

fact is they can! Thanks to your kindness, you are enabling people affected by leprosy to access the cure they need and the resources they require to have a fuller life. Thank you so much for supporting people like Kunam (who has been able to farm coconut plants – giving him vital nutrients to feed him and his family, as well as provide a sustainable living by selling the coconuts in markets.) Yogeswary too has been able to learn a new skill in dressmaking, so she can sell the clothes to support herself and her family.” Nicky Ward – Supporter Relations Manager

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

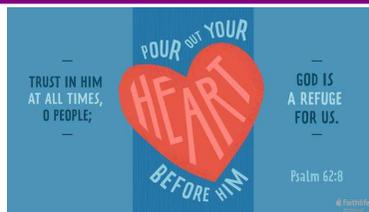
Mon	Psalm 146	Genesis 6.11–7.10	Matthew 24.1–14
Tue	Psalm 132	Genesis 7.11–end	Matthew 24.15–28
Wed	Psalm 81	Genesis 8.1–14	Matthew 24.29–end
Thu	Psalm 76	Genesis 8.15–9.7	Matthew 25.1–13
Fri	Psalm 27	Genesis 9.8–19	Matthew 25.14–30
Sat	Psalm 122	Genesis 11.1–9	Matthew 25.31–end

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, Cookie, Lucy MacDonald and Hendrick Mahlangu.

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 Wayland Road, Cane Lane and Vicarage Close in Grove; Field Gardens and St Nicholas School in East Challow; Circourt Road in Denchworth.



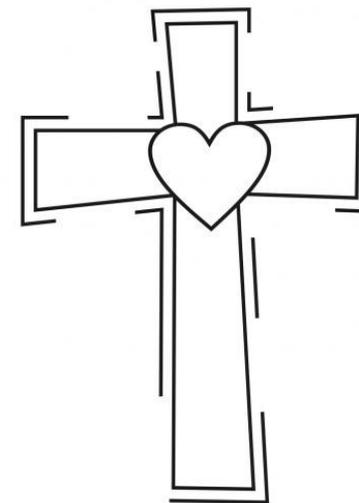
CONTACT DETAILS

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Licensed Lay Minister: Sue Powditch, Tel: 01235 768141, Email: llm@valebenefice.org.uk
Benefice Office: Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove, OX12 7LQ
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VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER



Sunday 17th January 2021 The Second Sunday of Epiphany

1 Samuel 3: 1-10 [11-20] | Psalm 139: 1-5,12-18 | revelation 5: 1-10 | John 1:43-51*

This Sunday's readings remind us that God knows us intimately, even before our births, and He calls us by name. The odd one out is Revelation 5, with the great reveal of the one who can unravel the scroll of history, the Lion of Judah. Defying expectation, He turns out to be the Lamb who was slaughtered. His is the way of self-giving love, not of might.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs from 18th to 25th January. Never has our unity been more important for the world, which needs to know the love of Christ, demonstrated by the way we love each other. This is what Jesus prayed for us "so that the world may believe...." We are the proof that Jesus' way of love works.

Our shared worship on Sunday 17th January:

9am - ZOOM Traditional Service
10am - ZOOM Holy Communion Service

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 20th January

8pm – WGCP Christian Unity Service on Zoom

Sunday 24th January

9am – Zoom Traditional Service
10am – Zoom Service

There will be no physical Sunday Services in the Benefice in January, however, this will be reviewed in early February. Thank you all for your patience & understanding.

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.

Sunday 11am Family Services require a specific separate link to log in.

The Office emails out the links/details before the services. If you are new to any of them and wish to have the details to log in, contact the Benefice Office, so we can put you on the distribution list to receive them. office@valebenefice.org.uk

At our **Grove PCC** we approved the appointment of Anne Cheeseman as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and the Safeguarding Officer for Wantage and Grove Street Pastors which would mean we would process the DBS checks; we approved the updated Parish Safeguarding Policy; we were informed that the Wantage Deanery School Chaplaincy Vision is still seeking to find the funds for the role to start in September and agreed to support the application; we agreed to wait to hear from Viva before we hold a virtual Quiz supporting the work of VIVA; we discussed the plans for our services giving thanks for the successful Nativity Trail on Christmas Eve and passed the resolution that we would not hold Sunday services for the rest of January after which we will review the situation. We also received Financial report agreeing to furlough the GroW employees but were concerned to learn that our expenditure is greater than our income (close to £7,000.00).

PRAYER WEEK FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY Wantage and Grove Church Partnership are organising a week of online meetings for the week of prayer for **“Christian Unity”** (every evening from 18th – 25th January at 8pm). If you would like the link/details to log on to this, please contact the Benefice Office and we will email it to you. **St John’s Church, Grove** will be hosting the online service on **Wednesday 20th January at 8pm** (instead of the 7.30pm Evening Prayer Service). You will need to access via the WGCP zoom link (not our normal one). Please Contact Andrea in the Benefice Office (in advance) for these details/link if you need them. Thanks.

11am FAMILY ZOOM SERVICE – This will be on Zoom again on Sunday 31st January. If you need the details/link, please let Andrea know in the Benefice Office.

MARMALADE FOR SALE: Bitter or sweet (please specify) £2 a jar. Proceeds to **Christian Aid.** Please contact Juliet at the office. 01235 771479@office@valebenefice.org.uk

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

IDENTITY MATTERS The Christian Institute invite you to a Zoom Meeting from Witney Oasis Family Church on Tuesday 19th January from 8 – 9pm when a Biblical perspective on Identity will be given, which determines how Christians respond to many contemporary issues. Use meeting ID 913 1741 6565, Password: Identity **THANK YOU** for your prayer and support throughout the anxious situation of my niece Cookie. Our family is so relieved she has been found safe. She is now reunited with her family in Mumbai, however, there are challenging times ahead. Please continue to keep us all in your thoughts. We have witnessed the power of prayer. Christa.

GROVE TREASURE TRAIL can be done while you get your daily exercise! Bring pen and paper & 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 & 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.

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.

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.

CORNERSTONE NEWS As you will know we have unfortunately had to close again but emails are being monitored on a weekly basis if you wish to place a book order (office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk). You can also keep up to date via our Facebook page. www.facebook.com/pages/Cornerstone-Christian-Centre-Grove/125696620782712

Please do pray for Sarah and the staff on furlough and also for the Board of Trustees who meet on Monday evening (18th Jan).

PRESS RELEASE: WANTAGE & GROVE FOOD BANK is now 10 years old!

Originally running from an individual’s garage back in 2010, and with the support (monetry and food donations) from many churches, businesses, schools and individuals in the local community, it has grown enormously. We are very grateful to all these including the volunteers who form the management committee, shop, sort, label, deliver and monitor/answer the phone and emails. Currently our daily activities operate from the back room of The King’s Centre, with the use of a storage facility on Elms Farm Park. Our clients are referred to us from local agencies, including the Wantage Independent Advice Centre, Social Workers, Health Visitors, GPs, Nurses, Family Support Workers, Home School Link Workers, Housing Associations, Job Centres and so on. Food donations can be dropped off at collection points in Sainsbury’s and Waitrose, The Kings Centre (Wantage) & Cornerstone (Grove) (check opening times before making a journey). Due to the Covid situation our plans to celebrate 10 years of opening, with the community, were not to be, so instead we would like to simply send a HUGE thank you to our many supporters who enable the Foodbank to continue providing much needed help to people in our local area.

EXCERPT FROM LEPROSY MISSION LETTER “Thank you. It’s hard to believe that used stamps can help transform the life of someone affected by leprosy. The