



The Shrevenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338
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Sunday 7th April 2024

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday 7th April

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
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary
Holy Communion by Extension
- 10:15am Shrevenham, St Andrew
Family Service
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Morning Prayer
- 5:30pm Shrevenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline and Benediction

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

- 9:00am Shrevenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Morning Prayer
- 7:00pm Longcot with Fernham APCM
St Mary's, Longcot

Thursday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on Facebook
- 10:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion

Friday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 11:30am Longcot Churchyard
Ashes Interment – Frank Parkinson RIP

Saturday 13th April

- 11:00am Compton Beauchamp APCM
St Swithun's, Compton Beauchamp

Sunday 14th April

- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas
Matins
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary
Holy Communion
- 10:15am Shrevenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Holy Communion

Wednesday Study Groups

Both groups restart on 17th April and will be looking at St John's gospel. If you would like to join either group, please contact Rev'd Fergusson for more information.

Ashbury Churchyard 'Spring Clean'

Saturday 13th April from 10am to Noon

We would greatly appreciate as many helpers as we can to carry out our annual Churchyard 'Spring Clean'.

Usually we attract about 24 people such that as well getting the Churchyards ready for summer it is also a very social occasion. Hot refreshments will be available.

As well as appropriate garden tools (secateurs, hard brush, trowel) it would be helpful if, those who can, could bring a wheelbarrow or strimmer.

Newcomers to the village are especially welcome where you can get to know other locals

Our New Incumbent

The advert for our new Incumbent has been published in the Church Times and on the Diocese website.

If you would like to look at our Benefice Profile it can be found on the home page of the Benefice [website](#).

A prayer for this time of transition

Faithful and loving God, we hold our Benefice before you in this time of transition.

Be with us in our waiting, in our expectation and in our preparation.

Be with our new incumbent as he or she also waits, expects and prepares.

Bring us together in love for you and for this Benefice, and be our light for the way ahead.

In Jesus' name, Amen

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Ashdown Estate near Ashbury, and Colton Road in Shrevenham.

Café Inspire

There's no Café Inspire this month as we prepare to re-open in the new school building on Cross Trees Park. Please watch this space for further details.

Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday mornings are not open during the school Easter holidays.

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

Car Boot Items Wanted! Can You Help?

We are looking to raise funds towards our running costs at St Swithun's Church, Compton Beauchamp.

Suitable items would be bric-a-brac, crockery, DVDs, books, toys, clothing in good condition etc.

Please note all items are freely given on the understanding that all unsold items will be given to other charities as we do not have the facilities to store.

If you have any items that you are willing to donate, please contact [Louise Slater](#) or [Joanna Lambert](#).

Thank you

A Variety Concert in Celebration of St George's Day

St Andrew's Church Shrivenham
Saturday 20th April
7:30pm

Tickets £10 (Under 16s £5)

On sale at Shrivenham Post Office

restoration-project.eventbrite.com and on the door

Bar and Raffle

In aid of St Andrew's Restoration Project

Easter



Easter Cross
St Mary's Church Ashbury



Palm Sunday Procession
Shrivenham



Blessing the donkeys
in St Andrew's Churchyard



Easter Garden
St Mary's Church Ashbury



The Font
St Thomas' Church Watchfield



Ready for the Easter Egg Hunt
St Thomas' Church Watchfield

More Easter photos on next week's Newsletter

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die
for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of
malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus
Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

*The reading from Acts must be read
as either the First or Second Reading.*

Either **Acts 4:32-35**

*A reading from the Acts of the
Apostles.*

The whole group of those who
believed were of one heart and soul,
and no one claimed private ownership
of any possessions, but everything
they owned was held in common.
With great power the apostles gave
their testimony to the resurrection of
the Lord Jesus, and great grace was
upon them all. There was not a needy
person among them, for as many as
owned lands or houses sold them and
brought the proceeds of what was
sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet,
and it was distributed to each as any
had need.

Or **Exodus 14:10-end; 15:20-21**

PSALM Psalm 133

R *How good and pleasant it is
to live together in unity.*

O how good and pleasant it is,
when a family lives together in unity!
It is like fine oil upon the head
that runs down upon the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron,
and runs down upon the collar of his
robe. **R**

It is like the dew of Hermon
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
For there the Lord has ordained the
blessing:
life for evermore. **R**

SECOND READING

Either **1 John 1:1 – 2:2**

A reading from the first letter of John.

We declare to you what was from
the beginning, what we have heard,
what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched
with our hands, concerning the word
of life – this life was revealed, and
we have seen it and testify to it, and
declare to you the eternal life that was
with the Father and was revealed to
us – we declare to you what we have
seen and heard so that you also may
have fellowship with us; and truly our
fellowship is with the Father and with
his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing
these things so that our joy may be
complete. This is the message we
have heard from him and proclaim to
you, that God is light and in him there
is no darkness at all. If we say that we
have fellowship with him while we are
walking in darkness, we lie and do not
do what is true; but if we walk in the
light as he himself is in the light, we
have fellowship with one another, and
the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses
us from all sin. If we say that we have
no sin, we deceive ourselves, and
the truth is not in us. If we confess
our sins, he who is faithful and just
will forgive us our sins and cleanse
us from all unrighteousness. If we say
that we have not sinned, we make
him a liar, and his word is not in us.
My little children, I am writing these
things to you so that you may not sin.
But if anyone does sin, we have an
advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ
the righteous; and he is the atoning
sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours
only but also for the sins of the whole
world.

Or **Acts 4:32-35**

GOSPEL John 20:19-end

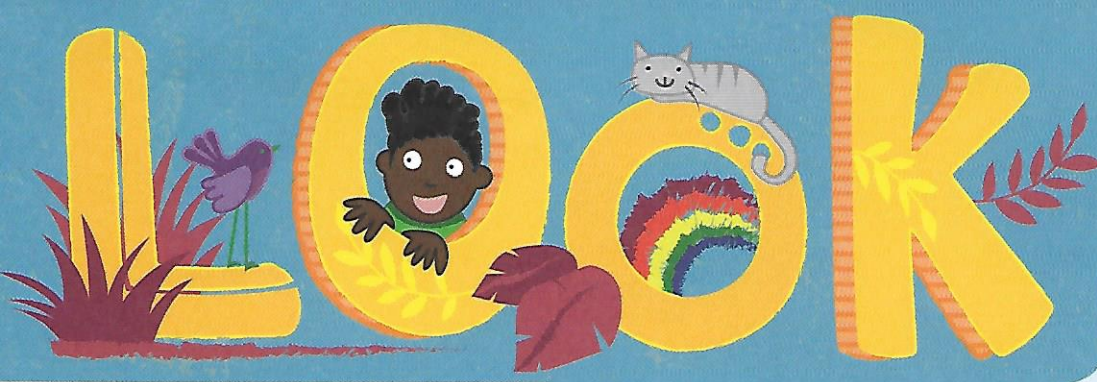
*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John.*

It was evening on the first day of the
week, and the doors of the house
where the disciples had met were
locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus
came and stood among them and
said, "Peace be with you." After he

said this, he showed them his hands
and his side. Then the disciples
rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
Jesus said to them again, "Peace be
with you. As the Father has sent me,
so I send you." When he had said
this, he breathed on them and said
to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If
you forgive the sins of any, they are
forgiven them; if you retain the sins of
any, they are retained." But Thomas
(who was called the Twin), one of the
twelve, was not with them when Jesus
came. So the other disciples told him,
"We have seen the Lord." But he said
to them, "Unless I see the mark of the
nails in his hands, and put my finger
in the mark of the nails and my hand
in his side, I will not believe." A week
later his disciples were again in the
house, and Thomas was with them.
Although the doors were shut, Jesus
came and stood among them and
said, "Peace be with you." Then he
said to Thomas, "Put your finger here
and see my hands. Reach out your
hand and put it in my side. Do not
doubt but believe." Thomas answered
him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus
said to him, "Have you believed
because you have seen me? Blessed
are those who have not seen and yet
have come to believe." Now Jesus
did many other signs in the presence
of his disciples, which are not written
in this book. But these are written so
that you may come to believe that
Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that through believing you may
have life in his name.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of
eternal life
and in baptism have made us one
with him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Sunday 7 April 2024
John 20:19-31
2nd Sunday of Easter

In the GOSPEL TODAY

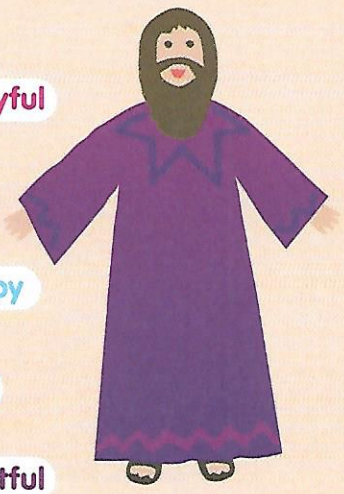
I BELIEVE!

Before and after Jesus came

Draw lines from the words to the right picture.

Here is Thomas before he saw Jesus

Here is Thomas after he saw Jesus



- scared
- joyful
- worried
- happy
- believing
- doubtful

Jesus appears to his friends and gives them the Holy Spirit and the gift of peace. Thomas isn't there. He can't believe Jesus is really alive. When Thomas sees and feels Jesus' wounds he can believe that Jesus is risen!

A gift for us all!

Jesus gave his disciples a special gift. He gives us this gift too.



Use the code to find out what this gift is.

e=		p=	
h=		r=	
i=		s=	
l=		t=	
o=		y=	

Word search

Jesus is in the world in lots of ways today. Here are some of them:
BREAD WINE
GOSPEL CHURCH
PEOPLE

Z	C	W	S	D	E	K	Q
X	H	I	B	G	L	G	R
M	U	N	P	H	P	F	P
B	R	E	A	D	O	D	V
P	C	X	M	N	E	Z	M
P	H	G	O	S	P	E	L

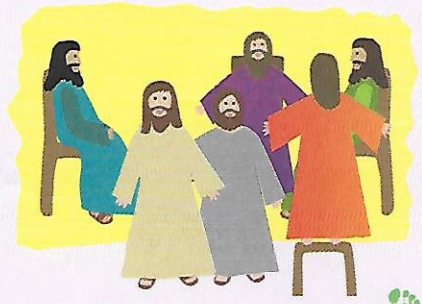
Can you find these words?

A PRAYER TO SAY

Thank you, Jesus, for giving us the gift of your peace. Help me to share your peace with everyone I meet. Help me to be kind and thoughtful today. Amen.

Spot the difference

Find the five differences in these rooms.



Answers: The differences are: Jesus, disciples who are sad/ happy, sitting/ standing, slouching, background. The gift is: The Holy Spirit.