

LITTLE PEOPLE need girl's uniform for Charlton School (13 yrs size) & girls' uniform for Wantage Primary Academy (4-5 yrs & 7 yrs). This includes: White polo shirts, plain white buttoned shirts, purple jumper/cardigan, navy trousers, pinafore, shorts, skirts, school checkered purple gingham summer dresses, navy or white socks/tights, T-shirts & black shorts for PE. Please contact Jacky Mattam (jackymattam@btinternet.com) Thanks.

CORNERSTONE VOLUNTEERS We are still in need of more volunteers mainly to help with the washing up or to go on the till, for which training will be given. We have a particular need for Saturdays, but any help is welcome. Do you know of youngsters doing their DofE Award? We can offer 2 hour shifts on Saturdays towards that. Please contact Sarah at Cornerstone if you can help in any way. Tel: 772280 or email: office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk

USED STAMPS Raising money for Denchworth Church Please leave old/used stamps at the Benefice Office. Stamps left on envelopes can raise more! 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.

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

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 62	1 Samuel 10.1–16	Luke 22.24–30
Tue	Psalm 68	1 Samuel 10.17–end	Luke 22.31–38
Wed	Psalm 71	1 Samuel 11	Luke 22.39–46
Thu	Psalm 75	1 Samuel 12	Luke 22.47–62
Fri	Psalm 79	1 Samuel 13.5–18	Luke 22.63–end
Sat	Psalm 86	1 Samuel 13.19–14.15	Luke 23.1–12

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

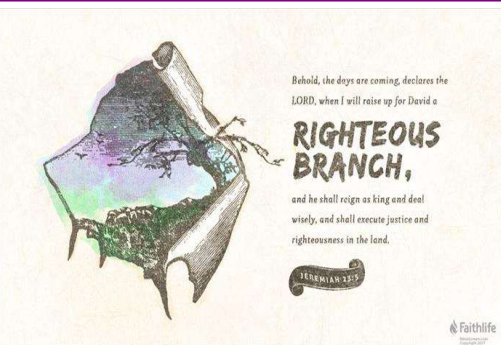
For the Health & Healing of all those we know of in our families and community.

Friends and Family mourning for Glen Thompson, Isobella Terry (Betsy) and Dorothy Barclay.

For those having their Banns of Marriage read in our Benefice Churches.

For those marriages being Blessed in our Benefice Churches in the coming weeks.

Those living at Barn Close & Rose Terrace in Denchworth; Winter Lane in West Hanney; and Boucher Close, White Horse Crescent & Brereton Drive in Grove.



CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. John Durant. The Vicarage, Main Street, Grove, OX12 7LQ. Tel: 01235 766484. Email: vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Revd. Alec Gill. The Vicarage, Winter Lane, West Hanney, OX12 0LF. Mobile: 07739 563894. Email: vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Curate: Chris Ashton. Email: curatechris@valebenefice.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Sue Powditch. Tel: 01235 768141. Email: llm@valebenefice.org.uk

Benefice Office: Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove, OX12 7LQ.

Open: Mon–Fri 10–12, Tel: 01235 771479. Email: office@valebenefice.org.uk

VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER



Sunday 18th July 2021 Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 23: 1 – 6 | Ephesians 2:11-22 | Mark 6:30-34 & 53-56

In Latin, the word for shepherd is “pastor”. Our readings this week concern bad and good shepherds. In Jeremiah, the bad shepherds fail to care for the sheep and so scatter them. But God has other plans for his sheep, i.e. His people. He will send a good shepherd who will gather and bring them back. We know that this is Jesus, who has compassion for the crowds of hungry people. We need to pray for our pastors, or clergy, who have a big job, remembering that we ourselves can be pastors in our community. Christ is in us all.

Our Shared Worship (18th July)

8am Holy Communion at St Johns, Grove - Rev Chris Ashton
9.30am Parish Eucharist at St James the Great, West Hanney - Rev John Durant
Outside the church – weather permitting.
10am Holy Communion at St James the Great, Denchworth - Rev Alec Gill
11.15am Parish Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow - Rev John Durant
10am Benefice Zoom Service – Rev Chris Ashton

Upcoming Services:

Sunday 25th July

8.00am Holy Communion at St Johns, Grove - Rev Chris Ashton
9.30am Patronal Eucharist at St James the Great, West Hanney - Rev John Durant
(Outside on the green – weather permitting)
10am Benefice Zoom Service – Rev Chris Ashton
6.00pm EVENSONG at St James, Denchworth - Rev John Durant

To physically attend a service at West Hanney Church, please email stjameschurchwesthanney@gmail.com or call Hilary to book a place.

To physically attend any other Benefice Churches' services, please 'book' a place with the Benefice Office. Office@valebenefice.org.uk / 01235 771479

BENEFICE NEWS

Churches can open for private prayer. 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 daily (daytime hours).

St Nicholas, East Challow is open during daytime hours.

St James, Denchworth open on Saturdays & Sundays.

LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS UPDATE The Churchwardens and clergy met to discuss the Government's announcement lifting the restrictions of the Pandemic for which we rejoice. We have also taken note of their advice to be responsible, so we are waiting for the details and the recommendations of the Church of England worship taskforce. These guidelines may only be announced after this newsheet has been sent so in the meantime we have decided to continue with our current precautions. Two verses of scripture were quoted in our meeting; Phil 2: 3 in *humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.* Also, but try to respond as quickly and 1 Cor 10: 23 *everything is permissible but not everything is beneficial.* *W John N Durant*

GROVE PCC At our Grove PCC we ratified the officers of treasurer, secretary and Parish safeguarding; shared our hopes for St John's this year; agreed that GroW could use the VoWHDC lottery if they wished, supported the underwriting of the Chaplaincy project, discussed how we would adapt to the loosening of restrictions; heard about the plans to replace St John's fire escape; decided to CW's items and received the Finance report which made us aware our income needs to increase if we wish to prevent another deficit of £6,000.00.

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

HANNEY APCM will be held in church on 21st July at 7.30pm.

BENEFICE SUNDAY CLUBS PICNIC Sunday 18th July - Sunday Club picnic (12noon - 1.30pm) - Bring your own picnics and join us in the St John's Garden (outdoor games/ice cream will be provided). All Welcome. Please let the Benefice Office or Frances Hobson know if you can join us. office@valebenefice.org.uk

BENEFICE SCHOOLS LEAVER SERVICES

St Nicholas School, East Challow Service will be in church on 22nd July at 9.30am.

St James School, West Hanney Service will be in church on 20th July at 2.15pm.

Grove CE School Service will be at the school on 21st July at 10.30am.

Please pray for all our Year 6 leavers and those involved in their special Services.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP Sunday 18th July - last one before the summer break.

HELP NEEDED at St John's Church on Thursday 22nd July (2pm) to move pews back into the church. Please let us know if you can help. Many thanks!

BENEFICE BADMINTON GROUP Thursdays (8pm-9.30pm), St John's Hall.

All Welcome. Why not give it a try? For more information contact the Benefice Office.

CRAFT, CREAM TEAS & CREATIVITY Saturday October 30th in St John's Hall. (Donations of Jam & Chutney, cakes etc welcome.) in aid of St John's Church.

TRAINING MODULE Sarah Shackleton starts the next 10-week module of her LLM training, 'Introduction to Worship', on 10th September 2021. Supporters who are signed up by Sarah can join for free, otherwise it costs £25. **If you are interested in doing this module, please contact Sarah by Monday morning 19th July** on scshackleton@gmail.com - there are only a few free places left. The course involves online learning of 2-4 hours a week plus a 1.5-hour tutorial once a week (at various times). Many thanks. Sarah.

OPEN THE BOOK Due to the Coronavirus restrictions and to continue the OTB work with the school, our team, with Rev Chris Ashton's help, have made short video recordings of Bible stories to be used at Grove CE School. However, we do hope to get back to live School Assemblies in September. We are a very small team and **could really do with more volunteers** to help us. No expertise is required, and you don't have to commit to every week, but we believe this is a VERY IMPORTANT PART of our Christian ministry and outreach. Please contact Angela, Margaret Fell or me for more information. Thank you. Peter Rich (411315)

CHRISTIAN AID Christian Aid have thanked you all for the generous gift of £435 (+ gift aid) from our Sponsored walk in May. They say: "In Kitui Kenya, your gifts will support women like Florence to access a reliable water source. With her local dam she can now grow tomatoes, onions, papayas and chillies on her farm, and also keep bees. In the past she had to spend several hours on a dangerous daily journey to collect water". Peter and Angela.

PRAYER STONE in the MEMORIAL GARDEN at St John's Thank you very much indeed for all the generous donations towards this. The new Prayer Stone in the Prayer Walk in the Memorial Garden will be engraved with words from the Beatitudes – "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted". This will be a memorial for those who have lost their lives recently, and as a comfort for those left behind. If you wish to contribute to this project, please do so through the church office, and clearly mark the envelope – "For the prayer walk memorial stone". Many thanks again for your generosity.

RIDE & STRIDE Will be taking place on Sat 11th Sept this year. Each Parish has their own representative so if you are interested in taking part, please contact Terry Mawdesley for Grove, Janet Parker is for Challow and Hilary Cakebread for Hanney

SAMARITANS PURSE - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: Save the Date: 15th - 22nd November will be National Shoebox Collection Week. We will be supporting this wonderful initiative in our Benefice Churches. Samaritans-Purse.org.uk

THE WANTAGE SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL is taking place 1st-31st July 2021. There are a lot of interesting things going – all done with Covid regulations in mind. You can download the full program using the following link:

<https://www.wantagesummerartsfestival.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/wantagesummerartsfestival.pdf>

WILD WORLD HEROES - Summer Reading Challenge 2021 from 10th July to 11th September 2021. This year the Challenge is celebrating nature! As the children read, they will help the Wild World Heroes save and improve their local environment! Contact Wantage Library for more information wantage.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk or call 01235 762291.

GROVE VILLAGE HALL AFTERNOON TEAS change of opening dates. Now opening for teas again on 8th September 2021. We look forward to seeing you.