



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: Vacancy

Associate Vicar: The Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu. 07471 434276

associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Benefice Administrator: Lucy Laird 01793 783519

info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk



Sunday 25th August 2024

Sunday 25th August

Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu is giving today's online sermon.
Watch on Facebook, YouTube or our website.

10:30am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Benefice Holy Communion
led by Rev'd Canon Charles Chadwick

Tuesday 27th

11:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Funeral – Patricia Clauson RIP
1:00pm Bereavement Café
5 Martens Road, Shrivenham

Thursday 28th

6:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
ASK Evening Prayer

Friday 29th

9:00am Ashbury, St Mary & Facebook
Matins

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in
Idstone Road in Ashbury, and Martens Road and
Bowlers Green in Shrivenham.

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 1st September

7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion (BCP)
9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas
Holy Communion (BCP)
9:30am Longcot, St Mary
Holy Communion
10:30am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Family Service
11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion
5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline and Benediction



OHCT Sponsored "Ride & Stride" Saturday 14th September

This annual event raises much needed funds for the
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and our local
churches, most of which have received generous grants
from OHCT towards projects including bell restorations
and the installation of kitchen and toilet facilities.

Participants are sponsored to walk or cycle around a
number of churches and can nominate their own church
to receive 50% of all the money they raise.

To find out more about taking part,
please contact Tony Crabtree
01793 784064 tony.crabtree@talktalk.net
or your own local coordinator.

Saturday 7th September from 2 – 4pm Watchfield Village Hall



Image: GX6 from Pixabay

Cream teas, raffle, cake stall, bring & buy stall.

£5.00 per person (payable on the door)

In aid of St Thomas' Church

Condolences

Our condolences to the family and friends of the
late Charles Wickham and Jill Skerry.
Please keep them in your prayers.

A prayer for this time of transition

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

Be with us in our waiting, in our expectation
and in our preparation as we seek our new Incumbent.

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

Benefice Vacancy

The Incumbent in our Benefice is appointed by the Lord Chancellor so neither we nor the Diocese can make any announcement until we have confirmation from that department.

Wednesday Study Groups Summer Break

The morning and evening study groups are taking a break and will restart on 11th September.

Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday mornings are taking a break until after the school summer holidays.

Friday 27th September at 6pm St Mary's Church, Longcot

Tom Arnold will be giving a talk on the Titanic and will draw upon the links with both Longcot and Uffington.

More details to follow.

In aid of St Mary's Church and Longcot Village Trust

Saturday September 28th at 7pm St Mary's Church, Ashbury

Avebury Vocal Ensemble Autumn Concert

A varied programme with pieces from Gabriel Fauré, Gustav Holst and Thomas Wilbye as well as more modern and seasonal pieces by Wood, Kosma, Brown, and Andersson and Ulvaeus of Abba fame.

Tickets £12, available on the door or online via the Avebury Vocal Ensemble website at www.aveburyvocal.org

Wine and soft drinks will be available before the concert and during the interval.

In aid of St Mary's Church

Saturday 12th October at 6pm St Mary's Church, Longcot

The Torriano Ensemble Autumn Concert



Image: Bob McEvoy from Pixabay

A programme of magnificent music by three great composers of the classical and romantic eras, featuring a large chamber ensemble of wind instruments with cello and double bass.

Overture and two arias from Don Giovanni
arr. for Wind Octet – Mozart

Petite Symphonie for Wind Nonet – Gounod

Serenade Op. 44 for 10 wind instruments,
cello and double bass – Dvorak

Admission free with a retiring collection.

All seats should be reserved in advance by email to victorialmedcalf@gmail.com

The bar will be open from 5.30pm for drinks before the concert and also during the interval.

In aid of St Mary's Church and Longcot Village Trust

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who called your Church to bear
witness
that you were in Christ reconciling the
world to yourself:
help us to proclaim the good news of
your love,
that all who hear it may be drawn to
you;
through him who was lifted up on the
cross,
and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Either **Joshua 24:1-2a. 14-18**

A reading from the book of Joshua.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

Or **1 Kings 8: [1. 6. 10-11] 22-30. 41-43**

PSALM Psalm 34:15-end

R *I sought the Lord, and he answered me
[and delivered me out of all my terror].*

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous,

and his ears are open to their cry.
The face of the Lord is against those
who do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them
from the earth. **R**

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them
and delivers them from all their
troubles.
The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and will save those whose spirits are
crushed. **R**

Many are the troubles of the
righteous,
but the Lord will deliver him out of
them all.

He will keep safe all his bones;
not one of them shall be broken. **R**

Evil shall slay the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous will
be punished.

The Lord ransoms the life of his
servants,
and none will be punished who trust
in him. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make

known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

GOSPEL John 6:56-69

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

Jesus said to the crowd: "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

POST COMMUNION

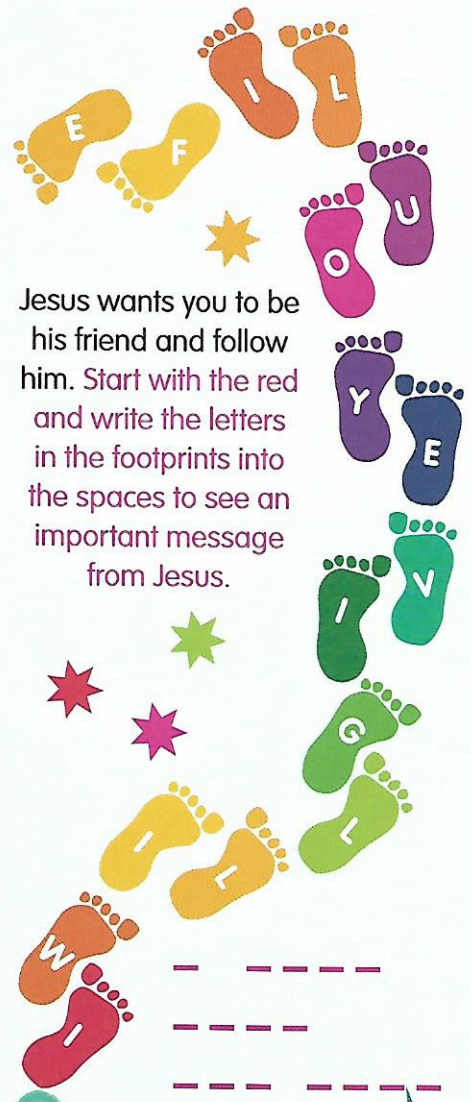
God our creator,
you feed your children with the true
manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through
our earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place where
hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



In the GOSPEL TODAY

CHOOSE JESUS!

A message from Jesus

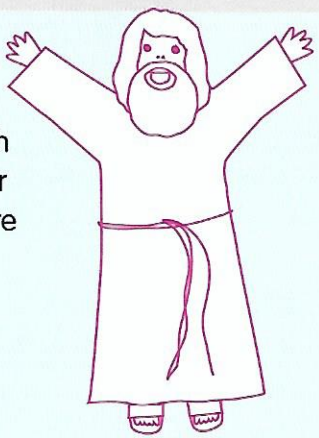


Jesus wants you to be his friend and follow him. Start with the red and write the letters in the footprints into the spaces to see an important message from Jesus.

Jesus' message is just too difficult for some of his friends to understand, so they leave him. Simon Peter chooses Jesus. He knows that following Jesus will give him a life of love and happiness.

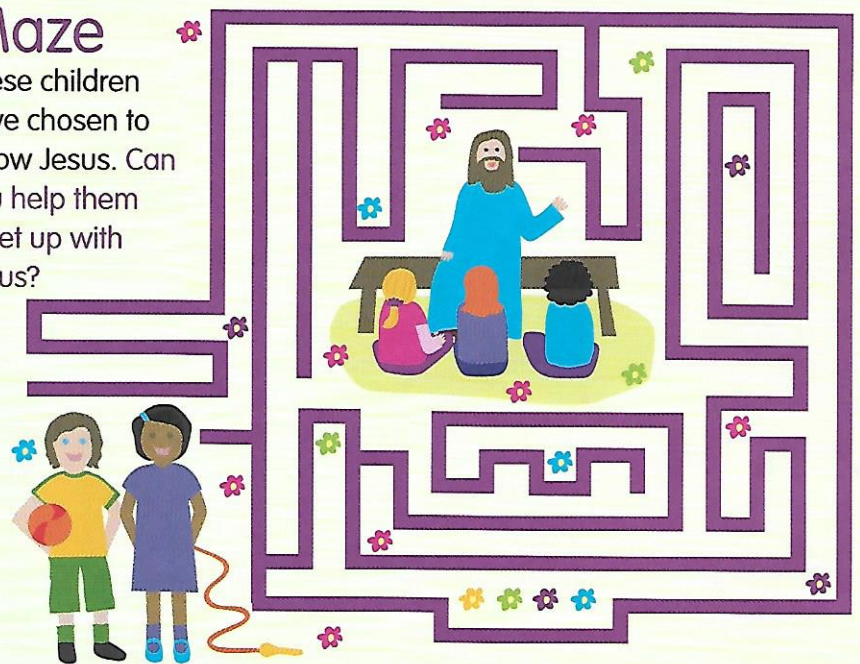
My friends

Simon Peter stayed with Jesus when some other friends left him. Who are your friends? Draw a happy picture of you and your friends with Jesus.



Maze

These children have chosen to follow Jesus. Can you help them meet up with Jesus?



A PRAYER TO SAY

Thank you, Jesus, for choosing me to be your friend. Help me to always choose you to be my friend. Help me to make good and loving choices so that I am a good friend to you. Amen.

Jesus has chosen us: are we choosing Jesus?

"As a Christian, and a follower of Jesus Christ, I try every day to....."
Circle the words below that show us following Jesus' teaching.

- think of others
- get very cross
- share my things
- treat my friends badly
- say my prayers
- be helpful at home