



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338
vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Associate Vicar: The Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu. 07471434276
associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



Sunday 26th November 2023 Sunday next before Advent

Sunday 26th November

Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu is giving today's online sermon.
Watch on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or our [website](#).

10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Benefice Holy Communion with Choir
for the Feast of St Andrew

Tuesday

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

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](#)
3:15pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
Messy Church
5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
ASK Evening Prayer
6:00pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

Friday 1st December

9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)
3:15pm Bourton, St James
Pinewood School Service

Saturday

10:00am Bourton, St James
Family Service
3:00pm Cremation – Sylvia Jessica (Sue) King
South Oxfordshire Crematorium

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in
College Farm Lane in Ashbury, and Stonefield Close
and Glebe Close in Shrivenham.

Advent Sunday 3rd December

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 Longcot, St Mary
Holy Communion
10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew.
Family Service
11:00am Ashbury, St Mary
Morning Prayer
5:30pm Fernham, St John & [Facebook](#)
Advent Carols with the Benefice Choir
and St Andrew's Handbell Ringers

Looking to the Future – Your Next Vicar

Thank you to everyone who came along to the informal
consultation in Shrivenham Memorial Hall last Sunday,
and to those who helped to make it so successful.

We will be reviewing your comments and suggestions
as we prepare an updated Benefice Profile, the next
step towards appointing a new Vicar.

There's still time to take part in the consultation
via our online survey which is available at
<https://s.surveypal.com/v3h79lf9>.

If you would like a paper copy, please contact the
Benefice Administrator (Lucy Laird) or pick one up
in church. All survey responses are anonymous.

01793 783519 info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Baby and Toddler Group



Please note that the group which meets in St Andrew's
is not meeting this week (Thursday 30th November).

The last open session this term will be on Thursday 7th
December. They will be having a Christmas party on
Thursday 14th December, but places must be booked in
advance. Please contact Hazel Morris on 07931 225 530

The group will restart on Thursday 11th January 2024.

What's Your Favourite Carol?

We will once again be sharing
a carol every day on Facebook
from Advent Sunday until
Christmas Day.

As last year we are inviting you to
join in and tell us about your
favourite carol and why you like it.

Record a short video (no longer
than 2 minutes, but shorter is
fine!) and email it to us.

Or get in touch and we'll do the filming for you.
01793 783519 info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Each post will include a link to a specially chosen
version of the carol on YouTube.



The Torriano Ensemble Autumn Concert



Last Sunday evening saw the return of the Torriano Ensemble to St Mary's Longcot for their Autumn Concert.

It was a wonderful evening of music for flute, clarinet, bassoon and strings. It also proved to be an excellent fund raiser for Longcot Village Trust and St Mary's Church. Thank you to everybody who contributed to the success of the concert from those moving chairs and pews, selling drinks, handing out programmes, collecting donations, welcoming and closing the event, the highly appreciative audience, but most of all to the musicians.

Operation Christmas Child



Thank you to everyone who packed a shoebox and brought it along to the service at St Mary's Ashbury last Sunday. They have now been delivered to the Highworth Collection Centre for the next stage of their journey. It's not too late to make a difference to a child in need this Christmas – visit the Samaritan's Purse website to pack your own box or purchase a pre-packed shoebox. www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Confirmation

Bishop Gavin is coming to St Mary's Church, Longworth, on Saturday 2nd March for a service of confirmation.

If you think you might be interested in being confirmed and would like to find out more, please talk to Norma or Patrick and we will arrange classes after Christmas.



Shrivenham, St Andrew
Thursday 30th November
from 3:15 – 5pm

Messy Church is a church
with a difference!

A chance to be creative, hear Bible stories, eat yummy food and have fun with friends and family.
Suggested donation of £1.50 per child.

To book click [here](#), or email

standfast.shrivenham@yahoo.com

Messy Church is open to the whole Benefice.

Advent Calendars and Christmas Cards

Margaret Hern has a good selection of Christian charity Christmas cards and Advent calendars for sale.

Margaret lives in Shrivenham.

Ring her to arrange a time to visit. 01793 782100

Christmas Services

Sunday 10th December

- 3:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas
Carol Service with the Benefice Choir and handbells
- 5:45pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
Christingle followed by Carols around the Tree
- 6:30pm Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun
Carol Service with the Benefice Choir and handbells

Saturday 16th December

- 5:00pm Ashbury, St Mary
Carol Service with the Benefice Choir and handbells

Sunday 17th December

- 4:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
Carol Service with the Benefice Choir and handbells
- 6:30pm Longcot, St Mary. Also live on Facebook.
Carol Service with the Benefice Choir and handbells

Wednesday 20th December

- 5:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
Cloths for the Cradle

Thursday 21st December

- 10:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Messy Church Christmas Drop-in
- 5:00pm Fernham, Elmside Green
Village Carols

Friday 22nd December

- 6:00pm Ashbury Village Crossroads
Stations of the Nativity

Christmas Eve

- 9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 4:00pm Ashbury, St Mary
Crib Service
- 4:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
Crib Service
- 4:00pm Bourton, St James
Village Carols
- 5:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas
Holy Communion (BCP)
- 11:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew
Midnight Mass
- 11:30pm Longcot, St Mary
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

- 10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew. Also live on Facebook.
Holy Communion
- 10:30am Ashbury, St Mary
Family Service with Communion by Extension

Sunday 31st December

- 11:00am Watchfield, St Thomas. Also live on Facebook.
Benefice Communion