

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

The health and healing of Sheila Stonehouse, Sue Duff, Martin Walkley, May Piggott, June Hedges, Nora Johnson, Barbara Boulter, Mikayla Beames, Steve West, Pam Tranter, Derrick Allen, Bev Rolls, Philip Coldwell, Janet Causer, John Butter, Linda Winter, Angela Handley, Khim Moss, Steven Meadows, Anthony Bowler, Bob Bulpitt, Dick Douglas, Pam Blustin, Benita and Adrian Hiley, Jenny Dubenski, Ursula Geer, Graham Bates, Ron Stovold and Lucy MacDonald.

Friends and Family mourning for Jean Fielden, Joan Hermon, Grace Hopkins, Maurice Sworn, Roland Bustany, Reg Horsell, Kenneth Blatch, Stan Mills, John Dubenski, Ian Campbell and Connie Jeffery.

Those living at Morlands and Steventon Road in East Hanney; Sycamore Walk, Colne Close and Swan Close in Grove; Hedge Hill Road in East Challow.

The Lord
gives
STRENGTH
to his people;
the Lord
blesses his
people with
PEACE.

-Psalm 29:11



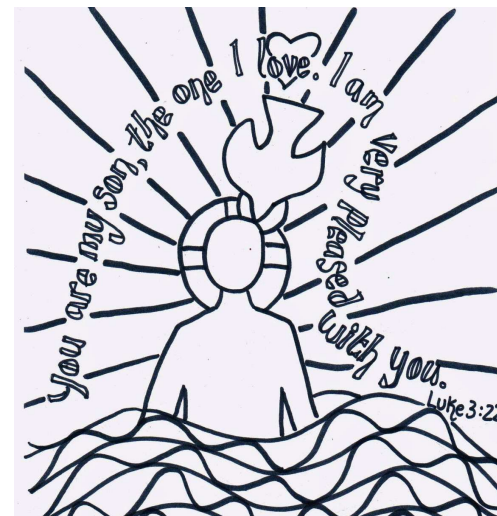
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VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER



Sunday 10th January 2021

The First Sunday of Epiphany – The Baptism of Christ

Genesis 1: 1-5 | Psalm 29 | Acts 19: 1-7 | Mark 1:4-11

Here we are, well and truly into the New Year. Today the Church recalls Jesus being baptised, not as a baby but as an adult although he had nothing to repent of.

The other readings give a clue as to the reason. His baptism marks the beginning of a new creation, a new light entering the world, a new baptism of the Spirit, confirming to us that we are God's loved children. That is a gift for the Jewish disciples at Pentecost and is a gift for the whole world, as in Ephesus. The new creation is the work of the Holy Spirit bringing light to the world - in and through each of us. Let's allow Him to fill us and shine in us all year long.

Our shared worship on Sunday 10th January:

9am - Zoom Traditional Service - Rev Chris Ashton / Rev John Durant

10am - Zoom Service - Rev Nicholas Cheeseman.

11am - Zoom Sunday Club for under 18's & Families - Rev C Ashton / Rev A Gill

Weekday Services will continue next week

UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 17th January

9am - ZOOM Traditional Service

10am - ZOOM SERVICE

To be confirmed next week.

BENEFICE NEWS

Churches have permission to open for private prayer provided there is provision for buildings to be constantly cleaned to be free from any risk of passing on infection. Please do not attend with any symptoms.

The details of our Benefice churches are as follows.

St John the Baptist, Grove if you wish to use the church for private prayer, please contact one of the clergy who will arrange this to happen.

St James The Great, West Hanney is open during the hours of daylight.

St Nicholas, East Challow is open for private prayer during daylight hours.

St James, Denchworth if you wish to use the church for private prayer, please contact one of the clergy who will arrange this to happen.

THE CHURCH OFFICE is closed to visitors, but we will still respond to phone calls and emails. Please leave a message and we will respond as soon as possible.

BENEFICE SERVICES ON ZOOM: Log in details/links

Sunday 9am Services needs a specific link/details to log in.

Sunday 10am Services & Wednesday 7.30pm Evening Prayer Services share a specific link/details to log in.

Fruitfulness on the Frontline Prayer Course has its own specific separate link/details to log in.

The Office emails out the links/details before the services. If you are new to any of them, contact the office, so we can put you on the distribution list to receive them.

ST JOHNS GROVE PCC MEETING on Zoom Monday 11th January at 8pm

FRIENDS ON FRIDAY HOLY COMMUNION for 15th January is cancelled. We will keep you informed regarding the February date.

MESSAGE FROM Gill Thompson

To all my friends at St John's. Thank you so much for the totally unexpected gifts. The flowers were beautiful and the picture a reminder of a church family that has nurtured me and my children and an extremely generous garden voucher that I will delight in spending on the garden. Paul and I have settled into our new home in Letcombe Bassett and relish the opportunity to take up the Anna chaplaincy in the Ridgeway Benefice.

Thank you so much for your prayers and friendship, *with love from Gill.*

GROVE TREASURE TRAIL I invite you to get some exercise by taking part in the Grove Treasure Trail. Bring pen and paper and a map of roads in Grove if you need it. Then WRITE DOWN THE LETTERS DISPLAYED IN THE WINDOWS OF 15 HOMES IN GROVE, starting at 3 Bridge Farm Close and ending at 8 Broadmarsh Close. At the end of the Trail, you will be offered a prize suitable for adults or children. The Treasure Trail will be open until the end of January, so happy hunting.

CHRISTMAS TRAIL - THANK YOU Thank you to everyone who made the Christmas Trail such a success on Christmas Eve - As well as giving a lot of families some Christmas cheer we also raised over £100 for church funds.

MEMORIAL GARDEN Please note any flowers or ornaments left in and around the memorial Garden will be removed in January. Please collect them before if you wish to keep them.

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN CENTRE NEWS – We are shut until further notice.

It will still be possible to buy items by emailing the office email address or by contacting us via Facebook. People have been very generous in their support up until now, so we feel secure in our future for the next few months at least. 10 Savile Way, Grove, OX12 0PT. Tel: 01235 772280. www.cornerstonegrove.org.uk
www.facebook.com/pages/Cornerstone-Christian-Centre-Grove/125696620782712

LITTLE PEOPLE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS 60 children received presents from us this year, thanks to the generosity of all our supporters. Many thanks to you all.

MESSAGE FROM FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S I received this from a family in Perth, Australia. They were members of St John's and emigrated about 40 years ago we keep in touch. A great encouragement to start the day. Ann S.

"Please feel assured that we are praying regularly for you all in UK and especially the front-line health workers who, like so many worldwide, have such a difficult and continuous job to treat and care for all those suffering from the virus in its various forms, it must be awfully difficult working in all that protective clothing and equipment, as well as being so difficult staying at home for so long."

WANTED An organised person to act as Clerk to the Trustees of the Robert Stiles Almshouse in Wantage. Approximate time commitment of a day a month with an Honorarium of £1,500 pa. Knowledge of bookkeeping and computer skills a requirement. Apply with cv to stephendexter@btinternet.com Closing date 31.1.2021.

ST NICHOLAS C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL (East Challow): are looking for; A before & after school Supervisor with Level 3 qualification (Grade 6).

A permanent Teaching Assistant (Grade 4).

A temporary Nursery Teaching Assistant with Level 2 Qualification (Grade 4).

Positions to start in 2021. Apply to office@challowce.org before 20th January.

FUND RAISING FOR ST JOHN'S: VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

GALLERY Thank you to Sue and Emma Powditch for all the work they put into their 'virtual' craft sale which to date has raised over £410 for St John's church funds.

There are still some items left on the virtual craft sale by Sue & Emma Powditch.

Contact sue.powditch@outlook.com to organise a purchase.

<http://www.groveparishchurch.org.uk/welcome-to-craft-for-st-johns/>

PRAYER REQUESTS If anyone has specific prayer requests, please email confidentially to; prayer.requests@valebenefice.org.uk

NEWSLETTER Please send notices to; news@valebenefice.org.uk by 10pm on a Wednesday. Only include personal information if you consent to it being included / published.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 2	Genesis 1.1–19	Matthew 21.1–17
Tue	Psalm 9	Genesis 1.20–2.3	Matthew 21.18–32
Wed	Psalm 20	Genesis 2.4–end	Matthew 21.33–end
Thu	Psalm 21	Genesis 3	Matthew 22.1–14
Fri	Psalm 67	Genesis 4.1–16, 25–26	Matthew 22.15–33
Sat	Psalm 33	Genesis 6.1–10	Matthew 22.34–end