



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 25th April 4th Sunday of Easter



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Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

Face coverings are mandatory, and you should either scan the NHS test and trace QR code or use the sign-in sheets on entering. Hand sanitiser is available and remember to maintain social distancing.
 Please do not come into church if you think you may have symptoms of Covid 19.

Generosity Week 18th – 25th April

Every day we will share Morning Prayer on [Facebook](#), a link to a Podcast on our [website](#), and an “Act of Generosity or Gratitude” for all of us to consider.
 More information on page 2.

Sunday 25th

9:30am Longcot, St Mary. Holy Communion.
 10:00am Watchfield, St Thomas & [Facebook](#).
 Holy Communion (BCP).
 10:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew.
 Morning Prayer.
 10:30am Ashbury, St Mary. Morning Prayer.

Richard Fergusson is giving today's sermon.
 Watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) from 9am.

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#).
 Morning Prayer
 10:30am The Wisdom House via Zoom.
 See page 2 for more information.

Thursday

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

Saturday 1st May

10:00am Bourton, St James
 Family Service for the Feast of
 St James the Apostle

Sunday 2nd

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

Faringdon Food Bank

Although the number of infections due to the pandemic seems to be coming down daily, the economic impact on many families remains devastating. I read this week that the Trussell Trust saw a 47% increase in the numbers of people using foodbanks and this seems likely to continue.
 For this reason we have decided to provide collection points for donations to the Faringdon Food Bank in our churches.

Please bring your donations when the churches are open and we will deliver items on a regular basis.

At present the Food Bank particularly needs:

- long life milk and juice
- long life bread
- cereals and biscuits
- fruit and vegetables in tins
- pasta, pasta sauces
- gluten free meals
- shower gels, toothbrushes and shampoo

Please donate items with at least 6 months shelf life, longer if possible.

Norma

COME AND SEE

How was your journey?

The Diocese would love to know what you thought of Come and See. Please can you take five minutes to fill in this [online survey](#)? All responses are anonymous and your feedback will help them understand how they can do better next time.

As a Benefice we will continue our Come & See journey on 16th May when our services will include a renewal of baptism vow.

Auction of Promises

The villagers of Bourton have come together to celebrate generosity by holding an Auction of



Promises. Villagers have offered their time and skills in an effort to raise money for St James church.

From a forklift truck driving course to a professionally baked cake, from opera singing to gardening - we've discovered that Bourton is not only generous, but talented too! The catalogue of lots is available now and bids can be submitted until 24th April. You can find details on the village website bourton-oxon.org.uk or email us at bourton6@gmail.com. Happy bidding!

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Church Lane.

Benefice Generosity Week 18th – 25th April 2021

Giving and generosity are inextricably linked with living out the Christian faith. Giving at its core is in the nature of God – and we see this woven throughout the Bible in many guises.

Generosity is not just about giving financially, but also about living a generous life – sharing hospitality, time, attentiveness, and many other attributes. It is about our state of heart, and the relationship we have between material and spiritual things.

In order to think about our own generosity, we must begin by reflecting on the generous nature of God, and how we respond to that with gratitude and grace.

Join us daily at 9:00am on [Facebook](#) for Morning Prayer based on the following themes:

Saturday 24th: Sharing in Diversity

Sunday 25th: Love in Truth and Action

Click the podcast links on our [website](#)

to journey through the Bible with a range of different contributors from across the UK, as they bring experiences from their lives that speak of the generosity of God at work in the world today. Use the podcast to give yourself a bit of space each day to focus on generosity and how you can positively impact the world around you, maybe using the suggested “Acts of Generosity or Gratitude”.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this week – particularly those who gave so generously of their time to lead the online services. If you didn't get a sunflower seed, or would like some more, there are still some in the churches. Do help yourself – and let us know how they grow!

Longcot Village Trust Concerts

St. Mary's Church, Longcot
Saturday 22nd May at 3.30pm and 6.00pm

Two short concerts by the Clarinet Collective, a versatile group of professional clarinetists who also work freelance with some of London's leading orchestras. The programme will feature timeless classics by Mozart, Ravel and Elgar for clarinet sextet alongside popular music from the 20s, 30s and 40s, Gershwin's famous Rhapsody in Blue, some of Glen Miller's greatest hits and a medley of WW2 melodies.

FREE ADMISSION

Donations in aid of the Longcot Village Trust fund to build a community space in St Mary's Church, Longcot.

Due to Covid restrictions seats will be socially distanced and must be reserved in advance.

To make your reservation for either concert please email victorialmedcalf@gmail.com

Our churches will be open for private prayer from 18th - 25th April as follows:

Ashbury 10am – 4pm on Thursday

Compton Beauchamp 9am – 5pm daily

Longcot 10am – 3pm on Wednesday

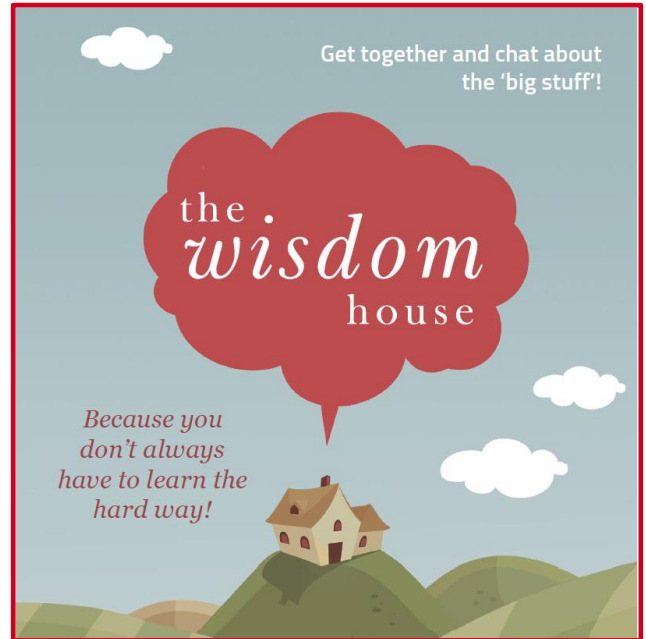
Shrivenham 9am – 5pm daily

and to view the Easter Garden.

Watchfield 10am – 4pm on Wednesday

Our condolences to the family and friends of the late Veronica Strange who died recently. Please keep them in your prayers.

The Wisdom House



Often in life we are told that the most important lessons must be learnt the hard way, but does it always have to be like this?

Join us for “The Wisdom House”, eight free sessions looking at different aspects of life that affect our relationships and how we respond to people in different life situations.

Each session lasts approximately 75 minutes and includes a short, animated video story, a talk on the weekly topic, a group discussion and a few reflections.

“The Wisdom House” will run online via Zoom at 10:30am on Wednesdays from 21st April to 9th June.

Contact Jane Ahern for the Zoom link.

thetable@protonmail.com

St Swithun's Church needs your help!



We are looking for some volunteers to help us clear ivy off a number of our tombstones in St Swithun's Churchyard, Compton Beauchamp. The first session will be the afternoon of Friday 7th May. If you have suitable cutting equipment, please bring it along