

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 57	Genesis 18.1–15	Matthew 27.11–26
Tue	Psalm 93	Genesis 18.16–end	Matthew 27.27–44
Wed	Psalm 95	Genesis 19.1–3, 12–29	Matthew 27.45–56
Thu	Psalm 110	Genesis 21.1–21	Matthew 27.57–end
Fri	Psalm 115	Genesis 22.1–19	Matthew 28.1–15
Sat	Psalm 118	Genesis 23	Matthew 28.16–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, Lucy MacDonald, Cookie, Hendrick Mahlangu, the Aspinall Family and Ellie Donegan.

Friends and Family mourning for Jean Fielden, Katharine Sutton-Ring and John Lindon.

Those living at Bramley Close in East Hanney; St John's Road, Easterfield and St Ives Road in Grove; Hill Close and Windmill Place in East Challow.

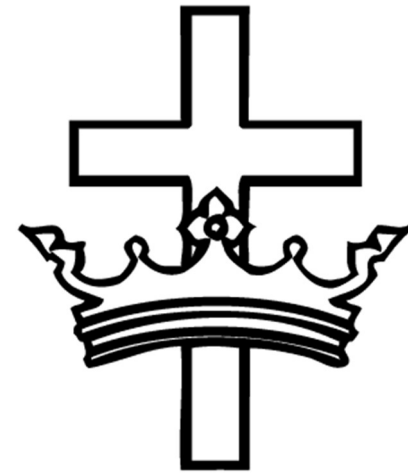
Missionary partners: Alf and Hilary Cooper. Alf has taken on an extra role which involves liaising between government and Christians in Chile.



CONTACT DETAILS

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VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER



Sunday 31st January 2021 The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Deuteronomy 14: 17-20 | Psalm 111 | Revelation 12: 1-5a | Mark 1: 21-28

On Tuesday, the Church remembers when Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus “to present him to the Lord” according to Jewish law. That’s when Simeon warns Mary that her son’s mission to rescue the world from the power of evil will be like a sword piercing her soul.

Our readings today vividly portray the spiritual battle “against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places” that surrounds Jesus both at his birth and in his adult ministry. Thank God that by his sacrificial love, Jesus has won for good and all.

Our shared worship Sunday 31st January

9am – Zoom Traditional Service - Rev Chris Ashton and Rev John Durant
10am – Zoom Holy Communion Service – Rev John Durant
11am – Zoom Family Service - Rev Alec Gill & Rev Chris Ashton

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 3rd February

7.30pm – Zoom Evening Prayer Service (Candlemas) – Rev John Durant

Sunday 7th February

9am – Zoom Traditional Service – Rev Chris Ashton
10am – Zoom Holy Communion Service – Rev Alec Gill

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

BENEFICE NEWS

Churches have permission to open for private prayer, provided they can be 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 need 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.

If you wish to have the details to log in emailed to you every week, contact the Benefice Office and we will add you to the distribution list.

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. office@valebenefice.org.uk

WEST HANNEY PARISH COUNCIL ask you to please note “works” will commence outside St James the Great church, West Hanney, **from Wednesday 10th February for about one week.** Please do not park there during these works, as your vehicle may be damaged whilst works are in progress. Alternative Car parking is available at The Plough car park adjacent. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

GROVE TREASURE TRAIL ends at the end of January, so while you are out exercising, why not bring a 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. Happy hunting.

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](mailto:771479@office@valebenefice.org.uk)

ST JOHN'S CHURCH CRAFTS FUNDRAISING - Sue and Emma have updated the Crafts for St Johns on the church website. Please pay it a visit and have a look at what's on offer. More items will follow in due course. <http://www.groveparishchurch.org.uk/2020/11/craft-sale/>

PRAYERS Ellie Donegan is going into hospital for a serious hip operation in early February. Please pray for her and her family over the next few weeks. Thank you.

LITTLE PEOPLE need warm clothes and waterproof items for girls aged 3-7 years and boys aged 8-12 years. Please contact jackymattam@btinternet.com or the Benefice Office on 01235 771479 if you can help. Thank you for your continued support.

COVID WINTER GRANT SCHEME South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse residents that are struggling to afford food or pay their fuel bills, may be eligible to receive help. If you know of someone who is struggling please refer them to the team at Citizens Advice – 0808 278 7907 (South and Vale) or if they live in Vale of White Horse, the team at Wantage Independent Advice Centre – 01235 765348 (Vale). This scheme will be available until the end of March 2021. To find out more about the Government's COVID Winter Grant Scheme, visit www.gov.uk, or www.southoxon.gov.uk

CORNERSTONE NEWS As you know we are unfortunately closed at the moment, but emails are being monitored on a weekly basis (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 continue to pray for Sarah and the staff while they are on furlough.

THE MIX@CORNERSTONE In an exciting new initiative we have become a satellite hub for The Mix Community Fridge. This will be every Thursday from 2-3pm, providing bags of good, surplus food to help reduce food waste.

FOOD BANK Thank you all for your continued support. Non perishable / in-date food items still required. Drop at Sainsbury's, Waitrose, or 28, Warmans Close.

STAFF VACANCY Grove CE School are looking for a Caretaker to join their staff team. The post is 8 hours per week to start after the half term break. If you or anyone you know would like more information, please contact the school office. office.3228@grove.oxon.sch.uk

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.

THANK YOU for any donations of old pc's / laptops / ipads to the Ray Collins Trust & The Mix (Wantage), who wipe them clean and donate them to the locals schools to help children who need access to equipment for their home learning. This is really helping many families. They are still accepting if anyone has anything to donate.

WANTAGE LIBRARY are holding a Harry Potter Quiz online with the theme of “Diagon Alley”. See their post on Facebook [WantageAndGroveCommunity@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/WantageAndGroveCommunity@groups.facebook.com)

WANTAGE AND GROVE STREET PASTORS please pray for this important local ministry.

USED STAMPS for Denchworth Church Please don't throw away old/used stamps! Please leave with the Benefice Office to help raise money for Denchworth church. Stamps that are left on envelopes sometimes raise more money! Thank you.

USED STAMPS for the Leprosy Mission Please leave at Benefice Office for Peter Rich. Used stamps can help transform the life of someone affected by leprosy.

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.