



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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## Sunday 8th October 2023 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

### Sunday 8th October

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

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

### Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:00pm Benefice Wardens' Meeting  
St Andrew's Vicarage

### 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](#)
- 6:00pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

### Friday

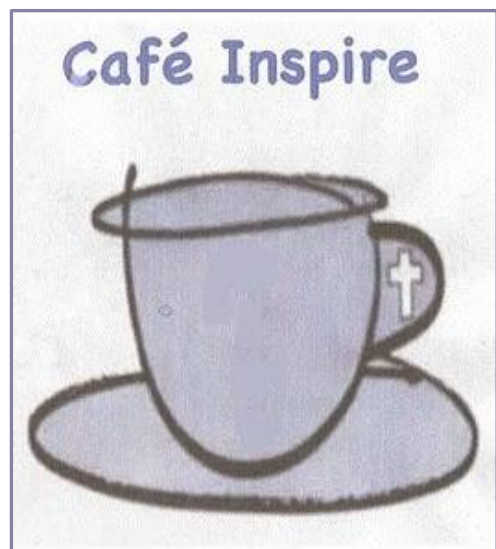
- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)

### Saturday

- 10:00am Café Inspire including AGM  
Shrivenham School Hall

### Sunday 15th October

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun  
Matins
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#)  
Taizé Service
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas  
Matins
- 10:00am Bourton, St James  
Holy Communion
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Please join the 9:30am service at Longcot



### **Saturday 14th October**

10 – 11:30am

in Shrivenham School Hall

All ages welcome.

Chat or browse the newspapers.

Toys, craft-based activities, music-making with the Belleplates, and a Wii to entertain younger visitors.

Free tea, coffee and squash.

Bacon rolls £1.50 and cakes 60p per slice.

The morning will include the Café Inspire AGM.

### **Harvest Fayre and Soup on Saturday**



7th October from 10am – 2pm  
St Andrews Church Shrivenham

As well as homemade soup, stalls will include cakes, cards, paintings, raffle and lots more!!

In aid of general church funds

### **Community Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live and work  
Walnut Trees Hill in Ashbury, and  
Salop Close and Youghal Close in Shrivenham.

### **Welcome**

Welcome to Atalanta Margaret Alice Scott  
who was baptised on Saturday 30th September  
at St Swithun's Church Compton Beauchamp.

## Worship and Praise - Good News Evening

Friday 20th October

6.30 pm

Shrivenham Cricket Pavilion, Recreation Ground

Offering our local community a welcome break from the endless supply of difficult news and gloomy forecasts of all sorts. Good news is still available!



Instead of the monthly Worship and Praise at St Andrew's Church, we are using this lovely new addition to the village as our venue for October.

All welcome - do come and join us!

There will be new people to meet, live music from John and Julie Steventon, singing, fun and refreshments.

Those who have moved into the village in the last few years are *especially* welcome.

Car parking at the Memorial Hall  
or Martens Road Car Park



Harvest displays in Longcot Church



Harvest flowers in Shrivenham Church



# look

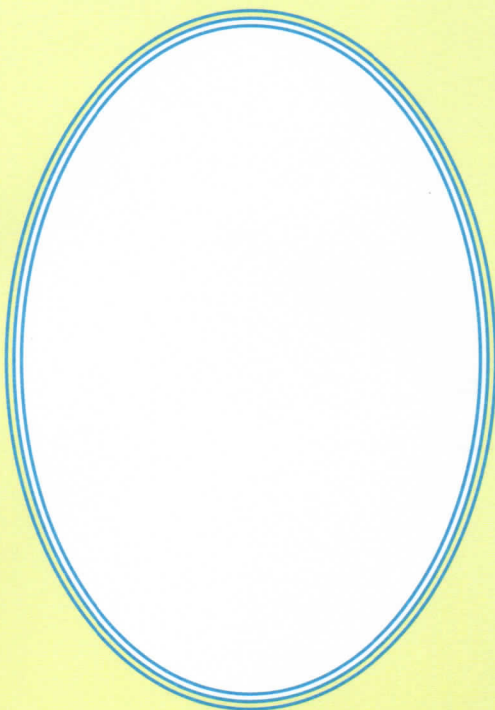
Sunday 8 October 2023  
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Matthew 21:33-43

In the  
**GOSPEL TODAY**

**WELCOME  
JESUS!**

## Who do I trust?

The man in today's story trusted the people with his vineyard. Draw a picture of the people you trust to look after your special things.



I trust \_\_\_\_\_  
with things that I own.

## A PRAYER TO SAY

I want to welcome you into my life, Jesus. Help me to listen to your message so that I can grow good fruit to build God's kingdom. Amen.

A man put his workers in charge of his vineyard. Then he sent his servants to collect the grapes at harvest time. The workers refused to hand over the grapes and beat up the servants. This happened again and again. Eventually the man sent his own son, thinking the workers would treat him properly. But no! They didn't even listen to the son.

## Maze











Welcome Jesus by helping him find his way through the vineyard.

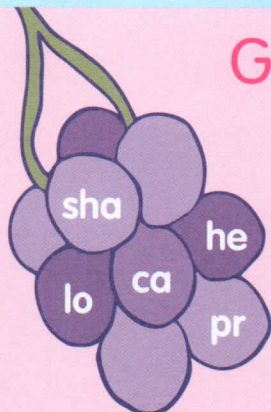


## Break the code

The people in today's story agreed to pay the vineyard owner what they owed him. But when the time came, they refused to keep their promise. Can you find out what Jesus asks us to do today?

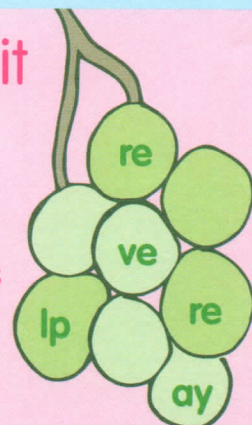


- |  |  |   |  |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| e=  | k=  | o=  | r=  | u=  |
| i=  | m=  | p=  | s=  | y=  |



## Grow good fruit

We grow good fruit when we do as God asks. Match the letters in the purple grapes with the endings in the green grapes to find out how we can produce good fruit.



Answers: Good fruit: share, care, love, help, pray. Break the code: Keep your promises.

### COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
increase in us your gift of faith  
that, forsaking what lies behind  
and reaching out to that which is before,  
we may run the way of your  
commandments

and win the crown of everlasting joy;  
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 5:1-7**

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

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song  
concerning his vineyard: My beloved had  
a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it  
and cleared it of stones, and planted it  
with choice vines; he built a watch-tower  
in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine  
vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes. And now,  
inhabitants of Jerusalem and people  
of Judah, judge between me and my  
vineyard. What more was there to do for  
my vineyard that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes, why  
did it yield wild grapes? And now I will  
tell you what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be  
devoured; I will break down its wall, and  
it shall be trampled down. I will make it  
a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and  
thorns; I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it. For the  
vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house  
of Israel, and the people of Judah are his  
pleasant planting: he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but  
heard a cry!

Or **Exodus 20:1-4. 7-9. 12-20**

### PSALM Psalm 80:9-17

**R** *For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts  
is the house of Israel.*

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance  
and we shall be saved.  
You have brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you cast out the nations and planted it.  
You prepared the ground for it;  
it took root and filled the land. **R**

The mountains were covered by its  
shadow  
and the towering cedar trees by its  
boughs.

You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea  
and its branches to the River. **R**

Why have you broken down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck off its  
grapes?

The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have grazed  
upon it.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down  
from heaven;

behold and tend this vine;  
preserve what your right hand has  
planted. **R**

### SECOND READING

**Philippians 3:4b-14**

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

If anyone else has reason to be confident  
in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on  
the eighth day, a member of the people  
of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a  
Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law,  
a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of  
the church; as to righteousness under  
the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains  
I had, these I have come to regard as  
loss because of Christ. More than that, I  
regard everything as loss because of the  
surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus  
my Lord. For his sake I have suffered  
the loss of all things, and I regard them  
as rubbish, in order that I may gain  
Christ and be found in him, not having  
a righteousness of my own that comes  
from the law, but one that comes through  
faith in Christ, the righteousness from  
God based on faith. I want to know Christ  
and the power of his resurrection and the  
sharing of his sufferings by becoming like  
him in his death, if somehow I may attain  
the resurrection from the dead. Not that  
I have already obtained this or have  
already reached the goal; but I press on  
to make it my own, because Christ Jesus  
has made me his own. Beloved, I do not  
consider that I have made it my own; but  
this one thing I do: forgetting what lies  
behind and straining forward to what lies  
ahead, I press on towards the goal for  
the prize of the heavenly call of God in  
Christ Jesus.

### GOSPEL Matthew 21:33-end

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

Jesus said to the chief priests and the  
elders of the people: "Listen to another  
parable. There was a landowner who  
planted a vineyard, put a fence around  
it, dug a wine press in it, and built a  
watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants  
and went to another country. When the  
harvest time had come, he sent his slaves  
to the tenants to collect his produce. But  
the tenants seized his slaves and beat  
one, killed another, and stoned another.  
Again he sent other slaves, more than the  
first; and they treated them in the same  
way. Finally he sent his son to them,  
saying, 'They will respect my son.' But  
when the tenants saw the son, they said  
to themselves, 'This is the heir; come,  
let us kill him and get his inheritance.'  
So they seized him, threw him out of  
the vineyard, and killed him. Now when  
the owner of the vineyard comes, what  
will he do to those tenants?" They said  
to him, "He will put those wretches to a  
miserable death, and lease the vineyard  
to other tenants who will give him the  
produce at the harvest time." Jesus said  
to them, "Have you never read in the  
scriptures: 'The stone that the builders  
rejected has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing, and it is  
amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell  
you, the kingdom of God will be taken  
away from you and given to a people  
that produces the fruits of the kingdom.  
The one who falls on this stone will be  
broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone  
on whom it falls." When the chief priests  
and the Pharisees heard his parables,  
they realised that he was speaking about  
them. They wanted to arrest him, but  
they feared the crowds, because they  
regarded him as a prophet.

### POST COMMUNION

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for  
this sacred feast:  
for here we receive you,  
here the memory of your passion is  
renewed,  
here our minds are filled with grace,  
and here a pledge of future glory is  
given,  
when we shall feast at that table where  
you reign  
with all your saints for ever.