

# The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

Vicar: The Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu. 07471 434 276

vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Benefice Administrator: Lucy Laird 01793 783519 info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk



# Fourth Sunday of Advent 22nd December 2024

# Sunday 22nd December

9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun

Matins

9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas

Holy Communion

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary & Facebook

Holy Communion

4:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew

Carol Service

6:30pm Longcot, St Mary & Facebook

Carol Service

#### **Christmas Eve**

3:30pm Bourton, St James

Village Carols

4:00pm Ashbury, St Mary

Crib Service

4:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew

Crib Service

5:00pm Watchfield, St Thomas

Holy Communion (BCP)

followed by Carols around Watchfield Tree

11:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew

Midnight Mass

11:30pm Longcot, St Mary

Midnight Mass

# **Christmas Day**

10:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & Facebook

Holy Communion

Please note the earlier start time.

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary

Family Service followed by Communion

## No midweek services until Tuesday 7th January

## **Community Cycle of Prayer**

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

# **Christmas Message**

Last year was our first Christmas in the Benefice, and living in Ashbury then, we knew the streets to be dark with no lighting. We were surprised how things changed with Christmas approaching. Houses were now decorated with colourful and illuminating lights that brought light to the streets. This showed that something new was happening. Indeed, that new thing is happening again! The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ that brings light into our lives. As we celebrate Christmas this year, may our homes be filled with love, our hearts with joy, and our lives with warmth and fellowship.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New year to all of you.

Patrick

## Sunday 29th December

10:30am Fernham, St John & Facebook

Benefice Holy Communion for the Feast of St John

No midweek services until Tuesday 7th January

## Sunday 5th January 2025

7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew

Holy Communion (BCP)

9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas & Facebook

Holy Communion (BCP)

9:30am Longcot, St Mary

Holy Communion

10:30am Shrivenham, St Andrew

Family Service

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary

Holy Communion

5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & Facebook

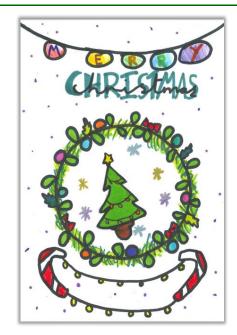
Compline and Benediction

Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu is off duty from Thursday 26th December until Saturday 28th December, and Monday 30th December until Saturday 4th January inclusive.

For pastoral emergencies please call 07471 434276

The Benefice office will be closed from Tuesday 24th December until Sunday 5th January.

Emails will be checked regularly.



Shrivenham CE Primary School Christmas Card Competition KS2 Winner: Tazmin

#### Welcome

Welcome to Winifred Olga Jane Kew who was baptised in St Andrew's Church Shrivenham on Saturday 14th December.

## Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

Songs & Stories restarts on 8th January. Baby & Toddlers restarts on 16th January.

# **Wednesday Study Groups**

Both groups will restart on Wednesday 15th January.

#### Thank You

The Compton Beauchamp Carol Service collection raised £200 for the Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal which will go to Booth House in Swindon. They will be thrilled to have such a large, generous donation.

#### **Pastoral Support**

If you, or someone you know, would like a home visit (to receive Holy Communion for example), need to talk or ask for specific prayers, please do get in touch with Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu or Lucy Laird.

Their contact details are at the top of the page.

## **Shrivenham Christingle Service**

As usual, the Christingles were made at Café Inspire the day before the service in St Andrew's.













# **Messy Church**

Our theme (surprise surprise!!) was Christmas. We coloured in baubles, made table decorations from evergreens, made handprint angels, iced gingerbread biscuits and made star decorations from lollipop sticks and wool.

