



# The Shrevenham and Ashbury Benefice

'Mirroring the hospitality of God'



Vicar: The Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu. 07471 434 276  
[vicar@shrevenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:vicar@shrevenhamandashbury.co.uk)

Benefice Administrator: Lucy Laird 01793 783519  
[info@shrevenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:info@shrevenhamandashbury.co.uk)

## Baptism of Christ Sunday 12th January 2025

### **Sunday 12th January**

The Holy Communion service in Compton Beauchamp will be recorded and posted on [Facebook](#) later in the day

### **Tuesday**

9:00am Morning Prayer. Live on [Facebook](#)  
7:00pm Shrevenham, Watchfield & Bourton PCC

### **Wednesday**

9:15am Song and Stories Toddler Group  
Back room, Shrevenham Methodist Church  
10:30am Wednesday Study Group via Zoom  
7:00pm Wednesday Study Group  
St Andrew's Vicarage, Shrevenham

### **Thursday**

8:45am Baby & Toddler Group in St Andrew's  
9:00am Matins. Live on [Facebook](#)  
3:15pm Shrevenham, St Andrew  
Messy Church  
6:30pm Benefice Choir Practice in St Andrew's

### **Friday**

5:30pm Shrevenham, St Andrew  
Worship and Praise

### **Saturday**

8:30am Men's Breakfast  
The Barrington Arms, Shrevenham

### **Sunday 19th January**

9:00am Compton Beauchamp, St Swithun  
Matins  
9:30am Watchfield, St Thomas  
Matins  
9:30am Longcot, St Mary  
Holy Communion  
10:30am Shrevenham, St Andrew  
Morning Prayer  
11:00am Bourton, St James & [Facebook](#)  
Holy Communion  
11:00am Ashbury, St Mary  
Morning Worship  
1:00pm Shrevenham, St Andrew  
Traditional Zimbabwean  
Family Communion Service

### **Associate Vicar Vacancy**

We are currently advertising for this post. Any suitable candidates will be interviewed on Friday 21st February.

### **As we wait, so we pray**

Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your love for all people, and for all you give us. During our vacancy, we pray particularly for the person we believe in faith that you have chosen to be our next Associate Vicar. May that person respond gladly to your call, and work with us to grow your Kingdom in this Benefice. While we wait, send us your Holy Spirit: help us to be patient, build us up in faith and love, and equip us to serve you well with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. These things we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen

### **Community Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live and work in Kingstone Winslow near Ashbury, and Ballingers in Shrevenham.

### **Wednesday Study Groups**

Both groups will restart on 15th January. The Zoom group meets at 10:30am, and the group that meets at the Vicarage starts at 7pm. If you would like to join either group, please contact Rev'd Patrick Mabhunu.

### **Baby and Toddler Group**



### **Restarts on Thursday 16th January**

The group meets in St Andrew's Church Shrevenham every Thursday (term-time only) from 8:45 - 10:45am.

All parents and carers with pre-school children are welcome. Only £1.50 per family. Refreshments, and snack and craft activity for the children.

More information from Hazel Morris on 07931 225 530

### **Messy Church Thursday 16th January**

3:15pm – 5pm  
St Andrew's Church  
Shrevenham



Messy Church is a church with a difference! A chance to be creative, hear Bible stories, eat yummy food and have fun with friends and family. There is no charge to attend, but a minimum donation of £1.50 per child towards costs would be appreciated.

For more information or to book a space contact [standfast.shrevenham@yahoo.com](mailto:standfast.shrevenham@yahoo.com)

**Messy Church is open to all.**

### **Condolences**

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

### Confirmation

If you think you might be interested in being confirmed and would like to find out more, please talk to Patrick and we will arrange classes. All ages are welcome.

### Men's Breakfast – Saturday 18th January

8:30am in The Barrington Arms, Shrivenham

If you plan to attend, please let David Ahern know by Wednesday 15th January.

01793 783521 [davidmahern@gmail.com](mailto:davidmahern@gmail.com)

### 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.

[vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk) 07471 434 276

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### Welcome

Welcome to Lucas Timothy Robert Heneage and Arlo Freddie Courtney, who were baptised in St Mary's Church Longcot on Sunday 5th January.

### An Unusual Font

When Lucas Heneage was baptised in Longcot Church last Sunday the family brought along a ship's bell to be used as the font. This particular bell was once aboard the British Battleship HMS King George V which saw action against the Bismarck and was present at the surrender of the Japanese in World War Two.

There is an old Royal Navy tradition in which the children of those serving on board may be baptised in the ship's bell. Lucas' mother Victoria explained that her grandfather had served on the ship and that her aunt had been the last child to be baptised in the bell. When the bell was disposed of, the family's application to acquire the bell was successful and a new family tradition of using it for baptisms began.

