

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

We will be publishing the full list of those who have requested prayer on every 1st Sunday of the month from now on, but in the intervening weeks, we will publish only new requests. The full list will continue to be prayed for in the meantime.

The health and healing of Gordon and Angela Handley, Ellie Donegan.

Friends and Family mourning for John Sherrell, John Lindon, Katy Sutton-Ring, June Bunce, Ron Watkins and Jill Straiton.

Those living at Challow Road in East Challow; Summertown in East Hanney; Fairfield Close, Farm End and School Lane in Grove. Also, for Grove CE School.



CONTACT DETAILS

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VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER



Sunday 21st February 2021 First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 9: 8-17 | 1 Peter 3: 18-22 | Mark 1: 9-15

“God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.’” As we launch into Lent, we’re reminded that overarching it all is God’s forever love for His creatures. Bit by bit, line by line, He is working out his good purposes in order to bring all humanity and all creation into His good and perfect Kingdom. Jesus calls all of us to look again and believe this good news, because now is the time for change.

Our shared worship

Sunday 21st February

9am – Zoom Traditional Service – Rev Chris Ashton

10am – Zoom Holy Communion Service – Rev John Durant and Rev Chris Ashton

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesday 24th February

7.30pm – Zoom Lent Course ‘The Bible Course’ (designed by the Bible Society) with Rev Chris Ashton

Sunday 28th February

9am – Zoom Traditional Service – Rev John Durant

10am – Zoom Morning Worship Service – Rev John Durant & Dr Sarah Shackleton

11am – Zoom Family Service – Rev Alec Gill & Rev Chris Ashton

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, and free of any risk of passing on infection. Please do not attend with any symptoms.

The details of our Benefice churches for private prayer are as follows.

St John the Baptist, Grove please contact one of the clergy to arrange.

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

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

St James, Denchworth please contact one of the clergy to arrange.

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:

Sundays 9am (weekly), **Sundays 10am** (weekly), **Sundays 11am** Family Services (every other week). **Wednesdays 7.30pm** Lent Course (weekly, starting; 24th Feb). *The Benefice Office emails the links/details to the distribution list every week before services, so if you are not currently on the distribution list, please contact the Benefice Office and we will add you.*

BENEFICE SERVICES LIVE UPDATE- The Churchwardens and clergy met to review the suspension of our Live Sunday Services on 15th Feb. We decided that we would continue this until and including 7th March but will review it again on March 1st. In the meantime, our weekly ZOOMS: 9am Traditional and 10am Contemporary services, will continue as well as the fortnightly 11am Family Service. We may be able to lift the suspension gradually from 14th March but make no promises, though we are planning to have Services on Easter Day.

VOUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AN “EASTER TRAIL” Can you help? We would love some volunteers to help with a “walk-through - Easter Trail”, to be held on Good Friday afternoon at St John’s Church. Please let the office know if you could help.

LENT COURSE: “THE BIBLE COURSE” designed by The Bible Society. This will be on Zoom on Wednesday evenings from the 24th of February. It is a course on the bible. We'll be thinking about its impact, usage, and the wonderful story running through it. A great chance to refresh our knowledge of the bible and to get excited about it again! The one-hour sessions (19:30-20:30) will follow a similar format to previous courses. Please contact the Office or Chris Ashton if you would like to come or to know more.

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/>

WELCOME VISITING Thank you to all those people who have volunteered to deliver leaflets to new houses. If anyone would like to see the new leaflet (electronically) going to new residents, please ask the office – if anyone has a new neighbour and would like to post one through their door – please ask the office for a printed copy.

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 paid post is 8 hours per week to start after the half term. If you or anyone you know would like more information, please contact the school office at office.3228@grove.oxon.sch.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. Please do continue to pray for Sarah and the staff while they are on furlough.

LITTLE PEOPLE Thank you for all donations received. We need warm clothes for girls (12-18 months) and for a mum (size 10-12) please. We have a request for a set of bunk beds or a truckle bed (a single you put up, which fits under a single bed) or even a single bed with clean mattress and also “cot duvets”. Thanks. Please contact jackymattam@btinternet.com or the Benefice Office on 01235 771479 if you can help.

THANK YOU from The Benefice Office, for all the help given towards the running of the Benefice Zoom Services each week. Much appreciated.

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@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 11	Genesis 41.25–45	Galatians 3.23–4.7
Tue	Psalm 44	Genesis 41.46–42.5	Galatians 4.8–20
Wed	Psalm 6	Genesis 42.6–17	Galatians 4.21–5.1
Thu	Psalm 42	Genesis 42.18–28	Galatians 5.2–15
Fri	Psalm 22	Genesis 42.29–end	Galatians 5.16–end
Sat	Psalm 63	Genesis 43.1–15	Galatians 6