



The Shrevenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338
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Sunday 21st January 2024

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

- 7:45am Shrevenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun
Matins
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary
Morning Prayer
- 10:00am Bourton, St James & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion
- 10:15am Shrevenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Taizé Morning Prayer

Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 12:30pm Shrevenham, St Andrew
Thanksgiving Service – Steve Honey RIP
- 7:00pm Ashbury PCC

Wednesday

- 9:00am Shrevenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Morning Prayer
- 9:15am Song and Stories Toddler Group
Back room, Shrevenham Methodist Church
- 10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group
St Andrew's Vicarage

Thursday

- 8:45am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's
Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9:00am Benefice Wardens' Meeting
St Andrew's Vicarage
- 6:00pm Shrevenham, St Andrew
ASK Evening Prayer
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

Friday

- 9:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Matins
- 3:15pm Bourton, St James
Pinewood School Service

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 28th January

10:15am Shrevenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Benefice Holy Communion with Choir

Congratulations

Congratulations to our Area Dean, Rev'd Jason St John Nicolle, who will be installed as an honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford on 27th January.

Come and See – The Way of Love A course for Lent and for Life

Lent is early this year with Ash Wednesday on 14th February. Join us as we share the Diocesan Lent course, 'Come and See', which explores how God calls each of us into relationship with him, and how his love teaches us to love others. Through daily emails and a short Sunday video, 'Explore the Way of Love' takes a closer look at the Commandments and what they mean in the context of what Jesus called the two most important: you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength, and you shall love your neighbour as yourself. God's invitation is to walk the 'Way of Love' in relationship with him, while also showing his love to our neighbours. To find out more, talk to Norma, Patrick or Richard or visit oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see

Can you Help?

The Messy Church team are in need of small plastic bottles (with lids), toilet roll tubes, boxes etc for junk modelling and old, clean tights. They can be left in the vestry in St Andrew's Church. Thank you

The First Signs of Spring in Ashbury Churchyard



Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Pound Piece in Ashbury, and Benfield Place and Penny Close in Shrevenham.

**Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu is off duty
from Tuesday 23rd January until Wednesday
7th February inclusive.**

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and
miracles
the wonder of your saving
presence:
renew your people with your
heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
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 Genesis 14:17-20

A reading from the book of Genesis.

After Abram's return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

PSALM Psalm 128

R *Whoever fears the Lord
shall indeed be blessed.*

Happy are they all who fear the
Lord,
and who follow in his ways!
You shall eat the fruit of your
labour;
happiness and prosperity shall
be yours. **R**

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
within your house,
your children like olive shoots
round about your table.

Whoever fears the Lord
shall thus indeed be blessed. **R**

The Lord bless you from Zion,
and may you see the prosperity
of Jerusalem
all the days of our life.
May you live to see your
children's children;
may peace be upon Israel. **R**

SECOND READING

Revelation 19:6-10

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure" – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God." Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

GOSPEL John 2:1-11

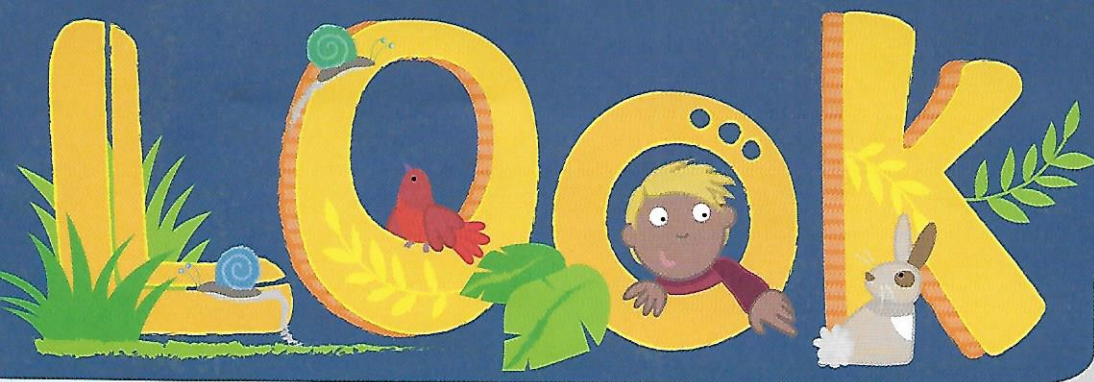
*Hear the gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to John.*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples

had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

POST COMMUNION

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ is the light of the world:
may your people,
illuminated by your word and
sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known,
worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now
and for ever.



Sunday 21 January 2024
 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Mark 1:14-20

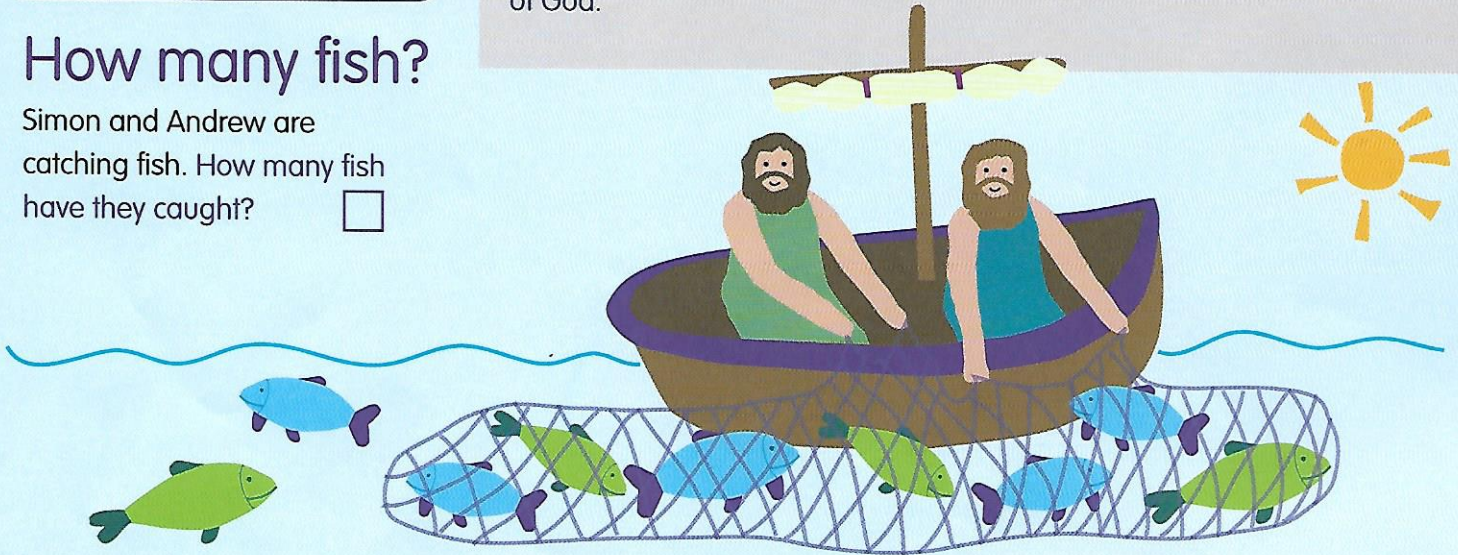
In the
GOSPEL TODAY

FOLLOW ME!

Jesus asks Peter, Andrew, James and John to stop being fishermen, and to follow him. He asks them to help him to build the kingdom of God.

How many fish?

Simon and Andrew are catching fish. How many fish have they caught?



At once!

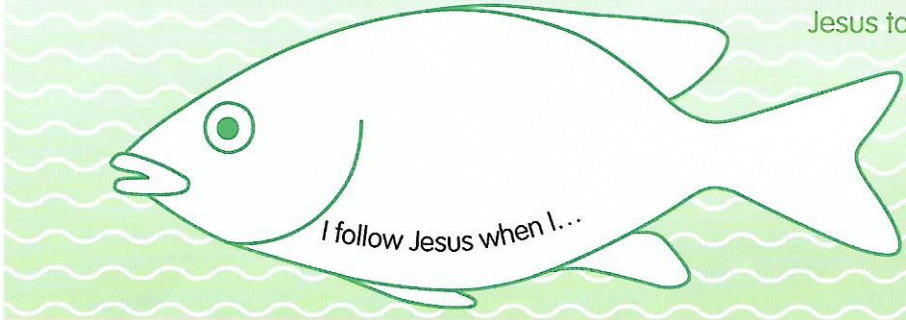
The disciples left their boats and followed Jesus at once. Here are some words which mean "at once". Cross out the words that don't belong.

now
 Quickly later
 right away
 at once
 slowly immediately

Following Jesus

Jesus asked the disciples to follow him. Jesus wants us to follow him too. We follow Jesus when we share God's love with other people.

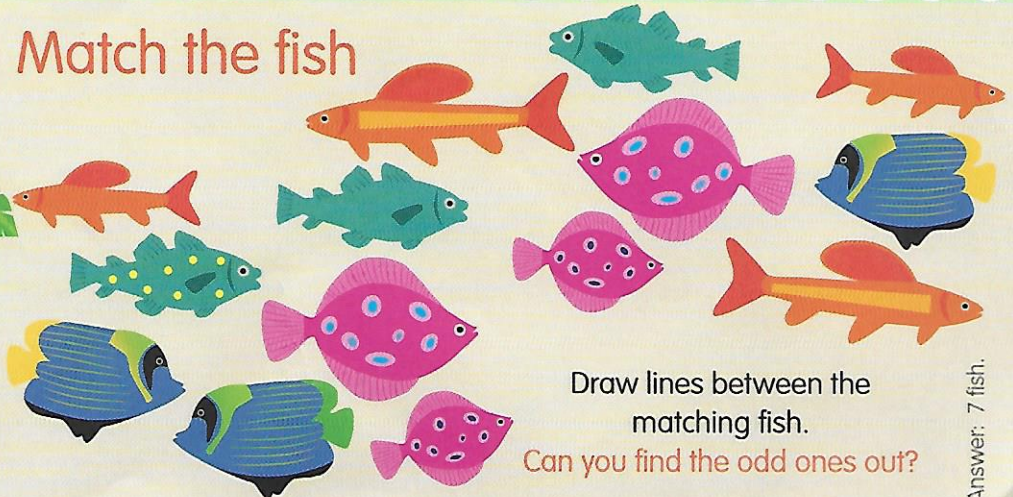
Draw a picture in the fish of one way you can follow Jesus today.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, I want to follow you and help to build your kingdom too! Help me to be loving, kind and fair in all I do. Help me to stand up for what is right. Amen.

Match the fish



Draw lines between the matching fish.
 Can you find the odd ones out?

Answer: 7 fish.