



# 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 22nd October 2023 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

### Sunday 22nd October

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  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Morning Prayer
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion

### Tuesday

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

### Wednesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Vicarage

### Thursday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:00pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

### Friday

9:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Matins

### Saturday

10:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Baptism

### Sunday 29th October

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Benefice Holy Communion with Choir

### A Time of Reflection and Remembrance Sunday 5th November – St Andrew's, Shrivenham



The church will be open between 2pm and 6pm for anyone who wishes to come, be still and light a votive candle. At 5pm, the Benefice Choir will join us for a service of Remembrance for those we have loved and lost which will also include the opportunity to light a candle. If you are unable to attend but would like to have a candle lit on your behalf, please let us know.

If you would like to have the name of a loved one recorded in the Book of Remembrance that is on display in the Lady Chapel in St Andrew's Church, please contact the Benefice Administrator (Lucy Laird) 01793 783519 [info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

Their service does not have to have taken place in St Andrew's for their name to be included.

### Community Cycle of Prayer

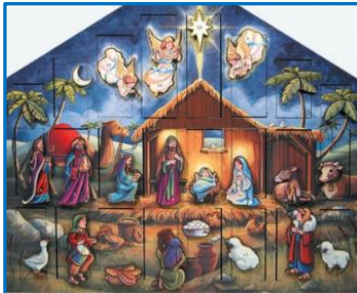
Please pray this week for all who live and work in Ashbury Hill in Ashbury, and Sandhill Farm and Cottages in Shrivenham.

### Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday mornings are not meeting this week as it is half-term.

### Advent Calendars and Christmas Cards

Margaret Hern has a good selection of Christian charity Christmas cards and Advent calendars for sale from the Lighthouse Book Shop in Highworth.



Margaret lives in Shrivenham.

Ring her to arrange a time to visit 01793 782100

### Licensing of Rev'd Patrick Mabunu as Associate Vicar, Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

Monday 6th November at 7:30pm  
St Mary's Church Ashbury

The Rt Rev'd Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester, will lead the service, which will be followed by refreshments.

All are welcome but for planning/catering purposes please let us know if you wish to attend.  
01793 783519 or [info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

Limited parking is available in the church car park at the top of Church Lane. If parking in the village, please be mindful of our neighbours.

### St Andrew's Annual Brass Cleaning Morning

Saturday 25th November at 9:30am.

Helpers would be appreciated. Coffee provided!

### Design a Christmas Card Competition

Shrivenham Station Chaplaincy Team, together with the churches of Shrivenham, Watchfield and Bourton invite all children in year 6 and under to enter our competition to design a Christmas Card.

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place (£20, £10 & £5)

The winning entry will be featured on a Christmas Card advertising local Christmas services, which will be delivered to all houses in Shrivenham, Watchfield and Bourton.

Draw your picture on A4 paper (portrait) and don't forget to write your name, address, age and class number on the back!

Post your entry in the letterbox at Shrivenham Vicarage, St Alban's Church in Watchfield, or the collection box in the porch at St Thomas' Church in Watchfield. If you go to Shrivenham or Watchfield School you can give your design to your class teacher.

### Entries must be in by Monday 30th October

More information from Lucy Laird  
[shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com](mailto:shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com)

### Looking to the Future – Your Next Vicar

Rev'd Norma Fergusson is retiring in May 2024, and we are starting to look towards the future and the appointment of her successor.

As part of this process, we invite everyone in the Benefice, whether you are a churchgoer or not, to come along to Shrivenham Memorial Hall on Sunday 19th November to share your thoughts and observations on what we currently do well, what is less successful, and what you would like to see happening over the next few years.

Tea and cake will be served from 3.30pm with the meeting starting at 4.00pm. Following a short introduction, informal discussions will take place in small groups, ending no later than 6.00pm, but you are welcome to leave at any time.

Advising us of your intention to attend is not compulsory but will help to ensure we don't run out of cake!

We would love to see you there, but if you are unable to come along, you can still take part in the consultation process via our online survey which is available at <https://s.surveypal.com/v3h79lf9>.

If you would like a paper copy, please contact the Benefice Administrator (Lucy Laird) or pick one up in church. All survey responses are anonymous.

01793 783519 [info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### Royal British Legion Coffee Morning

St Andrew's Church  
Shrivenham  
Friday 10th November  
from 10am to noon.



A chance to support the Royal British Legion, get your poppy and enjoy cake and a cuppa!

All welcome.

### The Torriano Ensemble Autumn Concert

Sunday 19th November at 6pm  
St. Mary's Church, Longcot

An evening of music for flute, clarinet, horn, bassoon and string quintet, featuring two much-loved masterpieces from the classical period, Mozart's charming and uplifting Flute Quartet in D major K. 285 and the magnificent Octet by Schubert.

Arrangements of three of Gershwin's most popular songs, 'Embraceable You', 'The Man I Love' and 'I've Got Rhythm', provide a contrast of style and mood.

Admission free with a retiring collection in aid of Longcot Village Trust and St Mary's Church.

The bar will be open from 5.30pm for drinks before the concert and also at the interval.

Reservations should be made in advance by email to [victorialmedcalf@gmail.com](mailto:victorialmedcalf@gmail.com)

### Sonare in Concert

#### My Soul, There Is a Country

Saturday 11th November at 7:30pm  
St Andrew's Church Shrivenham



Photo © James Rose

Sonare are a renowned London-based choral quartet.

They will treat us to a joyous celebration of British choral music. The programme features unmissable favourites alongside underappreciated gems, with fascinating musical history commentary from the singers themselves.

Tickets £12 will be on sale locally in due course or buy online now for a 10% discount through

[www.sonarechoir.com](http://www.sonarechoir.com)

In aid of St Andrew's Restoration Project

### COLLECT

God, the giver of life,  
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your  
Church:  
by the Spirit's gift equip us to live the  
gospel of Christ and make us eager to  
do your will,  
that we may share with the whole  
creation the joys of eternal life;  
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

Either **Isaiah 45:1-7**

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

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to  
Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped  
to subdue nations before him and strip  
kings of their robes, to open doors  
before him – and the gates shall not be  
closed: I will go before you and level  
the mountains, I will break in pieces the  
doors of bronze and cut through the  
bars of iron, I will give you the treasures  
of darkness and riches hidden in secret  
places, so that you may know that it is  
I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call  
you by your name. For the sake of my  
servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I  
call you by your name, I surname you,  
though you do not know me. I am the  
LORD, and there is no other; besides  
me there is no god. I arm you, though  
you do not know me, so that they may  
know, from the rising of the sun and  
from the west, that there is no one  
besides me; I am the LORD, and there  
is no other. I form light and create  
darkness, I make weal and create woe;  
I the LORD do all these things

Or **Exodus 33:12-end**

### PSALM Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

**R** *Ascribe to the Lord honour and  
power.*

Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.  
Sing to the Lord and bless his name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation  
from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples. **R**  
For great is the Lord and greatly to be  
praised;

he is more to be feared than all gods.  
As for all the gods of the nations, they  
are but idols;  
but it is the Lord who made the  
heavens.

**O** the majesty and magnificence of his  
presence!

**O** the power and the splendour of his  
sanctuary! **R**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the  
peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honour and power.  
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to  
his name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.  
Worship the Lord in the beauty of  
holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him. **R**

[Tell it out among the nations: "The  
Lord is king!

he has made the world so firm that it  
cannot be moved  
he will judge the peoples with equity."  
Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth  
be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
let the field be joyful and all that is  
therein. **R**

Then shall all the trees of the wood  
shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes,  
when he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with  
righteousness  
and the peoples with his truth. **R]**

### SECOND READING

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to  
the Thessalonians.*

From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To  
the church of the Thessalonians in God  
the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace. We always  
give thanks to God for all of you and  
mention you in our prayers, constantly  
remembering before our God and  
Father your work of faith and labour  
of love and steadfastness of hope in  
our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know,  
brothers and sisters beloved by God,  
that he has chosen you, because our  
message of the gospel came to you not  
in word only, but also in power and in  
the Holy Spirit and with full conviction;  
just as you know what kind of persons  
we proved to be among you for your  
sake. And you became imitators of

us and of the Lord, for in spite of  
persecution you received the word  
with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so  
that you became an example to all the  
believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.  
For the word of the Lord has sounded  
forth from you not only in Macedonia  
and Achaia, but in every place your faith  
in God has become known, so that we  
have no need to speak about it. For the  
people of those regions report about us  
what kind of welcome we had among  
you, and how you turned to God from  
idols, to serve a living and true God,  
and to wait for his Son from heaven,  
whom he raised from the dead – Jesus,  
who rescues us from the wrath that is  
coming.

### GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22

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

When the chief priests and Pharisees  
had heard the parables, they realised  
that Jesus was speaking about them.  
Then the Pharisees went and plotted to  
entrap him in what he said. So they sent  
their disciples to him, along with the  
Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know  
that you are sincere, and teach the way  
of God in accordance with truth, and  
show deference to no one; for you do  
not regard people with partiality. Tell  
us, then, what you think. Is it lawful  
to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"  
But Jesus, aware of their malice, said,  
"Why are you putting me to the test,  
you hypocrites? Show me the coin  
used for the tax." And they brought  
him a denarius. Then he said to them,  
"Whose head is this, and whose title?"  
They answered, "The emperor's." Then  
he said to them, "Give therefore to  
the emperor the things that are the  
emperor's, and to God the things that  
are God's." When they heard this, they  
were amazed; and they left him and  
went away.

### POST COMMUNION

God our Father,  
whose Son, the light unfailing,  
has come from heaven to deliver the  
world from the darkness of ignorance:  
let these holy mysteries open the eyes  
of our understanding  
that we may know the way of life,  
and walk in it without stumbling;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 22 October 2023  
 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Matthew 22:15-21

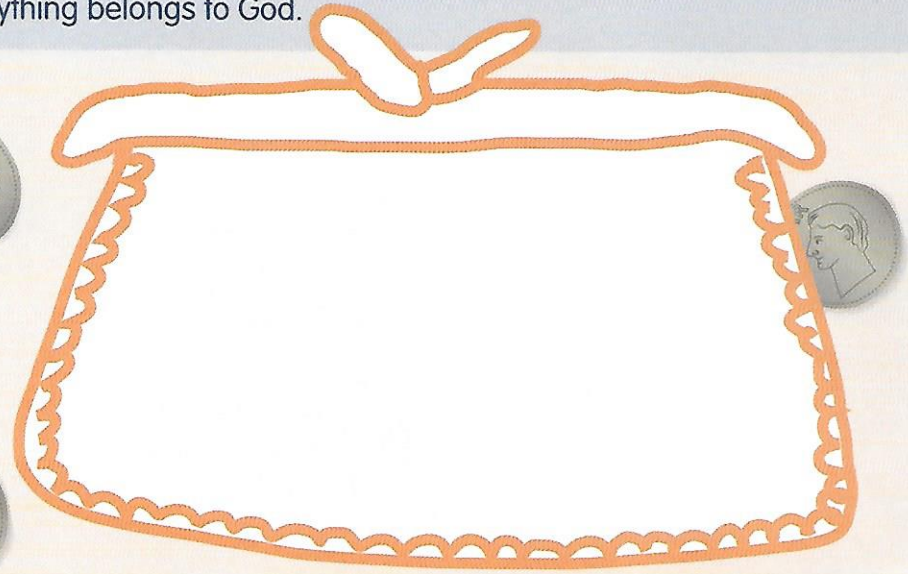
In the  
**GOSPEL TODAY**

**WE BELONG  
 TO GOD!**

The leaders ask Jesus a difficult question. "Do we pay money to Caesar – even if we love God?" Jesus tells them to pay the money, which has Caesar's head on it, to the emperor - but remember that everything belongs to God.

**Fill the purse  
 with money**

Put different coins under some paper and rub over them with a pencil. Cut out. How much have you collected in your purse?



**A PRAYER TO SAY**

Lord, I give myself to you. Fill in the letters and colour the pictures.

I give my h \_\_\_\_\_



I give my f \_\_\_\_\_



I give my e \_\_\_\_\_



I give my m \_\_\_\_\_



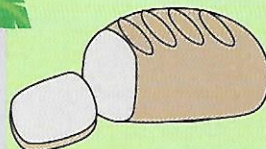
I give my h \_\_\_\_\_



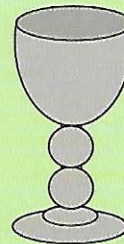
Amen.

**What belongs to God?**

What do we give to God at the Offertory?



b \_ \_ a \_



w \_ \_ n \_



m \_ n \_ y

u \_



**Who belongs to God**

We can tell if someone belongs to God by their actions.



Which of these children belong to God? Which children are sharing Jesus' love?

**Find the coins**

Can you find **nine** coins like this, pictured on this page?

