



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338  
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## Sunday 6th August 2023

## Ninth Sunday after Trinity

The service times listed below were correct at the time of publication (4th August).  
Our website will be updated daily to reflect any changes.

### Sunday 6th August

10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Benefice Holy Communion  
led by the Rev'd Charles Chadwick

### Wednesday

9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Morning Prayer

### Thursday

10:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion

### Sunday 13th August

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

### Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work  
in High Street in Ashbury, and  
Manor Close and Manor Lane in Shrivenham.

### Midweek Online Services During August

There will be no 9am online services  
on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays during August.

### Bourton, St James

Please note that there are no services during August.

### Café Inspire

Please note that Café Inspire  
is not meeting during August.

The next session is on Saturday  
9th September from 10am to  
11:30am in Shrivenham Primary  
School Hall.

All ages welcome.

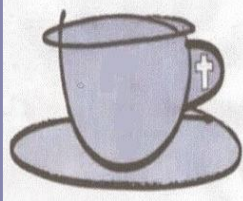
Chat or browse the newspapers. Toys, craft-based  
activities and a Wii to entertain younger visitors.

Free tea, coffee and squash.

Bacon rolls £1.50 and cakes 60p per slice.

Jointly run by the Methodist Church and St Andrew's.

### Café Inspire



### Associate Vicar/House for Duty Vacancy

We're pleased to be able to let you know that we  
have two applicants for this post and that interviews  
will be held on Wednesday 16th August.

The day will begin with a service of Holy Communion  
in St Andrew's Church Shrivenham at 9am.  
Bishop Gavin will celebrate. Everyone is welcome!

Please keep the candidates and the members  
of the selection panel in your prayers.

### Bottles Please!

The Bottle Tombola at Shrivenham Village Fete  
at the end of August is one of the major fund-raising  
events for St Andrew's Church Shrivenham.

Margaret Hern will be pleased to receive bottles  
of any kind, but no cans. She will collect  
from you if required.

Margaret 01793 782100

### Fernham, St John

Scaffolding has been erected around the church  
and work on the final phase of restoration following the  
fire is underway. This should take about five weeks.

### Wednesday Study Groups Summer Break

The morning and evening study groups are taking a  
break during the summer and will restart in September.

### Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday  
mornings are taking a break until after  
the school summer holidays.

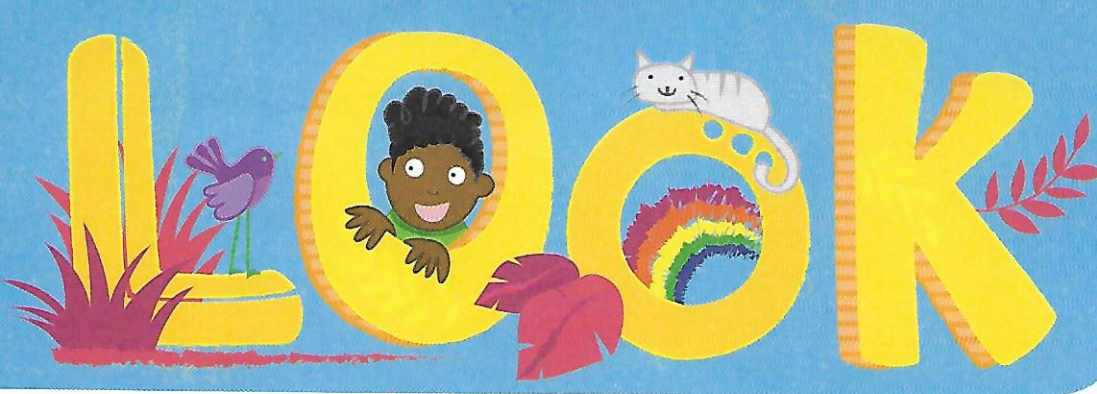
### Condolences

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

## Congratulations

Our congratulations to Lorraine Bulpitt and Nicholas Hatcliffe who were married in St Mary's Church Ashbury on Friday 28th July.





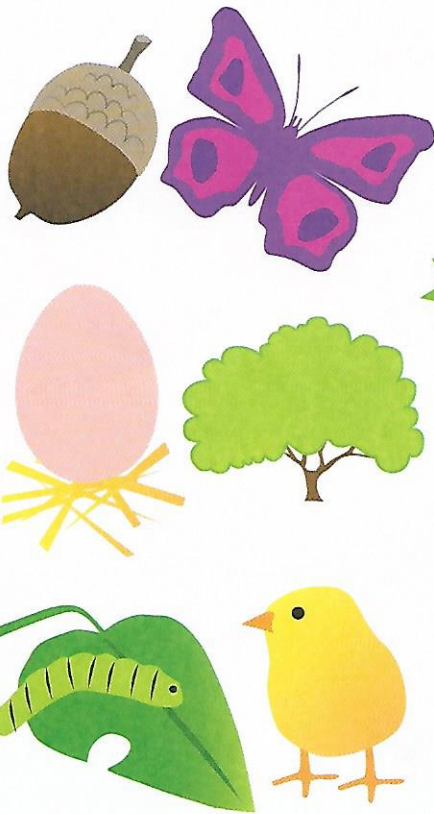
Sunday 6 August 2023  
The Transfiguration of the Lord  
Matthew 17:1-9

In the  
**GOSPEL TODAY**

**LISTEN!**

**Changes**

Jesus changes, his face shines like the sun and his clothes become as white as the light. Draw a line from the object to the thing it changes into.



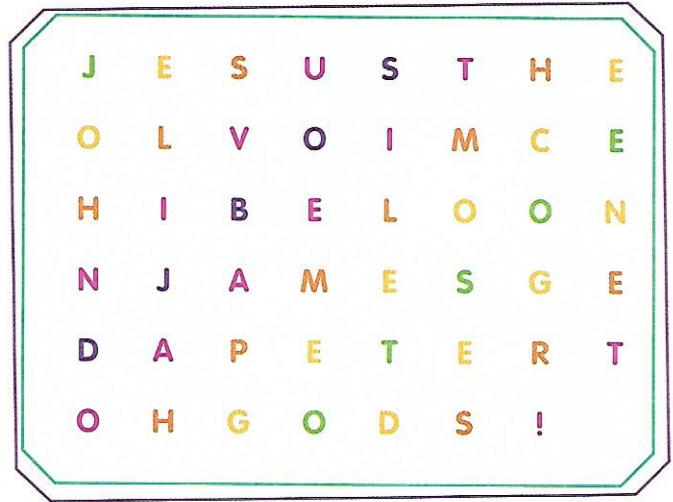
Jesus climbs up a mountain with Peter, James and John. Jesus changes and shines with God's glory. Moses and Elijah come to talk to him. Suddenly, a bright cloud comes down over them, and a voice says, "This is my Son. I love him and I am very proud of him. Listen to him!"

**Who was on the mountain?**

Moses and Elijah also appeared on the mountain.

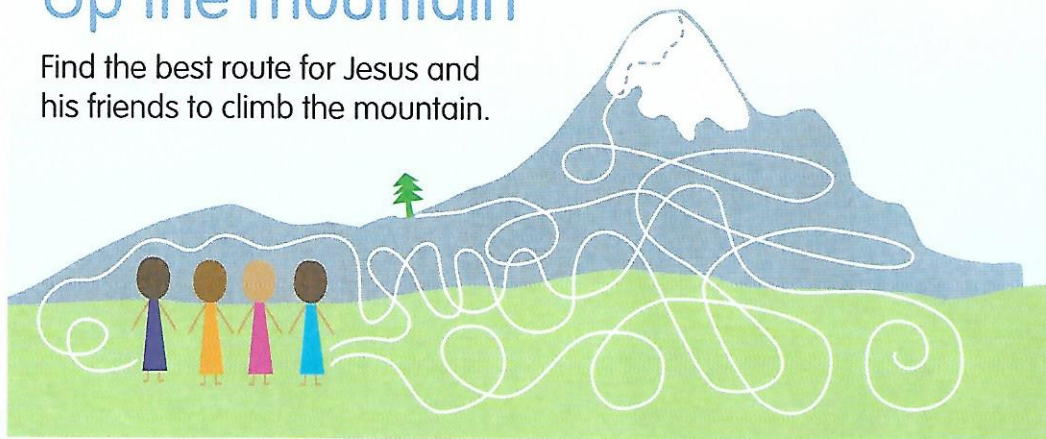
Can you find the names of all six people on the mountain?

Clue:  
find the names in the Gospel



**Up the mountain**

Find the best route for Jesus and his friends to climb the mountain.



**A PRAYER TO SAY**

Dear Jesus, help me to listen to you this week and really dazzle the people around me. Amen.

**Spot the difference**



Peter wanted to make three tents for Jesus, Moses and Elijah.

Which of these three tents is the odd one out?

## Sunday 6th August 2023 Ninth Sunday after Trinity

### The Collect of the Day

Almighty God,  
who sent your Holy Spirit  
to be the life and light of your Church:  
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
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.

### 1st Reading: Genesis 32:22–32

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip. Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

### 2nd Reading: Romans 9:1–5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were

accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

### Gospel: Matthew 14:13–21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

### Post Communion

Holy Father,  
who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God:  
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.