



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338

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Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



Sunday 11th February 2024 Sunday next before Lent

Sunday 11th February

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
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline and Benediction

Monday

- 12:45pm Kingsdown Crematorium
Cremation – Joyce Harvey RIP

Tuesday

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

Ash Wednesday

- 9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Morning Prayer
- 10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom
- 7:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion (BCP) with Choir
and Imposition of Ashes

Thursday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's
- 7:45pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline for Lent

Friday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 1:00pm Stainswick Lane Cemetery, Shrivenham
Funeral – Sylvia Patricia Jones RIP
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
Worship and Praise

Saturday

- 8:30am Men's Breakfast
The Barrington Arms, Shrivenham

Sunday 18th February

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

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.

Lent Knitalong 2024



If you're looking for a Lent challenge, this year the Knitalong groups will be making a shawl (can double up as a triangular lap blanket if you're not a shawl person!) perfect to wear to church on Easter morning or as a gift.

You will receive advanced information about needles, wool etc, plus a swatch pattern you can knit to check you're happy with your chosen yarns/needle size and that the gauge/fabric looks good. The knitting pattern and accompanying reflections will be then sent out weekly.

There is also a dedicated Facebook group (['Victoria Methodist Bristol Knitalongs'](#)) which you are very welcome to join!

The first email will be sent on Monday 12th February ready for Ash Wednesday (14th February).

Thereafter, the documents will be released on Fridays, ready for the following week. Enjoy!

Community Cycle of Prayer

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

Men's Breakfast

Saturday 17th February at 8:30am
The Barrington Arms, Shrivenham

For catering purposes, please let David Ahern know by Wednesday 14th if you plan to attend.

01793 783521 davidmahern@gmail.com

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

Email Scam

We have been advised by other Deanery clergy that scam email has been sent to several of their church members asking them to purchase Amazon vouchers on behalf of the vicar as a thank you.

Apparently, the approach was extremely credible, and whilst it did use an unknown @google address, the scenario was plausible and convincing.

Please know that we would never do this, so if you get one of these emails, please just delete it, but it is disconcerting that parishioners are being targeted in this way.

Raffle Prizes – Can You Help?

The St Andrew's Restoration Group has two fundraising concerts coming up – an organ recital on 9th March and a variety concert on 20th April. If you are able to donate a raffle prize, please contact [David Watson](#).

St Mary's Church Longcot

Beautiful flower arrangements created by the Longcot Flower Team for the Service of Celebration of the life of Robert Birtwhistle on 9th February



COLLECT

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the
cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer
with him
and be changed into his likeness,
from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING 2 Kings 2:1-12

A reading from the second book of Kings.

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and

to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

PSALM Psalm 50:1-6

R *Our God will come and will not keep silence.*

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals himself in glory. **R**

Our God will come and will not keep silence;
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
He calls the heavens and the earth
from above
to witness the judgement of his people. **R**

"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."
Let the heavens declare the rightness
of his cause;
for God himself is judge. **R**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers,

to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Mark 9:2-9

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

POST COMMUNION

Holy God,
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table
reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know
his power to change and save.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

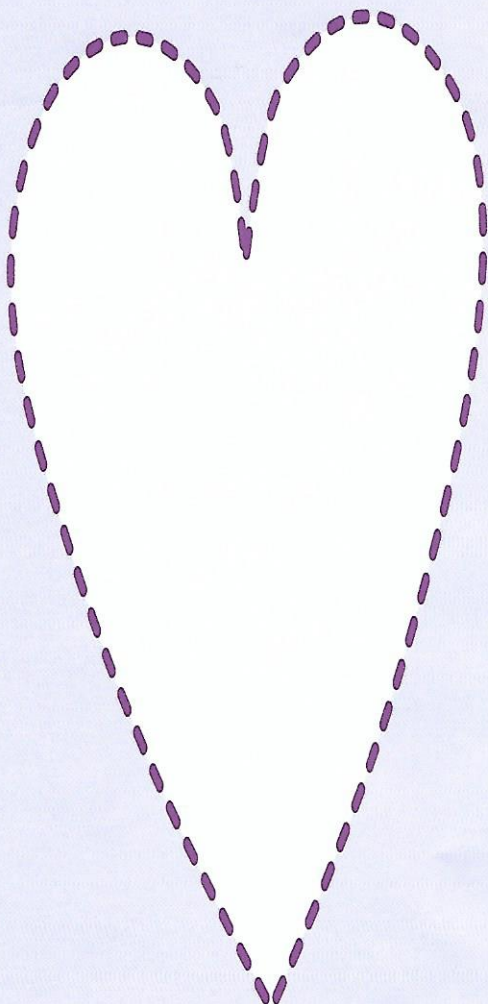


Sunday 11 February 2024
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mark 1:40-45

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

I am loved

Jesus wanted to help the leper.
He cared deeply about him.
Jesus cares deeply about you.
Draw a picture of you inside
Jesus' heart.



A man with a skin disease asks Jesus for help. Jesus wants him to be well and so he heals him. The man tells everybody his good news! Lots of people come from all around to find Jesus so that he can heal them.

I WANT YOU TO BE WELL!

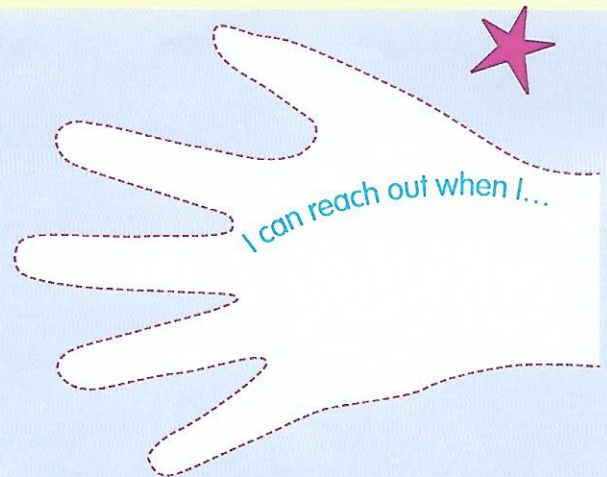
Maze

In Jesus' time
lepers had to stay
away from other
people. Jesus
does not want
anyone to be left
out. Help all these
people find their
way to Jesus.



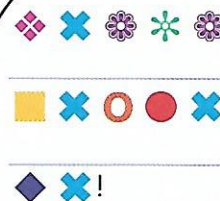
Reach out

The leper was left out.
Jesus reached out and
touched him. Jesus wasn't
worried that he might catch
the leper's skin disease.
Sometimes people can be
left out at school. Draw a
picture of you inviting
someone to play.



Code

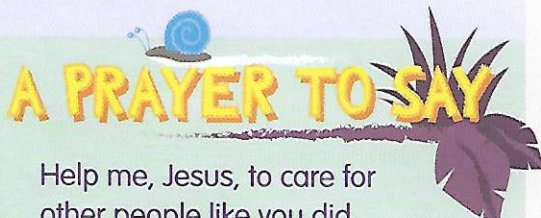
What good news is
this man shouting?
Break the code and
find out.



a=○ d=▲ e=✕ h=■ j=◆
l=● m=◆ s=✿ u=✱



Answer: Jesus healed me!



Help me, Jesus, to care for
other people like you did.
Amen.