



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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

[vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

Associate Vicar: Vacancy

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



## Sunday 3rd April 2022

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

Wearing a face covering indoors is no longer mandatory but we would encourage you to exercise discretion, especially in larger services or smaller churches.

Please respect the concerns of others in the congregation. Hand sanitizer is available.

Holy Communion will be offered in one kind only.

### Sunday 3rd April

We are sharing Bishop Steven's weekly 'Come and See' films as our sermons during Lent. Watch on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or our [website](#) from 9:00am

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun  
Matins (BCP)
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary  
Family Service
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Family Service
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Morning Prayer
- 2:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Baptism
- 3:00pm Longcot Methodist Chapel  
United Service
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Compline and Benediction

### Tuesday

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

### Wednesday

- 9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Morning Prayer
- 9:15am Song and Stories Toddler Group  
Shrivenham Methodist Church
- 10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom
- 2:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
ASK Holy Communion
- 6:00pm Benefice Wardens' Meeting  
St Andrew's Church
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Vicarage

### Thursday

- 9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9:00am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's
- 7:45pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Compline for Lent

### Friday

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

### Saturday

- 19:00am Children's Clothing Giveaway  
St Andrew's Church Shrivenham
- 10:00am Café Inspire in Shrivenham School Hall

### Palm Sunday 10th April

Please come and join our Palm Sunday Procession with Donkeys through Shrivenham followed by an Ecumenical Family Service in St Andrew's.

- 8:00am Longcot, St Mary  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10:00am Palm Sunday Procession starting at  
Shrivenham Methodist Church
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Palm Sunday Benefice Family Service  
with Choir
- 3:00pm Ashbury, St Mary  
Memorial Service – Stan Mellor

### Benefice Sunday School – Palm Sunday 10th April

This month we are inviting the Sunday School children to join us for the Palm Sunday procession with donkeys from Shrivenham Methodist Church to St Andrew's.

Sunday School will next meet at St Thomas' Watchfield on 8th May.



The donkeys were unable to join us last year, processing around Pennyhooks Farm instead!

### Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for all who live and work in Idstone in Ashbury, and Constantine Close in Shrivenham.

### Church Electoral Rolls

Church electoral rolls will be revised before the annual parish meetings. Please let your parish Electoral Roll Officer know if your contact details have changed since last year. If you would like to join the electoral roll, please contact your church's PCC Secretary or Churchwarden, or pick up an application form in church.

### Annual Parish Meetings

- Shrivenham, W & B** Tuesday 19th April 6:30pm
  - Compton Beauchamp** Saturday 30th April 11am
  - Longcot & Fernham** Tuesday 10th May 6pm
  - Ashbury** Tuesday 24th May 7pm
- All welcome

**Day of Prayer for Ukraine  
Sunday 3rd April**



Churches Together in England is inviting churches to join together in an act of witness to pray and light candles for Ukraine, for an end to the conflict and for all those affected by the terrible impact of war.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and CTE President, Justin Welby, said:

“When we pray, we invite the presence of God into the messiness and darkness of our world.

When we pray together, we witness to the possibility of unity and the promise of reconciliation that God promises us in Jesus Christ.

I urge all Christians to come together on the 3rd of April to pray and light candles for the people and the peace of Ukraine: to pray for hope for those fearful of the future, to pray for God’s comfort for those suffering, and to pray for the Holy Spirit to turn hearts towards the compassion and justice that the resurrected Christ promises us will eventually prevail.”

**A Prayer for Ukraine**

God of all peoples and nations,  
Who created all things alive and breathing,  
United and whole,  
Show us the way of peace that is your overwhelming presence.

We hold before you the peoples of Ukraine and Russia,  
Every child and every adult.

We long for the time

When weapons of war are beaten into ploughshares  
When nations no longer lift up sword against nation.

We cry out to you for peace;

Protect those who only desire and deserve to live in security and safety

Comfort those who fear for their lives and the lives of their loved ones

Be with those who are bereaved.

Change the hearts of those set on violence and aggression

And fill leaders with the wisdom that leads to peace.

Kindle again in us a love of our neighbour,

And a passion for justice to prevail  
and a renewed recognition that we all play a part in peace.

Creator of all hear our prayer

And bring us peace. Make us whole. Amen.

**Foam-free Floral Demonstration  
at St Mary's Church, Ashbury**

Lorna and Kathryn from Skylark Flowers are passionate about the sustainable church flowers movement.



On Wednesday 30th March twenty-one flower arrangers spent an enjoyable morning learning about the alternatives to using floral foam, which is non-biodegradable and has been banned by the RHS.

Lorna and Kathryn showed how to produce beautiful arrangements using in season British flowers. Everyone had an opportunity to have a go using moss, twigs, chicken wire and pebbles instead of floral foam.

Some beautiful arrangements were produced and attendees went away full of enthusiasm for trying new ways of arranging flowers.



If you are interested, and would like to know more please contact Margaret Smith  
[mbsmith5@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mbsmith5@hotmail.co.uk),  
or Lorna and Kathryn Murray at Skylark Flowers  
07795 486336 [info@skylarkflowercompany.co.uk](mailto:info@skylarkflowercompany.co.uk)

**Support for Ukraine**

The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) charities and their local partners in Ukraine and neighbouring countries are providing food, water, shelter and medical assistance.

To make a cash donation visit

<https://donation.dec.org.uk/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>