



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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**Sunday 1st August Trinity 9 Lammas Day**



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

For the time being we will continue to ask you to wear a mask during services, to observe social distancing and either to sign in or use the QR code.

Should you prefer not to do this, we ask you to be respectful of those who have made a different choice and to give them the space they need.

Hand sanitiser is available.

Holy Communion will continue to be offered in one kind only.

## Sunday 1st August

Richard Fergusson is giving today's sermon  
Watch on Facebook or YouTube from 9:00am

- 7:45am Shrivenham, 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 Fernham, St John  
Family Service
- 10:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew (**revised time**)  
Family Service with Baptism
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Morning Prayer
- 2:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Baptism
- 3:00pm Longcot Methodist Chapel  
Joint Service
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Compline and Benediction

## Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 1:00pm Bereavement Café  
St Andrew's Vicarage Garden

## Wednesday

- 9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Morning Prayer
- 2:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
ASK Holy Communion  
with Bishop Gavin

## Thursday

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

## Sunday 8th

- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas  
Matins (BCP)
- 9:30am Fernham, St John  
Holy Communion
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion (revised time)
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Holy Communion
- 2:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Baptism

**"The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord"**  
Psalm 119:64

Many of you will remember the Generosity Week we celebrated as a Benefice back in April. At each service, we offered you a Sunflower seed as an example of God's generosity in creation and what can be achieved as we work with God as stewards of creation and co-workers with God in caring for the things of this earth, generous with our time, and talents, and the material things with which God has blessed us.

Some of you have reported on how those Sunflower seeds have grown over these last months of sunshine, rain, and warmth; now flowering in your gardens, pots, and backyards, one small dull seed has become a bright shining flower with a centre producing an abundance of seed "full of the goodness of the Lord".



This is what comes of acknowledging God's generosity towards us and responding with an open, generous heart ourselves. And we have seen what our generosity can bring in the transformation of our church buildings at St Andrew's, St John's Fernham, and at St Mary's in both Ashbury and Longcot. We now have buildings suited to good community use as well as the comfort of our congregations.

As we continue to respond to God's generosity towards us in a thankful, generous mirroring of all that God has given we can surely meet the challenges and opportunities for service, ministry, and outreach across the communities for which we care. Thank you!

This Sunday, 1st August, as well as being the Ninth Sunday after Trinity, is Lammas Day. The ancient harvest festival at which the first loaf made from the freshly harvested wheat or barley was brought to church. This is a festival of the first fruits of the harvest. The people brought faithfully and thankfully the very first of the crop, trusting that God would provide all that was needed for our own use in the months to come.

How is your Sunflower doing? Let us have a picture to celebrate its growth and fruitfulness. Keep on giving of yourselves with a generous and joyful heart in co-operation with God, the giver of all.

Paul

### Come and meet the new Bishop of Dorchester



Bishop Gavin will be visiting the Benefice to attend the ASK Holy Communion service at St Andrew's on Wednesday 4th August at 2pm and all are welcome to come along. Tea and cake will be served afterwards.

### Benefice Pilgrimage Sunday 15th August

We often talk about our "Christian journey" and for many this is purely figurative, but for others it is literally true as they walk to or between holy places, meeting God in new ways as they go.

We would like to recreate this ancient practice in the Benefice, starting with a walk from Bourton St James to Shrivenham St Andrew (and back for those who feel energetic!) on Sunday 15th August.

We will leave Bourton at 3pm, arriving at St Andrew's for a service, tea and cake, leaving again at about 5pm. Bourton Club have kindly allowed us to use their car park - and the bar will be open for refreshment when we get back.

Everyone is welcome to join us, even if only for the walk and tea!

For more details, please contact Richard Fergusson (01793 780057) or David Watson (01793 783405)

### St Andrew's Cleaning Team

Can you help please? The intention is to have a team of four maintaining the cleanliness in St Andrew's each week. With six teams it is not an onerous task, but we are short of volunteers. If you can spare about an hour once every six weeks to join a team, please contact Penny Hockley [pennykh48@gmail.com](mailto:pennykh48@gmail.com)

**PS Volunteers welcome at St Mary's Ashbury too!**

### Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Kingstone Winslow.

### Piano in St Andrew's



We have been fortunate in being offered a modern Yamaha piano from the Defence Academy theatre. Our existing piano (pictured) was given to us many years ago on 'indefinite loan' by Eunice Cox, who has since passed away. We understand she has a son so we would like to contact him so we can get instruction on the future of her piano prior to seeing if anyone would like to give it a new home. Please get in touch if you know how we can contact her son or if you might be interested in the piano itself.

David Watson 01793 783405

[shrivenhamchurchwarden@outlook.com](mailto:shrivenhamchurchwarden@outlook.com)

### Wedding Blessing at St James Bourton

Tom Fogden and Parris Bigley were married in February, when Covid regulations restricted attendance to six. How lovely to be able to welcome a congregation full of family and friends for their wedding blessing in St James on 24th July.



### Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child at St Mary's Ashbury

Another happy family occasion, this time at St Mary's Ashbury, a service of thanksgiving for the gift of a child.

Wilfred with his parents.

