



**The Shrevenham and Ashbury Benefice**  
"Mirroring the hospitality of God"  
**Sunday 7th February 2nd Sunday before Lent**



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)

**Saturday 6th February**

10:00am Family Service. Join us on [Facebook](#).

**Sunday 7th February**

11.30am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

5:30pm Compline and Benediction.  
Live on [Facebook](#).

Rev'd Norma Fergusson is giving today's sermon.  
Watch on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) from 9am.

**Tuesday**

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#).

**Wednesday**

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#).

10:30am The Character Course via Zoom.

7:30pm The Character Course via Zoom.

**Thursday**

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on [Facebook](#).

10:00am Holy Communion.

Watch on [Facebook](#).

**Sunday 14th February**

11.30am Holy Communion. Live on [Facebook](#).

**I Have a Confession to Make**

Nothing too serious I must add. I am a hugger.

So, what brought this about?

The other morning Frank and I were talking about what we really missed whilst having to spend so much time in lockdown. The obvious things came up including not seeing our family for over a year.

But one of the things that I miss is not being able to comfort or hug family, and also friends we came upon who were going through a tough time. Sadly, there have been more than a few.

In my kitchen I have a poem which I read when I need a hug and Frank is not around.

I would like to share it with you.

**A Hug**

Feels good; Dispels Loneliness; Overcomes fears  
Builds self-esteem (Wow! They actually want to hug me!)

Slows down aging; huggers stay younger longer

Eases tension; Fights insomnia

Keeps arms and shoulder muscles in condition  
Is ecologically sound, does not upset the environment

Is democratic; anyone is eligible for a hug

Is portable; Affirms physical being;

Is energy efficient, saves heat

Makes impossible days possible;

Makes happier days happier

A hug makes you feel good all day.

Unfortunately, we are unable to do it in person at present, but please share this virtual hug with everyone. Hopefully in the not too distant future we will be able to do it for real.

God bless, take care and stay safe.

Jane Venables

**Our condolences**

to the family and friends of the late Mr Bill Shirley and Air Commodore Mickey Witherow who died recently.

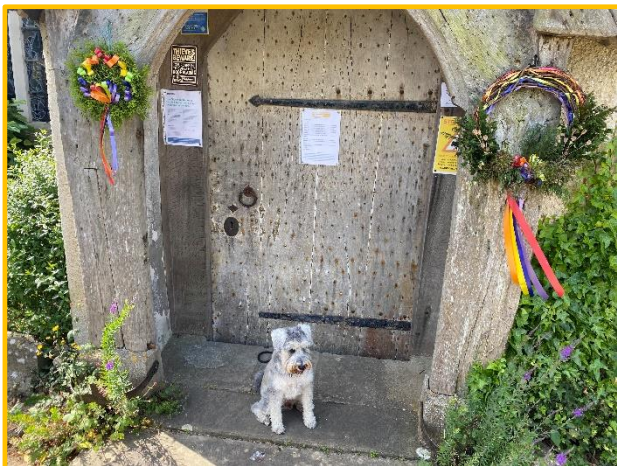
Please keep them in your prayers.

**Ashbury Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Malthouse Close.

**Clergy Days Off**

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



Although our buildings are closed, we still rely on donations to 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?

Please contact our Treasurers on the numbers below.

Shrevenham, Watchfield and Bourton 01793 784756  
Longcot and Fernham 01793 783324  
Compton Beauchamp 01793 710889  
Ashbury 01793 710208

## COME AND SEE

Did you know that 1 in 5 people watching church online during the pandemic didn't regularly attend before the crisis? Come and See is a free online experience to help everyone find out more about the Christian faith.

### What are you looking for?

Answering deep questions of faith



We have registered as a Benefice and invite everyone who is interested to sign up individually and join us as we explore the heart of the Christian faith together: through daily reflections, through weekly videos and podcasts, through one-to-one conversations and through small groups meeting online.

Sign up via the link below,  
or visit our [website](#) for more information.

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/>

For those who would like to meet, virtually by Zoom, we are laying on 6 sessions over Thursday evenings, and Saturday breakfast-time. Email [Lucy Laird](#) to receive a Zoom link to enable you to join us.

Thursday from 7:30pm – 8:45pm  
on 25th February, 11th and 25th March  
Saturday from 8:00am – 9:15am  
on 28th February, 13th and 27th March

These will provide an opportunity to discuss the reflections, videos and podcasts, and how we are reacting to what we are discovering about God, and ourselves through "Come and See"

Norma, Paul, and Richard are available by telephone to anyone who wants to discuss their thoughts about "Come and See".

Norma 01793 784338

Paul 01793 710241

Richard 07788 436831



Norma checks out St Andrew's in the snow.

## Safer Internet Day



Safer  
Internet  
Day 2021

Tuesday  
9 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

[saferinternetday.org.uk](http://saferinternetday.org.uk)

We are all spending so much time online these days it's tempting to take the internet for granted, but it still holds as many pitfalls as it does possibilities. For all the wonderful things at our fingertips, there are also scams and fake news. How do we protect ourselves online? And how do we protect others? Tuesday 9th February is Safer Internet Day and the theme is 'An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world'.

You can find more information at

[www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

The information is designed primarily for use with children and young people between the ages of 5 and 18, but we can all benefit from a reminder of good practice.

Try the quiz – see how you get on!



Another sunset in Longcot – thanks Dennis!

Support your local church or the Benefice as a whole with a text donation using the numbers below.

### For Ashbury

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

Text **STMARYS 10** to **70085** to donate **£10**

### For Shrivenham, Watchfield & Bourton

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

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

### For Longcot and Fernham

Text **LONGCOT** to **70085** to donate **£4**

### For the Benefice as a whole

Text **GIVEfive** to **70470** to donate **£5**

Your standard text message rate applies.

**Thank you!**