



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 23rd May Pentecost

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Please remember that, even though many of us have now had one or more vaccinations, the coronavirus is still circulating and we can still transmit it.

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.

Sunday 23rd Pentecost

9:30am Longcot, St Mary.
Morning Prayer.

9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas.
Holy Communion (BCP).

10:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew.
Holy Communion.

We will be serving coffee after the service.

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#).
Holy Communion.

3:00pm St Andrew's Churchyard & [Facebook](#).
Annual Covenant Service with
Shrivenham Methodist Church.

Looking at the current weather forecast it's likely that the service will have to be moved inside.

We will leave it as late as possible (Saturday morning!!) to make the final decision.

Rev'd Norma 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.

Thursday

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

Sunday 30th

Trinity Sunday

9:30am Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#).
Holy Communion.

10:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew.
Holy Communion.

2:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas
Baptism

Sunday School Meeting

10:30am on Saturday 22nd May
in St Mary's Ashbury

In 1777 Revd Thomas Stock, Curate of Ashbury, formed what is believed to be the first Sunday School in the country. We have a meeting on 22nd May to see if we can revive a Sunday School for our Benefice today. We are looking for volunteers to help lead a Sunday School once a month at 3.00pm on Sundays from September.

Each Sunday School session will end with a short family service at 4.15pm called "Come and See with Cake and Tea" (so volunteers for cakes etc as well please!), an opportunity for parents and other family members to see what the children have been working at and to join with them in worship.

We hope we might be able to run Sunday School at Ashbury, Longcot, and Watchfield every month in school term IF we get the volunteers.

Longcot Flower Festival 'A Village Celebration'

A 1940's theme with a street party and designs featuring Longcot tales.

St Mary's Church will be open daily from 10am to 4pm until Sunday 23rd May (10 – 11am only on Saturday 22nd)

Cream Teas in Robert and Jill Baker's garden at Treetops, The Green from 1 to 4pm daily.

After the flower festival, there will be a final service at St Mary's next Sunday (30th) before work begins to repair and refurbish the building, including a toilet, kitchen and mezzanine. It is wonderful to write that sentence as it marks the end of many years of hard work by many people in the village but particularly Keith Reid, who has done so much to hold the various strands of the project together. We look forward to welcoming you back to St Mary's towards the end of the year when the work has been completed.



Signing the contract for the building work

Longcot Village Trust Concerts

St. Mary's Church, Longcot on Saturday 22nd May

The two concerts by the Clarinet Collective in aid of the Longcot Village Trust fund to build a community space in St Mary's Church are now fully booked.

If you would like to make a donation to the LVT Fund please visit <https://gofund.me/84c06298>

St Swithun's Church needs your help!

We are looking for volunteers to help us clear weeds in St Swithun's Churchyard, Compton Beauchamp. on Friday 4th June from 2pm onwards. If you have suitable equipment and gloves please bring them along.

Annual Parish Meetings

Shrivenham, W & B Wednesday 2nd June 7:30pm
Compton Beauchamp Saturday 12th June 11am
Longcot & Fernham Wednesday 14th July 7pm

Meetings will be held in church if permitted by regulations in place at the time, otherwise via Zoom.

If you would like to become a member of your PCC, please contact the PCC Secretary or churchwarden.

Parish Electoral Rolls are being updated before the meetings. If you would like to join the Roll or your contact details have changed, please contact your church's PCC Secretary or Churchwarden.

Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Ashbury Hill.

Our churches will be open for private prayer from 23rd to 30th May as follows:

Ashbury 10am – 4pm on Thursday
Compton Beauchamp 9am – 5pm daily
Longcot 10am – 4pm on Wednesday
Shrivenham 9am – 5pm daily
Watchfield 10am – 4pm on Wednesday

If you have donations for the Faringdon Food Bank please leave them in the box provided in each church.

Benefice Prayer for Renewal

Heavenly Father, in Jesus name we ask for a fresh outpouring of your Holy Spirit on our Benefice.

Help us to grow in or experience of your love, forgiveness and healing. Challenge our contentment to stay as we are. Renew our vision of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. That through our words and the way we live, others may be drawn to his way. Give us the wisdom to seek your will and grant us the joy that comes from wholeheartedly following it. For your Glory and the good of all your people. Amen

This prayer was written by Revd Nicholas Gandy OGS and is used with his blessing.

A huge thank you to Shirley Dalton-Morris for putting together this wonderful flower festival, to everyone who contributed such beautiful displays and those who allowed us to share these photographs.

