



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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Sunday 17th March 2024 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 17th March

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

- 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
Please join 10am service at Bourton
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Family Service with Baptism
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Choral Evensong with the Benefice Choir
- The service will include an illustrated talk by Dr Peter Foot entitled 'Seeing Jacob's Ladder'

Monday

- 7:00pm All PCCs – Section 12 Meeting
St Andrew's Church, Shrivenham

Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
Shrivenham, St Andrew
- 1:30pm Funeral – Darren Maskell RIP
Ashbury PCC

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 Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's
7:45pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline for Lent

Friday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
10:00am Coffee Morning
St Andrew's Church, Shrivenham
- 3:15pm Bourton, St James.
Pinewood School Service

Palm Sunday 24th March

- 8:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Holy Communion

Please come and join our Palm Sunday Procession with donkeys through Shrivenham followed by a Benefice Service with the Methodists in St Andrew's.

- 9:45am Palm Sunday Procession with donkeys
starting at Shrivenham Methodist Church
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#).
Palm Sunday Service with Benefice Choir

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

TWO QUESTIONS

Go and do likewise



How are you called to love your neighbour?

How will you invest your talents and treasure across the whole span of your life to build God's kingdom?

Come and See this Lent.

oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see

COME AND SEE

The more we look at Jesus' profound summary of the greatest commandments, the more the implications grow for the life of the world and for our own lives. What must we do to inherit eternal life?

'The Way of Love' takes a closer look at what Jesus called the two most important commandments: 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

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for all who live and work in Chapel Lane in Ashbury, and Claridge Close and Miles Close in Shrivenham.

www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Our condolences to the family and friends of the late Frances Rose Mepham. Please keep them in your prayers.

Coffee Morning in St Andrew's Church

Friday 22nd March from 10am to noon
Feel free to bring your book, your knitting or stitching, or just enjoy a chat with friends.

Ron Johnson

Thank you to everyone who contributed to make my dad Ron's Celebration of Life service on Friday 8th March so memorable. Dad loved singing, and it was a fitting tribute to him to have an organist, choir and church bells afterwards.

Valerie Sanders

Church Electoral Rolls

Church electoral rolls will be revised before the annual parish meetings. Please let your parish Electoral Roll Officer know if your contact details have changed since last year. If you would like to join the electoral roll, please contact your church's PCC Secretary or Churchwarden, or pick up an application form in church.

Annual Parish Meetings

Longcot & Fernham	Wednesday 10th April 7pm
Compton Beauchamp	Saturday 13th April 11am
Shrivenham, W & B	Wednesday 17th April 7pm
Ashbury	Wednesday 24th April 7pm

Thank you from Ashbury



Thank you to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning in Ashbury Village Hall on Saturday 9th March. We raised £311 towards conserving the stained glass windows in St Mary's Church

West Vale Mobility – Volunteers needed

West Vale Mobility is a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle Group serving (initially) Elm Tree Surgery patients living in Shrivenham, Watchfield, Longcot and Bourton.

It aims to provide affordable, disability-friendly, sustainable, local transport, and has already been awarded a grant to cover the purchase and running costs of a vehicle for five years.

Users would pay a charge per mile, so approximately £3 to get to GWH. Not only will this help villagers it will help reduce the pressure on the NHS, too.

We need volunteers to be part of the managing committee as well as, of course, drivers. Can you help us get this exciting initiative off the ground?

For more information, please contact

Stuart.Coffey@shrivenham.org
pennykh48@gmail.com

Lovely daffodils ready for distribution during the Mothering Sunday service in St Mary's Church Longcot



EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday 30th
March 2024
1pm - 3.30 pm

Starting at
St Thomas'
Church,
Watchfield

Everyone welcome!

£1.50
entry

All proceeds to St Thomas church

COLLECT

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of
your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered
on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his
victory;
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 Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

PSALM

Either **Psalm 51:1-13**

R *A clean heart create in me, O God.*

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my
offences.

Wash me through and through from
my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin. **R**

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.
And so you are justified when you
speak
and upright in your judgement. **R**

Indeed, I have been wicked from my
birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep
within me,
and will make me understand wisdom
secretly. **R**

Purge me from my sin and I shall be
pure;
wash me and I shall be clean indeed.
Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may
rejoice. **R**

Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me. **R**

Or **Psalm 119:9-16**

R *O Lord, how I love your law.*

How shall the young cleanse their way?
By keeping to your words.
With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not stray from your
commandments. **R**

I treasure your promise in my heart,
that I may not sin against you.
Blessèd are you, O Lord;
instruct me in your statutes. **R**

With my lips will I recite
all the judgements of your mouth.
I have taken greater delight in the way
of your decrees
than in all manner of riches. **R**

I will meditate on your commandments
and give attention to your ways.
My delight is in your statutes;
I will not forget your word. **R**

SECOND READING Hebrews 5:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having

been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL John 12:20-33

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

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

POST COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our
brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of
others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for
ever.



Sunday 17 March 2024
 John 12:20-33
 5th Sunday of Lent

In the
GOSPEL TODAY

NEW LIFE!

Find the wheat

How many ears of wheat can you find on this sheet? []

Y G S B L O M G
 G R O U N D R C
 J O U O E K D N
 L W H E A T D O
 H W T G R A I N
 W E N A T D E F
 F S G D H Y S B
 T E F I L L M M

Word search

Find these words from the Gospel today:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| GROW | LIFE |
| WHEAT | EARTH |
| DIE | GRAIN |
| GROUND | NEW |

Jesus knows that he is going to die but he also knows this is how he will show us how much God loves us. Jesus explains that unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies it will not make more plants. The grain brings life into the world - and so will Jesus, in an even more wonderful way!

Grow with Jesus

What new things can you do now you are no longer a baby?

Write, or draw, them in the fruit.



Growing things

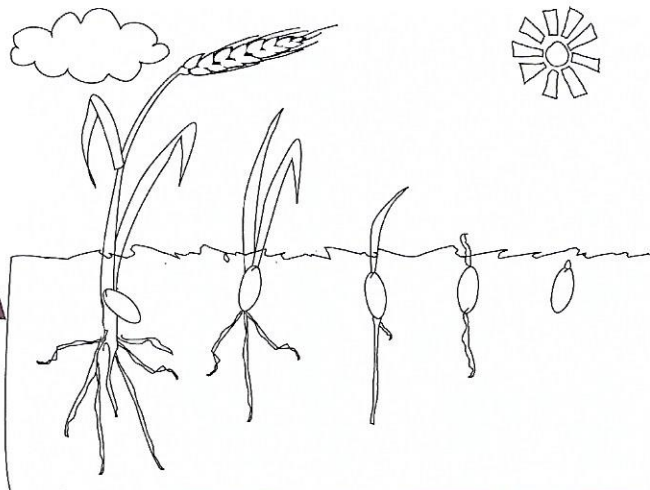
What will these things grow into? Draw or write your answers in the spaces.



[] [] []

A PRAYER TO SAY

Thank you, Jesus, for showing me how to be loving and kind. Help me to grow more like you every day. Amen.



Life!

Colour the new wheat growing from these seeds, ready for the rich harvest.



Answers: There are seven hidden ears of wheat. These things will grow into a chicken, an adult and a plant.