



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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

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Associate Vicar: The Rev'd Canon Paul Richardson. Tel 01793 710241

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Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



## Sunday 15th August Trinity 11

**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 15th August

Rev'd Norma 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 Matins (BCP)
9:30am	Watchfield, St Thomas Matins (BCP)
9:30am	Fernham, St John Morning Prayer
10:15am	Shrivenham, St Andrew & <a href="#">Facebook</a> Holy Communion ( <b>revised time</b> )
11:00am	Ashbury, St Mary Taizé Service
4:30pm	Shrivenham, St Andrew & <a href="#">Facebook</a> Benefice Pilgrimage Service

### Tuesday

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

### Wednesday

9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Morning Prayer

### Thursday

9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)  
6:00pm Bereavement Café  
St Andrew's Vicarage Garden

### Sunday 22nd

9:30am	Watchfield, St Thomas Holy Communion (BCP)
9:30am	Fernham, St John Holy Communion
10:15am	Shrivenham, St Andrew Morning Prayer
11:00am	Ashbury, St Mary & <a href="#">Facebook</a> Holy Communion

### 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 of approximately 1¼ miles from Bourton St James to Shrivenham St Andrew (and back for those who feel energetic!).

We will leave Bourton at 3pm. Tea and cake will be served in St Andrew's from 4pm, with a service at 4:30pm, then departing for Bourton 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!

Download the map and directions from our [website](#).  
More information from David Watson (01793 783405)

### Benefice Sunday School

We are hoping to start the Benefice Sunday School and "Come and See with Cake and Tea" family service on Sunday afternoons from September 26th this year.

This is the "crunch" moment. Can we recruit enough leaders and helpers to make sure that we can go ahead with this outreach to families and young children in our parishes? We need your help.

Please could you consider whether you are willing to volunteer up to 2 hrs of your time at least one Sunday a month during school term times, and/or if you could pass on this request to a friend or neighbour who you think might be able to do so.

Please get in touch with Canon Paul Richardson if you are able to help. 01793 710241  
[associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### Bereavement Café

Thursday 19th August at 6pm  
St Andrew's Vicarage Garden

An informal, friendly get-together for anyone who has been bereaved at any time. Come for a cuppa, a chat and mutual support. Open to all, regardless of faith or beliefs. There is no charge.

More information from Rose-Anne O'Hare or Rev'd Norma Fergusson.

[roseanne.o@outlook.com](mailto:roseanne.o@outlook.com) 01793 784017  
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### Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Odstone Farm & Cottages.

### In fine voice and ready to sing all together!



I'm pleased to report that the Benefice Choir has managed to sing through most of this year and is ready and raring to go for the months ahead.

Despite the challenges posed by social distancing and a limit on numbers, the choir have managed to sing at six services since April, in five different churches and with just six singers each time. We've been rehearsing and singing at services in small groups but the change in regulations mean we can at last look forward to singing all together. We can't wait!

Even though it's months since we've been able to meet en masse, our choir has, in fact, grown in number, with new members joining from across the Benefice.

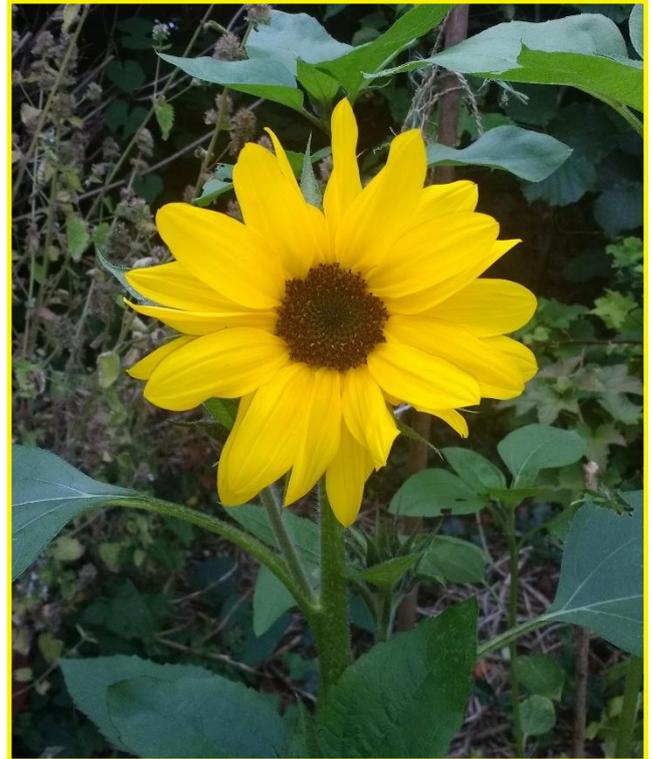
If you'd like to join us, we'd love to see you. We rehearse in St Andrew's every Thursday at 6:30pm for an hour. There's no audition and no requirement to be able to read music. We learn everything together and have some fun along the way!

If you'd like to know more, please get in touch.

Claire Hartley [chartley.music@gmail.com](mailto:chartley.music@gmail.com)

### More Generosity Week Sunflowers

At each service during the Benefice Generosity Week in April, we offered you a Sunflower seed as an example of God's generosity in creation.



This beauty almost didn't make it. My seeds were planted in the cat's favourite spot for rolling in the dust and he managed to squash a few before I surrounded them with sticks. He doesn't look too pleased!



Photos: Lucy Laird

How is your Sunflower doing? Let us have a picture to celebrate its growth and fruitfulness.

### Spies in the Village

A treasure trail around Shrivenham  
First prize £20  
Solve it by 30th September

Some spies have raided the Defence Academy and stolen some secret documents!! The Security Services are on their trail. They have discovered that the spies are hiding out in a house in the village but need your help to find out where.

One of the spies is a double agent and works undercover for the Security Services. This agent has left clues around the village to help you discover the house they are hiding in, the room in the house and the combination number of the safe the documents are locked away in.

Clues and Map (£5) from Shrivenham Post Office or Churchwardens David 783405 and Julian782065

In aid of St Andrew's Restoration Project

Our condolences to the family and friends of the late Margaret Penny.  
Please keep them in your prayers.

If you would like to make a text donation to support the work of the churches in our Benefice, please

**Text GIVEfive to 70470 to donate £5**

**Text GIVEten to 70470 to donate £10**

Your standard text message rate applies. **Thank you!**