all your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may serve you in holiness and  
truth  
to the glory of your name;  
through our Lord and Saviour  
Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

### Zechariah 9:9-12

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

Rejoice greatly, O daughter  
Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter  
Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes  
to you; triumphant and victorious  
is he, humble and riding on a  
donkey, on a colt, the foal of a  
donkey. He will cut off the chariot  
from Ephraim and the war horse  
from Jerusalem; and the battle-  
bow shall be cut off, and he shall  
command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea  
to sea, and from the River to  
the ends of the earth. As for you  
also, because of the blood of my  
covenant with you, I will set your  
prisoners free from the waterless  
pit. Return to your stronghold, O  
prisoners of hope; today I declare  
that I will restore to you double.

Or **Genesis 24:34-38. 42-49. 58-end**

## PSALM Psalm 145:8-15

**R** *I will exalt you, O God my king,  
[and bless your name for ever].*

The Lord is gracious and full of  
compassion,  
slow to anger and of great  
kindness.

The Lord is loving to everyone

and his compassion is over all his  
works.

All your works praise you, O Lord,  
and your faithful servants bless  
you. **R**

They make known the glory of  
your kingdom  
and speak of your power;  
That the peoples may know of  
your power  
and the glorious splendour of your  
kingdom.  
Your kingdom is an everlasting  
kingdom;  
your dominion endures  
throughout all ages. **R**

The Lord is faithful in all his words  
and merciful in all his deeds.  
The Lord upholds all those who fall;  
he lifts up those who are bowed  
down. **R**

## SECOND READING

### Romans 7:15-25a

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

I do not understand my own  
actions. For I do not do what I  
want, but I do the very thing I  
hate. Now if I do what I do not  
want, I agree that the law is good.  
But in fact it is no longer I that  
do it, but sin that dwells within  
me. For I know that nothing good  
dwells within me, that is, in my  
flesh. I can will what is right, but  
I cannot do it. For I do not do  
the good I want, but the evil I do  
not want is what I do. Now if I do  
what I do not want, it is no longer  
I that do it, but sin that dwells  
within me. So I find it to be a law  
that when I want to do what is  
good, evil lies close at hand. For  
I delight in the law of God in  
my inmost self, but I see in my  
members another law at war  
with the law of my mind, making  
me captive to the law of sin that  
dwells in my members. Wretched  
man that I am! Who will rescue me

from this body of death? Thanks  
be to God through Jesus Christ  
our Lord!

## GOSPEL

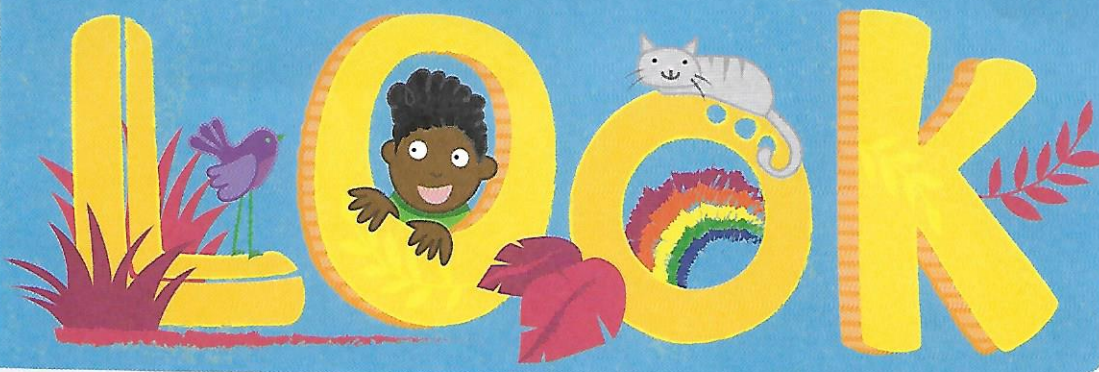
### Matthew 11:16-19. 25-end

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

At that time Jesus said, "To what  
will I compare this generation?  
It is like children sitting in the  
market-places and calling to one  
another, 'We played the flute for  
you, and you did not dance; we  
wailed, and you did not mourn.'  
For John came neither eating nor  
drinking, and they say, 'He has  
a demon'; the Son of Man came  
eating and drinking, and they say,  
'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a  
friend of tax-collectors and sinners!'  
Yet wisdom is vindicated by her  
deeds. I thank you, Father, Lord  
of heaven and earth, because you  
have hidden these things from  
the wise and the intelligent and  
have revealed them to infants;  
yes, Father, for such was your  
gracious will. All things have been  
handed over to me by my Father;  
and no one knows the Son except  
the Father, and no one knows  
the Father except the Son and  
anyone to whom the Son chooses  
to reveal him. Come to me, all you  
that are weary and are carrying  
heavy burdens, and I will give you  
rest. Take my yoke upon you, and  
learn from me; for I am gentle and  
humble in heart, and you will find  
rest for your souls. For my yoke is  
easy, and my burden is light."

## POST COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,  
that the course of this world may  
be so peaceably ordered by  
your governance,  
that your Church may joyfully  
serve you in all godly quietness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 9 July 2023  
 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Matthew 11:25-30

In the **GOSPEL TODAY**

**JESUS WANTS TO HELP**

**A heavy load**

Here is someone who is carrying a heavy load. When we are worried it can feel as though we are carrying something heavy. Inside this sack draw or write something which worries or troubles you.

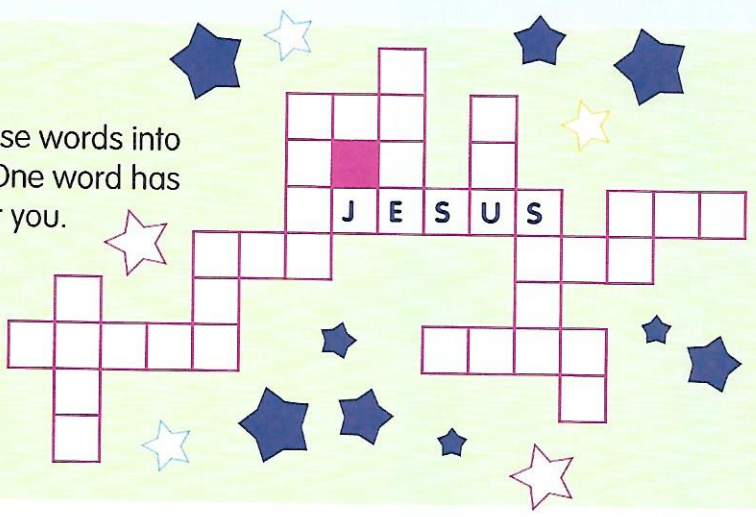


When Mary goes to the tomb where Jesus is buried she finds the stone is rolled away from the entrance and Jesus' body is not there! Mary rushes to tell the others. When they see the grave cloths they understand – Jesus has risen. He is alive!

**Puzzle**

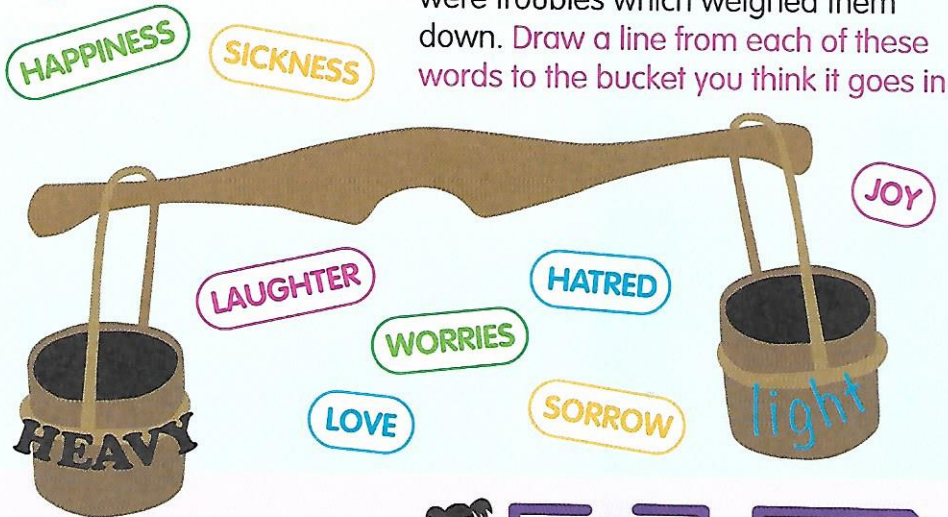
Can you fit these words into the squares? One word has been put in for you.

**JESUS SAYS  
 COME TO HIM  
 ALL WHO ARE  
 TIRED AND  
 HE WILL GIVE  
 YOU A REST.**



**Heavy or light burdens**

In Jesus' day people used to carry heavy loads on yokes resting on their shoulders. The loads Jesus spoke about were troubles which weighed them down. Draw a line from each of these words to the bucket you think it goes in.



**Give it to God!**

God loves us. He doesn't want us to carry heavy loads. God says that we can give all our troubles to him. In your imagination hand over to God your big, heavy sack of troubles!

**A PRAYER TO SAY**

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving me and wanting to help me. Please help me to share your love with other people, so they know you love them and want to help them too. Amen.

**Come to me**

Jesus wants to help us. Help this person get to Jesus.

