



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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**Sunday 12th March 2023**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**Please do not come into church if you think you may have symptoms of Covid 19.**  
Please respect the concerns of others in the congregation. Hand sanitizer is available.

## **Sunday 12th March**

We are sharing Bishop Steven's weekly 'Come and See' films as our sermons during Lent.

Watch on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or our [website](#) from 9am.

- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary  
Holy Communion
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas.  
Matins
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Holy Communion
- 3:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas  
Benefice Sunday School

## **Monday**

- 6:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Compline for Lent

## **Tuesday**

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

## **Wednesday**

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9:15am Song and Stories Toddler Group  
Shrivenham Methodist Church
- 10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Vicarage

## **Thursday**

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9:00am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's  
Confirmation Class, St Andrew's Vicarage

## **Friday**

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 3:00pm Bourton, St James  
Funeral – Richard Gleave RIP
- 5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Worship and Praise

## **Saturday**

- 8:30am Men's Breakfast  
Prince of Wales, Shrivenham
- 11:30am Bourton, St James  
Ashes Interment – Fred Jefferies RIP

## **Mothering Sunday 19th March**

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew  
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun  
Matins
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary  
Morning Prayer
- 9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas.  
Matins
- 10:00am Bourton, St James  
Holy Communion by Extension
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Mothering Sunday Service

## **Come and See**

### **The portrait**

From the beginning of his ministry Jesus invites women and men to follow him, to be his disciples.



**COME  
AND  
SEE**

Have you answered the call?  
[oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/)

In this week's film the Bishop of Oxford asks us to consider the Beatitudes as a portrait of Jesus, the one the crowds have gone up the mountains to see.

They sense something in Jesus which is unique, different. It's more than the miracles. It's more than the wisdom of his teaching. It is the person he is: somehow Jesus embodies and inhabits each of these qualities.

Almighty God has become a person and shown us a different way to live.

'Come and See' is a free series of daily emails throughout Lent which include a scripture reading, a reflection and a moment to pause and be encouraged before the busyness of the day begins.

**If you prefer not to sign up to the daily emails, the Diocese posts a link to each day's resources on its website. There is also a link to a weekly set of resources especially for children and families.**

Visit <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/>

## **Benefice Sunday School 12th March at 3pm**

St Thomas' Church Watchfield  
followed by refreshments  
in the Village Hall.

Open to all children aged 4 – 11 in the Benefice.

Any parent/s who wish to stay for the whole time are welcome to do so, as extra help is always appreciated.

## **Condolences**

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

### 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

<b>Shrivenham, W &amp; B</b>	Tuesday 18th April 7pm
<b>Compton Beauchamp</b>	Saturday 22nd April 11am
<b>Longcot &amp; Fernham</b>	Tuesday 25th April 6pm
<b>Ashbury</b>	Thursday 27th April 7pm

All welcome

### Friday Morning Café

Shrivenham Methodist Church



The Café is open between 10am and 1pm on Friday mornings serving drinks, biscuits and soup. There is a toddler play area and Wi-Fi is available.

Everyone is welcome.

### The Well at Watchfield

Tuesday 14th March at 7:30pm

The Well met at Rove's Farm in February, helping out again with the Wonky Veg project which supports the community. We shall be having another regular evening meeting at AFCU offices (Unit 24 in the Business Park) on Tuesday 14th March at 7:30pm.

The Well continues to grow (or deepen!) each month with new people attending - we have also established a link with the Swindon Drop-in Centre and that has proved valuable.

The Well gathering is a safe and resourceful space for anyone affected by issues around post-conflict trauma, moral injury or PTSD. That might be because of your own active military service or very possibly for those connected through family links. All are very welcome to just listen, or to be listened to, in friendly and militarily-savvy company. Refreshments will be included, and we finish by around 9:15pm.

If you have any questions please email [jeremyclare@hotmail.com](mailto:jeremyclare@hotmail.com)

### Just when it seemed that Spring was on its way!



Ashbury crossroads post box. Photo: Maggie Simons



Daffodils peeping through the snow. Photo: Erica Crabtree

### A 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 our 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

Revd Nicholas Gandy OGS



Ashbury churchyard. Photo: Richard Fergusson