



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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Sunday 25th February 2024 Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday 25th February

We are sharing Bishop Steven's weekly 'Come and See' films as our sermons during Lent. Watch on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or our [website](#).

10:30am Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Benefice Holy Communion with Choir

Tuesday

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
1:00pm Bereavement Group
St Andrew's Vicarage

Wednesday

9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Morning Prayer
9:15am Song and Stories Toddler Group
Back Room, Shrivenham 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
9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
6:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew. Messy Church
6:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
ASK Evening Prayer
7:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's
7:45pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline for Lent

Friday 1st March

9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
2:00pm Shrivenham Methodist Church & [Facebook](#)
World Day of Prayer Service
3:15pm Bourton, St James
Pinewood School Service

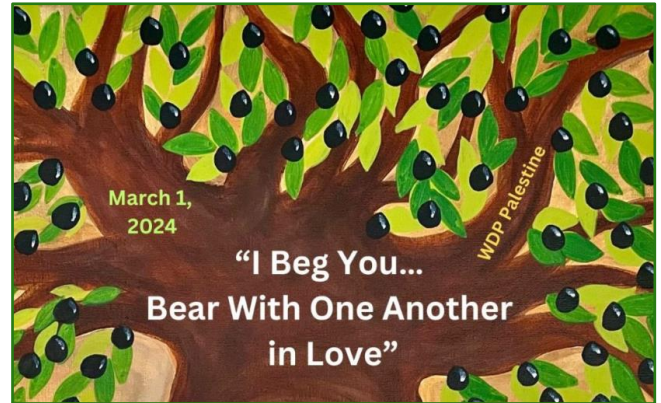
Saturday

10:00am Bourton, St James. Family Service
3:30pm Longworth, St Mary
Confirmation Service
Please keep our candidates in your prayers

Sunday 3rd March

7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion (BCP)
9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun
Holy Communion (BCP)
9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas
Holy Communion (BCP) by Extension
9:30am Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion
10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Family Service
11:00am Ashbury, St Mary.
Morning Prayer
5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Vespers and Benediction

World Day of Prayer Service



Shrivenham Methodist Church
Friday 1st March at 2pm

This year's service has been prepared by the Christian woman of Palestine and the theme is "I beg you, bear with one another in love."

These services are prepared more than two years in advance, so there is no human hand in the timing. God, however, works in mysterious ways!

All are welcome to the service and, even if you can't come, please pray for peace in this troubled land.

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for all who live and work in Ashbury Hill in Ashbury, and Charlotte Close in Shrivenham.

Condolences

Our condolences to the family and friends of the late Gordon Francis Lewry. Please keep them in your prayers.



St Andrew's Church
Shrivenham
Thursday 29th February
from 3:15 – 5pm

Messy Church is a church with a difference!

A chance to be creative, hear Bible stories, eat yummy food and have fun with friends and family. Suggested donation of £1.50 per child.

To book click [here](#), or email standfast.shrivenham@yahoo.com

Messy Church is open to the whole Benefice.

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

TWO TREASURES
**Found the
treasure yet?**



Jesus expects us to be full of joy when we do.

What is worth more than anything else?

Come and See this Lent.

oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see

COME
AND
SEE

Imagine what life would be like if you could really believe and understand that you are loved. How would that change you? It takes a lifetime to understand this love God has for us. Come and see...

'The Way of Love' takes a closer look at the 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.

oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see

**Coffee Morning
with
Bring & Buy Stall**

Ashbury Village Hall

Saturday 9th March
from 10am – noon

All ages are very welcome to join us for a coffee/tea, cake and chat. Bring along any unwanted gifts or items you would like to donate to our Bring & Buy table.



All proceeds will go towards cleaning the stained glass windows in St Mary's Church

Organ Recital

given by Thomas Neal

Director of Music at New College School, Oxford
and former Organist at St Augustine's Abbey, Ramsgate



St Andrew's Church Organ © Maureen Iles

Saturday 9th March at 5.30pm

St Andrew's Church Shrivenham

A programme exploring English and French organ music from the Renaissance to the present day, including works by Tomkins, Elgar, Howells, Couperin, Vierne, and Franck.

Tickets £10 (Under 16s free)

from Shrivenham Post Office

restoration-project.eventbrite.com and on the door

Bar, Tea and Coffee, Raffle

In aid of St Andrew's Restoration Project

Lydia Otter, Founder and CEO of Pennyhooks Farm Trust (and provider of our Palm Sunday donkeys!)

received her MBE for services to people with autism and their families in Oxfordshire. The investiture ceremony took place at Windsor Castle on 21st February, presented by Prince William. He asked Lydia about Pennyhooks work and was very interested in it, especially about encouraging employers to provide opportunities for people on the Autistic Spectrum.



"It was a truly magical day in such beautiful surroundings within the State Rooms of Windsor Castle. One we shall remember forever, not least because it means our young people's voices and perspectives are being listened to more and more".

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the
light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of
righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are
agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 17:1-7. 15-16

A reading from the book of Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you." God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

PSALM Psalm 22:23-end

R *All the ends of the earth shall turn to you, O Lord.*

Praise the Lord, you that fear him;
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
For he does not despise nor abhor
the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them;
but when they cry to him he hears them. **R**

My praise is of him in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows
in the presence of those who worship him.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise
him:
"May your heart live for ever!" **R**

All the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall bow before him.
For kingship belongs to the Lord;
he rules over the nations. **R**

To him alone all who sleep in the earth
bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
They shall come and make known to a
people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 4:13-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory

to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

GOSPEL Mark 8:31-end

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

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of
ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all
adversities which may happen to the
body,
and from all evil thoughts which may
assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday 25 February 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent
Mark 9:2-10

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

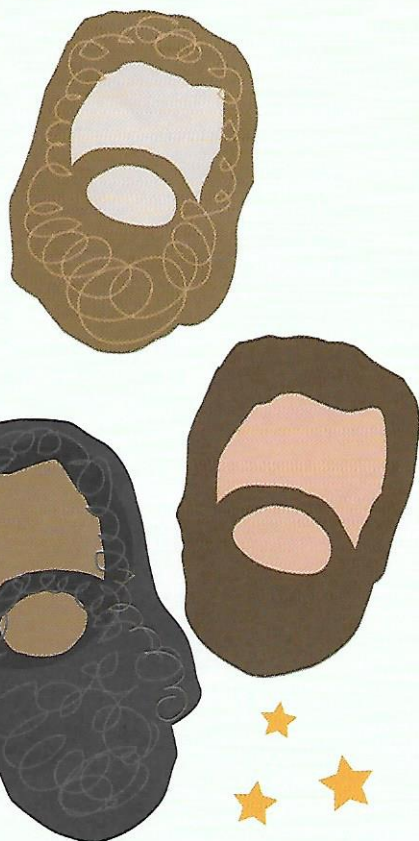
LISTEN TO HIM!

Jesus takes his friends, Peter, James and John, up a high mountain. Suddenly Jesus looks gloriously different and his clothes shine brightly. Then they all hear a voice from heaven saying, "This is my Son. I love him. Listen to him."

What a shock

What happened on the mountain was a great shock to Jesus' three friends.

Make these faces show their SURPRISE.



Jesus gives some advice

Peter, James and John were afraid when they saw Jesus shining and bright. What do you do when you are afraid?

Who comforts you when you are afraid?

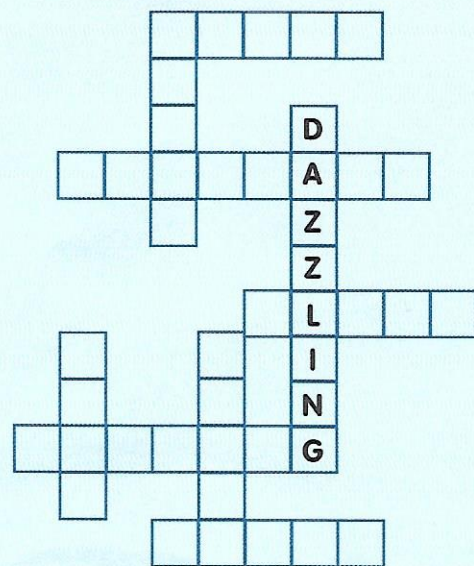
Work out the code to hear Jesus' advice.

a = ● b = ◆
 d = ■ e = ▲
 f = ✕ i = *
 n = ✓ o = ○
 r = ◆ t = +

Puzzle

Fit these words to the grid below. The first one has been done for you.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8 letters
MOUNTAIN | 5 letters
PETER | 4 letters
JOHN |
| 7 letters
SHINING | JAMES | JESUS |
| | CLOUD | VOICE |



A PRAYER TO SAY

Thank you for loving me, Jesus. Help me to show you how much I love you by listening to you and living as you ask. Amen.

A mountain path

Jesus brought his friends Peter, James and John up a high mountain. Which is the highest mountain? Draw a path up the highest mountain for Jesus and his friends to follow.

