



# WELCOME

## TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 5th April Palm Sunday

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

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

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



### Holy Week Palm Sunday

Rev'd Robin Cardwell is giving this Sunday's sermon.  
Watch on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on Facebook.

### Monday

7:00pm Compline for Lent. Live on Facebook.

### Tuesday

7:00pm Compline for Lent. Live on Facebook.

### Wednesday

10:30am The Bible Course. Live via Zoom. \*  
7:00pm Compline for Lent. Live on Facebook.

### Maundy Thursday

6.30pm Anthem of the Week (Choir)  
7.00pm Holy Communion. Live on Facebook.

### Good Friday

Meditation.

Watch on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

### Easter Saturday

Meditation.

Watch on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

### Easter Sunday

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on Facebook.

All links, orders of services and readings will be posted  
on our website – no need to be 'on Facebook' or a  
'YouTuber' to join in!

\* If you would like to join the Bible Course via Zoom,  
please contact David Ahern for details. 01793 783521

[thestable@protonmail.com](mailto:thestable@protonmail.com)



Palm Sunday 2017

### **Light a Candle of Hope**

Place a lighted candle in the window at 7pm on Sunday  
as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that  
can never be extinguished.

Although we can't be physically together for some time,  
love and prayer are not bounded by space or time and it  
will be a way of sharing in worship.

You might like to use the prayer below.

### **Loving God,**

We pray for all those who are suffering because of the  
coronavirus,  
may they know your healing power.

When we are afraid for ourselves and our loved ones,  
give us your strength and courage.

When we feel alone and isolated,  
reassure us with a sense of your presence.

Give wisdom to those in authority  
and may our community work together for the good of all.

We give thanks for those who care for others and ask  
you to bless them in all they do.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, healer and physician.  
Amen

### **A Message from Richard Fergusson**

I hope you like the pictures above and below –a reminder  
of happier times; I'm afraid Tilly and Tinkerbelle have had  
to be 'stood down' this year, as have we all.

When I spoke at the Benefice service at the end of  
January (it seems like a different age), we recalled Jesus  
as a toddler dragged across the desert to Egypt to  
escape Herod's soldiers, and words from Hebrews:

*"because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he  
is able to help those who are being tested."* We are now  
being tested in ways we could not then have imagined.

But we also recalled John 1: *"The light shines in the  
darkness, and the darkness has never overcome it."* So,  
as we light our candles, let's say again to the darkness "I  
beg to differ!" and look forward to the day when we can  
once again step forward into the light which came into  
the world, and shone out from the empty tomb at Easter.

### **Ashbury Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live  
and work in Chapel Lane.

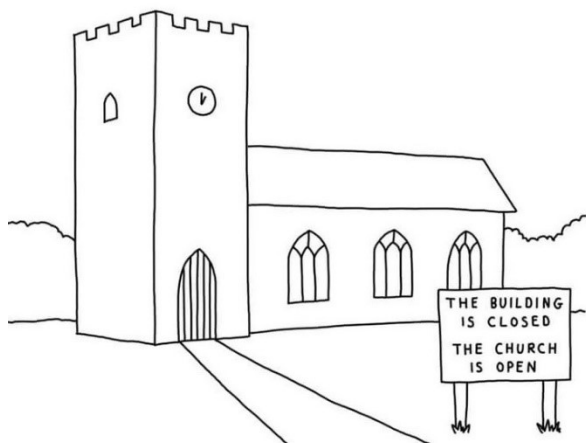
**A Message from Rev. Nina Summerfield who will be joining us later in the year as Associate Vicar**

Would anyone like to knit or crochet or otherwise create any symbols of joy, hope and happiness such as flowers, crosses, angels, doves, hearts etc, which we will collect after the end of isolation and which will form an amazing display in our churches once we can open them again?

Size, shape, colour, style really doesn't matter – and although I say knit or crochet any other creative ways of producing them would be fantastic too. They simply need to be able to be displayed in some way. I don't mind if it's one, or two, or twenty or two hundred – this might be a way to look forward with a little bit of hope in our hearts to brighter times ahead.



Palm Sunday 2017



CartoonChurch.com

Although our buildings are closed, the churches still rely on donations to stay active and provide care and support to everyone.

If you normally contribute through the envelope scheme or collection plate, would you consider continuing that and leaving your envelopes or donations with your treasurer or churchwarden? Or possibly moving to direct giving through your bank if you can arrange this without travelling to your branch?

For Shrivvenham, Watchfield and Bourton, please telephone 01793 784338 or 01793 784756 for your nearest collection point.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Donate by Text**

You can now donate by text to Ashbury, Shrivvenham, Watchfield and Bourton. Our other churches will also offer this soon.

**For Ashbury**

Text **STMARYS 5** to **70085** to donate **£5**

**For Shrivvenham, Watchfield & Bourton**

Text **SWB** to **70460** to donate **£5**

Text **SWB** to **70450** to donate **£10**

Your standard text message rate applies.

Please contact Rev'd Fergusson for pastoral issues, and a churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator ([shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com](mailto:shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com)) for other church enquiries.

**Other ways to join in with worship**

Don't forget that on weekdays there is the Daily Service on BBC R4 Longwave at 09:45; Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 at 08:10; and Choral Evensong on BBC Radio 3 on Wednesdays at 15:30 and Sundays at 15:00.

Check out the special page on our website for links to on-line services, phone apps for daily prayers and other useful resources. If you know anyone who is not on-line and would like a paper copy, let us know.

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

**Our condolences**

to the family of the late Mrs Joyce Ponsford, who was buried in Stainswick Lane Cemetery, Shrivvenham on Thursday 2nd April.

**Keeping in Touch**

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of the weekly newsletter and updates on news and events in the Benefice please email Lucy Laird at

[shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com](mailto:shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com)

Email addresses are not visible to others on the distribution list.



Shrivvenham & Ashbury Benefice is on Facebook

Search: @shrivenhamandashbury

Like our page to keep up to date with news & events throughout the Benefice.



Sorry we can't be with you on Palm Sunday!