

## *Shalford & Peasmarsh Big Community Stitch - Stitchers' Guide -*



1. Think of the image which most represents this Covid Pandemic time for you/your family/household, and that you wish to create as your gift of expression to join with others, and gift to history.
2. Find or buy your own embroidery coloured threads and needle; pick up your special fabric square and hoop from St Mary's Church.
3. Separate the hoop by loosening the nut and push the inner circle out. Lay the fabric over the inner circle then push the outer circle over top to stretch the fabric. Tighten the nut. You're ready to go!
4. Please keep your final completed picture within the 5" diameter circle or a 5" square if you're not using a hoop (so that we can hem and stitch all together onto the one final big community altar cloth)
5. Sketch your image onto your cloth, use fabric paints if you want your sketch to show at the end, or pencil if you are stitching over.
6. Stitch away! Use embroidery threads in any colours. Use any stitches you like (many tutorials online!). You can simply outline your sketch in 'running' or 'back' stitch, or work up your design filling in blocks & patterns of colour with any stitches you can use.

**Continued overleaf.....**

7. Stuck for ideas? You can look at images on the Big Stitch webpage below. Only 1 rainbow square allowed - please book in to do this!
8. You can lay small pieces of patterned fabrics onto your image too if you wish, then stitch them into place (appliqué). Do not use any glues or stick other things on. Fabric paints fine to use.
9. If you can donate £3 or more to St Mary's to help cover costs please donate via online link from Big Stitch webpage or cash marked 'big stitch' in church wall box by door inside)
10. Deliver your finished fabric square to St Mary's church **by Easter Day if possible but later fine** - if you need more time don't worry - but please email [vicar.shalford@icloud.com](mailto:vicar.shalford@icloud.com) so that we don't miss including your square in the finished big community altar cloth in St Mary's Shalford for all to see and enjoy and borrow anytime.

**Thanks for creating your personal square in history, to be stitched together into our single community altar cloth marking the pains, loss and struggles, memories, hopes, thankfulness and life, experienced through this historic global pandemic.**

**Enjoy creating and making and thank you so much for joining in!**



[www.stmarysshalford.com/shalford-big-community-stitch](http://www.stmarysshalford.com/shalford-big-community-stitch)