



# 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 10th September 2023

## Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

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

### Sunday 10th September

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

- 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

### 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
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Vicarage

### Thursday

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

### Friday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 3:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Wedding - Aimee Mayall and Craig Ash
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Worship and Praise

### Saturday

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

### Sunday 17th September

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas  
Matins
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary  
Morning Prayer
- 10:00am Bourton, St James  
Holy Communion
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Morning Prayer
- 5:30pm Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun  
Songs of Praise with the Benefice Choir

### Baby and Toddler Group Restarts on Thursday 14th September



The group meets in St Andrew's Church Shrivenham every Thursday (term-time only) from 9 - 10:45am.

All parents and carers with pre-school children are welcome, but please remember that you are at all times responsible for the children you bring along.

Only £1.50 per adult which includes refreshments, and snacks and craft activities for the children.

Please contact Hazel Morris on 07931 225 530 for more information.

**Rev'd Norma Fergusson is off duty from Monday 4th until Tuesday 12th September.**

For pastoral emergencies please call 01793 783519.

For other church enquiries please contact your local churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator.

[info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Odstone Farm and Cottages in Ashbury, and Prince Drive in Shrivenham.

### Wednesday Study Groups

The morning and evening study groups will restart on Wednesday 13th

September at 10:30am via Zoom and 7:00pm at St Andrew's Vicarage.

They will be using the Bible Society's Romans Course.

For more information about the Zoom session, please contact David Ahern 01793 783521

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

For more information about the evening group, please contact Norma Fergusson

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

Explore the letter to the Romans



The Romans Course

### A Talk by Ken Diccox

Friday 15th September in Fernham Village Hall  
7:30pm (doors open at 6:45pm)

Ken's shares intriguing and revealing recollections from decades of policing as he rose through the ranks, including high profile cases such as the politically sensitive investigation of Notting Hill police officers who planted drugs on innocent members of the community following the Brixton Riots.

Free entry. Raffle and Refreshments.  
Donations welcome in aid of Fernham Village Trust.

### Enjoy a Cream Tea

Saturday 23rd September

2pm till 4pm in Watchfield Village Hall  
£5.00 per person (payable on door)

Raffle, Cake Stall, Bring and Buy  
In aid of St. Thomas' Church Watchfield

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Alison Grimshaw and Robert Wilmer were married in St Andrew's Church Shrevenham on Friday 1st September and also to Hannah Walsh and Maxim Tankaria (pictured below) who were married in St Andrew's on Saturday 2nd September.

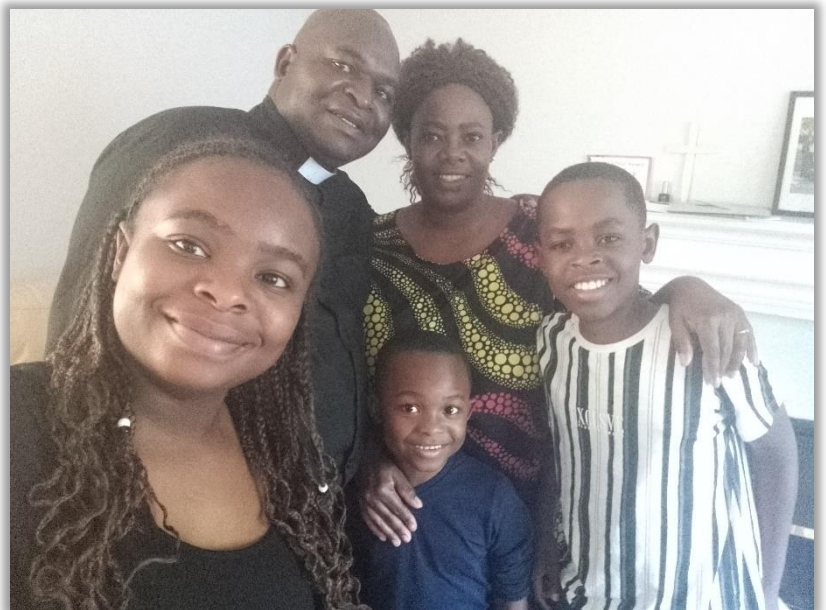


### Appointment of Associate Vicar

We are delighted to announce that the Rev'd Patrick K Mabhunu will be joining us as Associate Vicar. His licensing service will be on Monday 6th November at 7:30pm in St Mary's Church Ashbury.

I received the news of my appointment with so much joy and happiness. I feel I have been given an opportunity to share my spiritual journey with this Benefice, whose mission statement is 'To Mirror the Hospitality of God'. This is exactly what I feel called to and my family is happy to walk alongside in this journey.

During my interview, I preached on Matthew 15:21-28 which talks about a Canaanite woman who asked Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter. The disciples urged Jesus to send her away, but he didn't. She was challenged by a lot of trying statements but didn't get discouraged and kept asking Jesus to heal her daughter. She was an outcast who later found favour with the Lord because of her unwavering faith and persistence. Jesus, through this woman, proved that all people deserve to be served, Jews and gentiles alike. We are served through and by faith and trusting in the Lord always.



I am glad to be a part of those working to bring people to God in this Benefice where I have already seen many blessings through the interactions we have had with the people we have met so far. The smiles on their faces told huge stories. I feel blessed to be joining this great family.

I'm originally from Zimbabwe and have 10 years of post-ordination experience. I studied Philosophy and Theology in South Africa before moving to the Gregorian University in Rome to continue my Theological studies. I studied Anglicanism before my ordination at the Bishop Gaul College in Zimbabwe. In my years of ministry I have worked in different set ups and held various diocesan responsibilities including being parish priest both in rural and urban churches, school principal and in my last role, Archdeacon. I would describe myself as a cheerful person, humble, respectful, spiritual, accommodative, and compassionate.

My wife Priscilla is a Care Worker who works with much passion and love. She is a great cook and likes baking. Priscilla loves spending time with women in church, helping them spiritually and participating in church activities. She is a great preacher and motivational speaker. We are blessed with three children, Tadiwa, Blessing and Takudzwa, who all love participating in church activities. As a family we look forward to joining the Benefice. I promise that I will work tirelessly with you to bring the Benefice to greater heights just as Paul says in his letter to the Ephesians - "Unto him who can do exceedingly, abundantly, beyond what we can ever expect or imagine, through the power that is in us".



## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
whose only Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your  
presence:  
give us pure hearts and steadfast  
wills  
to worship you in spirit and in  
truth;  
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.

## FIRST READING Ezekiel 33:7-11

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

The word of the Lord came to me: So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Or **Exodus 12:1-14**

## PSALM Psalm 119:33-40

**R** Give me understanding and I shall keep your law.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,  
and I shall keep it to the end.  
Give me understanding and I shall keep your law;  
I shall keep it with all my heart. **R**

Make me go in the path of your commandments,  
for that is my desire.  
Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain. **R**

Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless;  
give me life in your ways.  
Fulfil your promise to your servant,  
which you make to those who fear you. **R**

Turn away the reproach which I dread,  
because your judgements are good.  
Behold, I long for your commandments;  
in your righteousness preserve my life. **R**

## SECOND READING

**Romans 13:8-end**

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

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then

lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

## GOSPEL Matthew 18:15-20

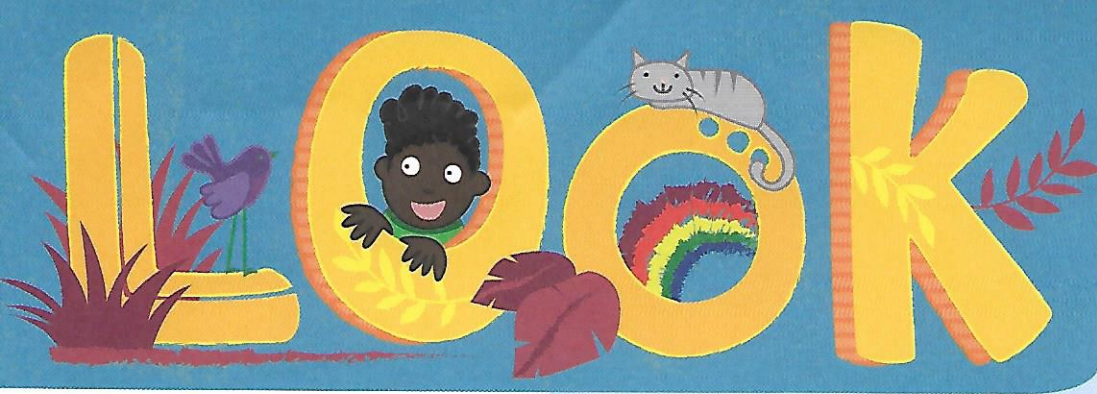
*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

Jesus spoke to his disciples. "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

## POST COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.





Sunday 10 September 2023  
 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Matthew 18:15-20

In the  
**GOSPEL TODAY**

**LOVE EVERYONE!**

**Where is Jesus?**

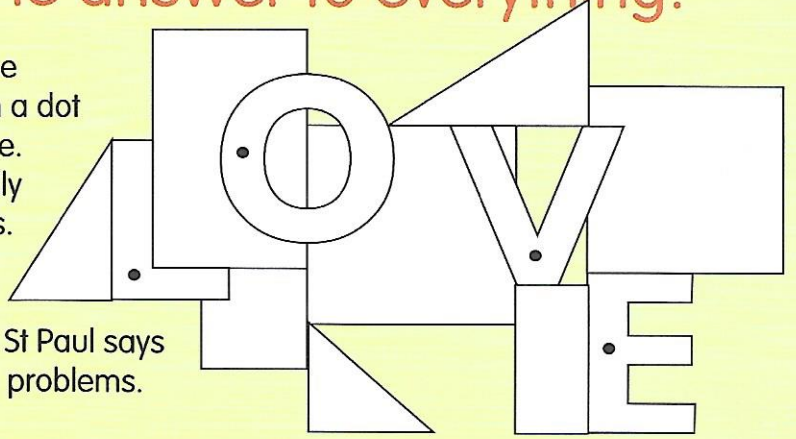
Jesus tells us that where two or three people are together, he can be there too!  
 Join the dots to show Jesus together with the children.



Jesus tells us that if we fall out with someone, we are to make friends again. Jesus will be with us in everything we do, especially when we get together to pray.

**Find the answer to everything!**

Colour all the shapes with a dot in the middle. Look carefully at the letters. You will find a word which St Paul says will solve all problems.



**Word search**

P	A	R	A	B	L	E	C
J	E	S	U	S	O	V	E
F	O	R	G	I	V	E	S
A	G	O	D	S	E	R	E
I	B	R	O	T	H	E	R
R	P	A	R	E	N	T	V
A	S	H	A	R	E	R	E

The words in the grid are about living in God's family. Use the four letters left over to make a word meaning to love someone.

\_\_\_ means: to love someone

**BROTHER, EVER, FAIR, FORGIVE, GOD, JESUS, LOVE, PARABLE, PARENT, SERVE, SHARE, SISTER.**

**A PRAYER TO SAY**

Thank you for always being with me, Jesus. Help me to make up with anyone I have fallen out with. Help me be kind and patient. Amen.

**Code** Use the code to find out some of the things we do with Jesus.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

A=	♥	M=	😊
D=	👒	N=	👖
E=	🍦	O=	🍌
F=	☀️	P=	🐝
G=	🌸	R=	🍦
I=	🌺	S=	👖
K=	👒	V=	😊
L=	♥	Y=	🌈

Answers: care, Code: pray, sing, make friends, love, agree.