



# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

## Sunday 21st March    Passiontide    Lent 5

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

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

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

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

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



**Service details were accurate at the time of publication. Please visit the Benefice website for up-to-date information.**

[www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### Sunday 21st March

9:00am	Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun Holy Communion (BCP)
9:30am	Ashbury, St Mary Morning Prayer
10:00am	Shrivenham, St Andrew Morning Prayer
10:00am	Watchfield, St Thomas Holy Communion (BCP). Also live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .
5:30pm	Shrivenham, St Andrew Evensong (BCP). Live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .

Canon Paul Richardson is giving today's sermon.  
Watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) from 9am.

Rev'd Norma Fergusson's sermon for Evensong  
is available on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) from 5pm.

### Tuesday

9:00am	Morning Prayer. Live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .
11:45am	Shrivenham, St Andrew National Day of Reflection Service. Also live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .

### Wednesday

9:00am	Shrivenham, St Andrew Morning Prayer. Live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .
10:30am	The Prayer Course via Zoom.

### Thursday

9:00am	Matins (BCP). Live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .
7:45pm	Compline for Lent. Live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .

### Palm Sunday 28th March

9:00am	Ashbury, St Mary Holy Communion. Live on <a href="#">Facebook</a> .
10:15am	Shrivenham, St Andrew's Churchyard. Palm Sunday service with donkeys.

**Our churches will be open for private prayer  
from 21st – 28th March as follows:**

Ashbury 10am – 4pm on Tuesday & Thursday  
C. Beauchamp 9am – 5pm on Tuesday & Sunday  
Longcot 10am – 3pm on Tuesday & Wednesday  
Shrivenham 9am – 5pm on Tuesday & Sunday  
Watchfield 10am – 4pm on Tuesday & Wednesday

**Face coverings are mandatory, and you should either scan the NHS test and trace QR code or use the sign-in sheets on entering. Hand sanitiser is available and remember to maintain social distancing.**

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

## National Day of Reflection 23 March

### **Marie Curie National Day of Reflection 23rd March**

Since the first lockdown began in 2020, hundreds of thousands of people have died. Too many lives have been cut short and millions have been bereaved. Behind the statistics and whatever the cause, every death has been devastating for the people left behind. Join us on 23rd March, the first anniversary of the first UK lockdown, to reflect on our collective loss, support those who've been bereaved, and hope for a brighter future. There are still tough times ahead, as the death toll continues to rise. This annual day will give us all time to pause and think about this unprecedented loss we're facing, and support each other through grief in the years to come.



Within the Benefice there will be a service in

St Andrew's at 11.45am, incorporating a minute's silence at noon, after which the church bells there and in Longcot will be rung.

St Andrew's, St Swithun's, St Mary's Longcot and

St Mary's Ashbury will also be open for private prayer. Please join us either in church or online.

If you would like to talk to anyone about a bereavement, please contact Norma or Paul.

The Bereavement Café will be meeting online on Monday 22nd March. See page 2 for more information.

### **A Prayer for the National Day of Reflection**

Dear God,

Be with us as we think about all that has changed this year,

And help us to trust that you are always with us.

Be close to us as we remember those who have died, And help us to trust they are at peace with you.

Show us how to reach out to others

with kindness and care,

So that hope shines out in every heart and home, Amen

Our condolences to the family and friends of the late Mr Dennis Stratton who died recently.  
Please keep them in your prayers.

### Bereavement Café



Monday 22nd March at 4pm or 7:30pm.  
Live via Zoom.

An informal online get-together for anyone who has been bereaved at any time, hosted by Rose-Anne and Norma. Open to all, regardless of faith or beliefs. Free of charge.

If you would like to 'drop in' please contact Rose-Anne or Norma and they will send details of how to take part.

Rose-Anne O'Hare  
[roseanne.o@outlook.com](mailto:roseanne.o@outlook.com) 01793 784017  
Rev'd Norma Fergusson  
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### #Do1NiceThing - A Challenge for Lent 2021



#### Monday 22nd March – Sunday 28th March Theme of the week: Virtues

- 22nd: Make a whinge tin – fine yourself every time you find yourself complaining
- 23rd: If you've had good customer service, write to the company and tell them
- 24th: Check out a carbon neutral calculator (e.g. [footprint.wwf.org.uk](http://footprint.wwf.org.uk)) to see how you're doing – could you do more?
- 25th: Send a thank you card to the staff at your local school
- 26th: Offer your skills to someone for free
- 27th: Buy Fairtrade today
- 28th: Palm Sunday – how much is in your whinge tin? Give it to a local charity

### Clergy Days Off

Rev'd Fergusson is off duty on Monday  
Canon Richardson is off duty on Monday & Tuesday

### COME AND SEE

## Locked down, open-hearted

Living life in all its fullness



COME  
AND  
SEE

Our final Zoom sessions for anyone who would like to meet to discuss "Come and See" are on Thursday 25th March from 7:30pm – 8:45pm and

Saturday 27th March from 8:00am – 9:15am

Email [shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com](mailto:shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com) to receive the Zoom link.

If you would like to discuss your thoughts about "Come and See" one-to-one contact Norma, Paul, or Richard.

Norma 01793 784338

Paul 01793 710241

Richard 07788 436831

### Census 2021

We have been asked to remind you that Sunday 21st March is census day. If you haven't received a letter with details of how to take part, visit [census.gov.uk](https://census.gov.uk) or call the contact centre on 0800 141 2021.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) runs the census in England and Wales and is independent from the government. All information is held securely for 100 years. Statistics are only compiled based on anonymised data and personal information is not shared with any organisation and is never sold.

### Ashbury Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Wixes Piece.



"I've been told you can help us with a lead related to a recent crime in the village"

(Thank you Darren Maskell)