



WELCOME

TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 28th June Trinity 3

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

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk



Sunday 28th June Trinity 3

Lord Elton is giving this week's sermon.

Watch on our [Facebook](#) page or [YouTube](#) channel.

Available from 9am on Sunday 28th June.

9 - 10:00am Compton Beauchamp Church open for private prayer.

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

10:30am Bible Study Course. Live via Zoom. See page 2 for more information.

11 – noon Private prayer in Ashbury Church.

2:00pm ASK Holy Communion.

Live on [Facebook](#).

5 - 6:00pm Private prayer in Longcot Church.

6 - 7:30pm Private prayer in Watchfield Church.

Thursday

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#).

Sunday 5th July Trinity 4

9 - 10:00am Compton Beauchamp Church open for private prayer.

10:00am Holy Communion. Ashbury, St Mary.

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

All links, orders of services and readings will be posted on the services page of our website www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Shrivenham Open Gardens

Sunday 5th July from 2 – 5pm



Eleven gardens will be open.

Ticket & map £5

Accompanied children under 16 – free

On sale at Shrivenham Post Office in advance and from the church on the day.

In aid of St Andrew's Restoration Project

Latest News on Re-opening our Churches

It is funny how change creeps up on you.

We've been trying to put together a plan for re-opening the churches and it seemed more difficult than it ought to be. Then I realized: over the past 12 weeks, the Benefice has grown from seven churches into a group of eight, because we now have an online congregation as well. This is a joy, but it's also a challenge.

We need to keep what was best about services – all the things we've missed during lockdown – but also incorporate what we've gained. So we will move forward by baby steps. And we probably won't get it right first time, so please bear with us.

From 5th July there will be three services each Sunday: 9am morning prayer in one church (starting with Watchfield), 10am Holy Communion in another (starting with Ashbury) and what is now our normal 11am online service. As Shrivenham and Fernham are currently not open for public worship, it will take five weeks to have a service of each type in every church.

Do keep an eye on the website or Facebook to know what is happening where, or just ask me, Lucy or your churchwarden.

Our priority is to keep you safe in church so we will put in place all the hygiene and social distancing measures you would expect. This does limit capacity so, again, please bear with us. Also the churches will be closed for 72 hours between services to minimize the chance of infection. The churches in Ashbury, Longcot and Watchfield will normally be open for private prayer on a Wednesday, and Compton Beauchamp on a Sunday.

Please check for local opening times.

The churchwardens and I will review the rotas at the end of July when we've had a chance to see how things are working and what changes (if any) have been made to church and government guidance.

Please let me know what you think, too.

My email is at the top of the weekly sheet.

No organisation is going straight back to the way things were pre-lockdown, and the church is no different, but what has not changed is our commitment to you and to providing public worship and pastoral care to the best of our ability. However you choose to join us, we look forward to seeing you.

Please keep us in your prayers and know that you are in ours. Blessings, Norma

Revd Fergusson will be off duty from Monday 29th June until Saturday 4th July. For pastoral emergencies please call 07799 545035

For all other church enquiries, please contact a churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator (shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com)

Churches Open for Private Prayer



Ashbury Church, ready for worship and private prayer.

Our churches in Ashbury, Compton Beauchamp, Longcot and Watchfield are now open once a week for private prayer. See the services box above for details.

Please do not come into church if you think you may have symptoms of Covid 19.

Meanwhile, the regular online services i.e. Sunday 11am communion services; Morning Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays; together with the monthly ASK and Worship & Praise services will continue.

Bible Study Course - Taster Session

Wednesday 1st July 10:30am – noon.
Live via Zoom.

Over the coming weeks, we will be studying Paul's Letter to the Philippians, using material by Tom Wright (former Bishop of Durham).

Contact David Ahern for details of how to take part.
01793 783521 thestable@protonmail.com

If you would like to make a text donation to support your local church, please use the numbers below.

For Ashbury

Text **STMARYS 5** to **70085** to donate **£5**

For Shrivenham, Watchfield & Bourton

Text **SWB** to **70460** to donate **£5**

Text **SWB** to **70450** to donate **£10**

For Longcot and Fernham

Text **LONGCOT** to **70085** to donate **£4**

Lighting a Candle of Hope

We all need hope and lighting a candle is one way of encouraging both ourselves and others.

The flame may not be as obvious in these lighter evenings, but it is good to know that it is still there.



Image by congerdesign from Pixabay

This prayer from the Rev'd Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference, seems particularly appropriate as we resume services in our churches.

God of all hope we call on you today.

We pray for those who are living in fear:

Fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of other's reactions to them.

May your Spirit give us a sense of calmness and peace.

We pray for your church in this time of uncertainty. For those people who are worried about attending worship.

For those needing to make decisions in order to care for others
For those who will feel more isolated by not being able to attend.

Grant us your wisdom.

Holy God, we remember that you have promised that Nothing will separate us from your love – demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ.

Help us turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you.

Amen

Church Services by Telephone

Daily Hope offers music, prayers, and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England.

Dial 0800 804 8044 to hear a special greeting from the Archbishop, then choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections, traditional morning and evening prayer and advice on COVID-19. Calls are free of charge.

Church at Home services from the Diocese of Oxford can be accessed by telephone.

Dial 01865 920930 to hear the latest service (press 0= short service, 1= full service).

Normal call rates apply.

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in The Malthouses.