



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338
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Sunday 2nd April 2023

Palm Sunday



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.

Palm Sunday 2nd April

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

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

Please come and join our Palm Sunday Procession with donkeys through Shrivenham followed by a Benefice Service with the Methodists in St Andrew's.

- 7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:45am Palm Sunday Procession with donkeys starting at Shrivenham Methodist Church
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Palm Sunday Service with Benefice Choir

Monday

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

Tuesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline for Lent

Wednesday

- 9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 2:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
ASK Holy Communion
- 7:00pm Wednesday Study Group
St Andrew's Church, followed by
- 8:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline for Lent

Maundy Thursday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's
- 7:00pm Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion with Foot Washing

Good Friday

- 9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
- 9.30am Shrivenham Methodist Church
Good Friday Service
- 10:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Messy Church Easter Garden Drop-In
More information on page 2
- 12 noon Longcot, St Mary
An Hour at the Cross
- 2:00pm Ashbury, St Mary
An Hour at the Cross

Easter Eve Saturday 8th April

- 10:00am Café Inspire in Shrivenham School Hall
- 5:30pm Watchfield, St Thomas
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 8:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Easter Vigil with the Benefice Choir

The service will include an illustrated talk by Dr Peter Foot entitled 'Judas – one of us?'

The Easter Eve service is one of the most beautiful services of the Christian year, filled with imagery, symbolism and deep meaning as the new Easter Light is brought into the church.

Easter Sunday 9th April

- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9:30am Longcot, St Mary
Holy Communion
- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion
- 11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion

Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday mornings are not open during the school Easter holidays.

Come and See

The habits

How can we live the Christian life with courage and compassion in an imperfect world?



COME AND SEE

The Beatitudes help us to put on the character of Christ.
[oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see)

This week's film – 'The Habits'

The Beatitudes invite us to put on the character of Jesus each time we read them - to inhabit a way of living and be the best we can be.

This is the final part of our Come and See journey for 2023. But things don't end here...

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/>

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in High Street in Ashbury, and Colton Road in Shrivenham.



Messy Church
Easter Garden Drop-In
 Good Friday 7th April
 St Andrew's Church Shrivenham

Call in at any time between 10:00am & 11:30am, there's no need to book.

Plant some flowers, make a tree and help us construct the Easter Garden which will be displayed in the church porch throughout the Easter season.

There will also be hot cross buns, tea, coffee and squash to enjoy together.

Ashbury Churchyard 'Spring Clean'



Thank you all so much for another fantastic spring clean of the old and new Churchyards on Saturday 25th March. What was particularly appreciated was that our team this year comprised so many "younger" couples many of whom have been in the village less than two years. Their agility, stamina and strength are a great help.

This year, whilst it was a consolidation of the work that had been achieved in previous years, there were an amazing number of twigs and branches to be cleared following the recent gales. Barrow load after barrow load were seen crossing to Charlie's bonfire.

Something we had not previously tackled was the southern boundary of the old Churchyard especially around the badger holes including removing the arisings from the holes falling onto the back footpath.

Also tackled this year for the first time in some years was the hedgerow on the right of the footpath going into the new churchyard. In addition, we continued for a second year to extend our works in the Church car park.

A real community effort. Even the weather was kind!

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 18th April 7pm
Compton Beauchamp Saturday 22nd April 11am
Longcot & Fernham Tuesday 25th April 6pm
Ashbury Thursday 27th April 7pm
 All welcome

Wednesday Study Groups from 19th April

We are offering two programmes for the five weeks from 19th April.

The morning, online, group will be looking at 1 John whilst the evening group will look at Living in Love and Faith, a course prepared by the national church, which helps us to explore Christian teaching and learning about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

We believe this course is more suited to face-to-face discussions and, if numbers are sufficient, we will meet in St Andrew's rather than the vicarage so please let Norma know if you are thinking about coming along. We believe it will be particularly helpful to PCCs who will be discussing the implications of any decisions made by the national church in the years ahead.

The choice of 1 John for the mornings was prayerfully made: it is John who tells us that "Those who live in love, live in God and God lives in them" and also "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." We want the evening discussions to be grounded in that love, even where we disagree on complicated and sensitive matters, so both groups will hold each other in prayer. If you'd like to know more, please contact Norma.

01793 784338 vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday | **Starting at**
8th April | **St Thomas' Church,**
1pm - 3:30 pm | **Watchfield**

Everyone welcome! **£1.50 entry**

All proceeds to St Thomas' Church