



The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'

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

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Associate Vicar: Vacancy

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831



Sunday 31st July 2022

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

Please respect the concerns of others in the congregation. Hand sanitizer is available.

Sunday 31st July

Padre Phil Craven is giving today's online sermon. Watch on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or our [website](#) from 9am.

10:00am Watchfield, St Thomas & [Facebook](#)
Benefice Holy Communion with Choir

Tuesday 2nd August

1:00pm Bereavement Café. St Andrew's Vicarage

Wednesday

9:00am Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Morning Prayer.

2:00pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
ASK Holy Communion

Friday

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

Sunday 7th August

7:45am Shrivenham, St Andrew
Holy Communion (BCP)

9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun
Holy Communion (BCP)

9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas
Holy Communion (BCP)

9:30am Longcot, St Mary & [Facebook](#)
Holy Communion

10:15am Shrivenham, St Andrew. Lammas Service

11:00am Ashbury, St Mary.
Morning Prayer

3:00pm Longcot Methodist Chapel.
United Service

5:30pm Shrivenham, St Andrew & [Facebook](#)
Compline and Benediction

Bourton, St James

Please note that there are no services during August

Midweek Online Services During August

There will be no 9am online services on Tuesdays and Thursdays during August.

Songs & Stories and Baby & Toddler Group

The groups that meet on Wednesday and Thursday mornings are taking a break until after the school summer holidays.

Community Cycle of Prayer

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Idstone Road in Ashbury, and Martens Close in Shrivenham.

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Benefice Sunday School Can You Help?

Our Sunday School aims to help children have fun whilst learning more about loving God and our neighbours, about Jesus, the Bible and the life of the Church.

We meet at 3pm on the second Sunday of the month in St Thomas Church in Watchfield. Each session is followed by refreshments in the Village Hall.

The sessions are led by our clergy team, and we are looking for people to join our team of volunteers who help to set up and clear away, serve refreshments, and more importantly help the children with their activities.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Lucy Laird: 01793 783519

info@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Fun With Flowers



Enjoy a morning at a flower workshop and create a small arrangement to take home.

Saturday 10th September from 10am – 12 noon at the Community Hub, St Mary's Church, Longcot.

£20 per person including flowers, foliage and refreshments. No experience needed.

For more information and to book a place contact Shirley Dalton-Morris

01793 782989 or sdm57@btinternet.com

Brush Up Your Shakespeare - Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraising event in St Andrew's last Saturday.

It was a very entertaining evening, raising £1023.50 in aid of the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal and St Andrew's Church Shrivenham

Wednesday Study Groups Summer Break

The morning and evening study groups are taking a break during the summer.

They will restart on Wednesday 14th September, meeting at 7pm in St Andrew's to watch the film 'The Way', about a group of pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela.

Both the morning and evening groups will then look at 'The Long Road to Heaven' by Tim Heaton, which is based on that film.

Do come if you can!

Condolences

Our condolences to the family and friends of the late Stan Hutchings. Please keep them in your prayers.

Bottles Please!

The Bottle Tombola at Shrivenham Village Fete at the end of August is one of the major fund raising events for St Andrew's Church General Fund.

Margaret Hern will be pleased to receive bottles of any kind, but no cans. She will collect from you if required.

Margaret 01793 782100

Rev'd Frank Parkinson RIP



The much-loved and hugely respected Rev'd Frank Parkinson passed away last weekend after suffering a stroke. His wife, Janice and his two sons were at his bedside.

Priest, soldier, PTSD counsellor, author, lecturer, and family man: Frank Parkinson was a man of many parts. Born and brought up in the North-East, he was fiercely loyal to his northern roots. Indeed, he began his ministry as a curate in Sunderland in the 60s but soon decided that his calling was to be a Chaplain in the Armed Forces. He served in the British Army for 25 years, retiring as an Assistant Chaplain General in 1992. It was during his time in the Forces that he trained as a counsellor with Relate and began to specialise in tackling post-traumatic stress. His empathetic nature and his innate ability to listen, rather than just speak, made him a natural and effective counsellor.

After retiring from the Army, Frank and Janice moved to Longcot, where they have lived ever since. In retirement Frank continued with his studies into PTSD. His experience in counselling people with trauma had led him to realise that there were few reference books on the subject that were written by practising counsellors. He was determined to rectify this and went on to write several influential books and a number of articles on PTSD. These were highly regarded, not just by those in the medical profession, but ordinary people who found them both accessible and practical. He was a frequent lecturer at universities across the UK and was a relaxed and humorous orator.

Although he loved the academic and practical challenges that unravelling PTSD presented, he continued to contribute fully to our Benefice. He was an active member of the Ministry Team and a regular leader of worship in St Mary's Church in Longcot, as well as in other churches in the area.

Words can hardly describe the esteem with which Frank was held within our community. He will be sorely missed, not least for his wisdom, empathetic nature, impish sense of humour and lively personality. Our thoughts and prayers are with Janice and their two sons, Ben and Jeremy.

DHB

Frank's funeral is on Thursday 11th August at 12 noon in St Mary's Church, Longcot. All welcome.