

## DIARY FOR THE WEEK (Starting on Monday 24th Jan)

<b>Mon</b>	10am	<b>GroW:</b> Toddler "Stay & Play" Group, St John's Hall (advance bookings only)
	12.45pm	<b>GroW:</b> "Bumps & Babies" Group, St John's Hall (advance bookings only)
	2.30pm	Funeral for Rodney Hunt, Grove church
	7pm	1st Grove Guides, St John's Hall, Grove
	8pm – 8.20pm	<b>WGCP Zoom:</b> Wantage Parish Church leading the Prayers for Christian Unity.
<b>Tue</b>	9.30am	Make & Bake for under 5's at Cornerstone, Grove
	10am	<b>GroW:</b> Toddler "Stay & Play" Group, St John's Hall (advance bookings only)
	10am	Simply Singing Group, St John's Rooms
	10am	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney</b>
	6.30pm	Chess Club, St John's Rooms
	7pm	2nd Grove Guides, St John's Hall
	8pm – 8.20pm	<b>WGCP Zoom:</b> Wantage & Grove Methodist Church leading the Prayers for Christian Unity.
<b>Wed</b>	9.30am	St John's Toddlers Group, St John's Hall
	4.30pm - 5.30pm	Wantage & Grove School's Prayer Group, St John's Church Hall/Rooms.
	8pm	20s and 30s Group, Zoom
<b>Thu</b>	9.30am	White Horse Extend (over 60's) Exercise, St John's Hall
	10am	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow</b>
	5.30pm	1st Grove Brownies, St John's Hall
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Hall
<b>Fri</b>	9.45am	<b>GroW: Nurturing Programme for Parents,</b> St John's Church Hall.
<b>Sun</b>	<i>Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet</i>	
	6.30pm	Senior Youth Group, St John's Church Hall



### CONTACT DETAILS

**Vicar:** Revd. John Durant: Tel. 01235 766484. Email: [vicar@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@valebenefice.org.uk)

**Associate Vicar:** Revd. Alec Gill: Tel. 07739 563894. Email: [vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk)

**Curate:** Chris Ashton: [CurateChris@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:CurateChris@valebenefice.org.uk)

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Sue Powditch: Tel. 01235 768141. Email: [llm@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:office@valebenefice.org.uk)

## VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER



### Sunday 23rd January 2022

#### The Third Sunday of Epiphany

*Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 | 2 Corinthians 9: 1 – 8 | Luke 4: 14-21*

It's no secret that our churches, like most churches and charities, are strapped for funds. St Paul's appeal to the Christians in Corinth to be generous seems at first sight to verge on blackmail, so that neither he nor they "would be humiliated." But in fact, that's not his point. That is "God loves a cheerful giver" - because He Himself is self-giving love. As Jesus himself declared: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.... to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to pro-claim the year of the Lord's favour." O generous love!

#### Our Shared Worship

##### Sunday 23rd January

8am Holy Communion at St Johns, Grove – Rev Alec Gill

9.30am Family Eucharist at St James the Great, West Hanney – Rev John Durant

10am Morning Worship (**with Zoom**) at St Johns, Grove – Sue Powditch (LLM)

& Dr Sarah Shackleton

10am Holy Communion at St James, Denchworth – Rev Alec Gill

11am Parish Eucharist at St Nicholas with BAPTISM, East Challow – Rev John Durant

6pm Holy Communion at St John's, Grove – Rev John Durant

#### Upcoming Services

##### Sunday 30th January

8am Holy Communion at St Johns, Grove – Rev Alec Gill

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St James the Great, West Hanney – Rev Chris Ashton

10am Holy Communion (**No Zoom**) at St Johns, Grove – Rev Alec Gill

10am Holy Communion at St James, Denchworth – Rev John Durant

11am Parish Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev John Durant

& Rev Chris Ashton

6pm Evening Prayer at St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant

## BENEFICE NEWS

**COVID UPDATE** The government mandate at the moment, is that people are to be masked in indoor public venues (including places of worship). Our overall desire is to be as considerate to one another as possible. We still aim to offer a Zoom or livestream version of the service at Grove wherever possible. Whatever your situation, God bless you.

**PCC CHALLOW** had positive discussions around hospitality and welcome, including Church furniture, refreshments after church and service times.

**REFRESHMENTS** after the 10am services at St John's Church are on temporarily on hold until the infection rate has reduced in the area.

**CONGRATULATIONS and Best Wishes** to June and John Hedges who will be celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary next week!

**OPEN TABLE** in Grove has started again on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 6-8pm, at Cornerstone. Food, friendship, and discussion of faith matters. Do think of friends who might be interested to explore faith and let them know. All welcome. Contact Pete & Jane Beckley, Michael & Jane Wenham.

**AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY GROUP** will meet again from this Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan (2pm) in St John's Rooms and then fortnightly after this.

**St John's Church BADMINTON Group** Thursdays (8pm) in the St John's Church Hall. Please do enquire at the Benefice Office if you many be interested in joining. All Welcome.

**CORNERSTONE NEWS** It has been good to see customers back after the Christmas break – if you've not visited us for a while do come along for a coffee, lunch, or a browse of the bookshop.

- \* Christmas cards at half price – come and stock up now for next Christmas!
- \* Book sale – a selection of books on sale up to half price
- \* Make and Bake for Under 5s is running every Tuesday in term time from 9.30-11 - £2 per child
- \* Volunteers still needed, especially for Saturdays – contact Sarah on 772280 if you are able to help.

**LITTLE PEOPLE** are needing donations of **boys' clothes** (4-6 years) and **shoes** (all sizes). Also, desperately needing a **Moses basket** and **bedding for a Moses basket** and **bedding for a cot**. Please contact the Benefice Office on 01235 771479 or email; [office@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@valebenefice.org.uk) if you can help with these needs. Many thanks.

**GROW FAMILIES** are starting a new programme for parents in January 2022. The **Nurturing Programme** is a 10-week parenting programme that improves the emotional health of both adults and children and strengthens **family relationships**. Email [contact@growfamilies.co.uk](mailto:contact@growfamilies.co.uk) to find out more and to reserve your space. [www.growfamilies.co.uk](http://www.growfamilies.co.uk)

**NEWSLETTER** please send notices to [news@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:news@valebenefice.org.uk) by 10pm Wednesdays. Only include personal information if you consent to it being published.

**PRAYER REQUESTS** If anyone has specific prayer requests, please confidentially to; [prayer@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:prayer@valebenefice.org.uk)



**WGCP - WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** 18th-25th Jan 2022. Join on Zoom each day for 20 mins using the same link or QR code each time. The link below or the QR code can be used to join the zoom prayer meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82907329371?pwd=QngrTEJqMlppcUtQMHMxYmNvM205QT09>

**THE GROVE AND WANTAGE SCHOOLS PRAYER GROUP** will be meeting on Wednesday 26th January in the St John's Rooms from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. We look forward to meeting Rachel Woods, the new Chaplaincy Partnership Lead at the Vale Academy Trust and praying together. Tea (or coffee!) and cakes will be available. Please do let us know if you wish to attend, or if you would like to be kept in touch by email. Thank you. Helen Harwood [andrewandhelenharwood@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:andrewandhelenharwood@yahoo.co.uk) and John Wilson.

**CD PLAYER / MINI SYSTEM TO DONATE?** If anyone has one spare that they could donate, please let Rev Alec Gill know on 07739 563894 or email on: [vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk) Many thanks.

**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.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

**Health and healing** Lesley Hummerston, Alan Rolls, Norah Lunn & Ursula Geer.

**Friends & Family mourning:** for Kitty, Leone Smith, Nancy Whitley, Barry Hambleton, Peter Arnold, Rodney Hunt, John Kent, Vera Foster, David Nicholls and Shirley Lawrence.

**Those working** in the NHS or as health care providers in our communities, in our hospitals, nursing/care homes, day care centers and other facilities.

**Those returning** to work, nurseries, pre-schools, primary schools, senior schools, further education of all types.

**Those living at** Hyde Road in Denchworth, Berry Lane in East Hanney; The Meads in West Hanney, Godfrey Close and Oxford Lane in Grove; Grove Park Drive.

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 108	Genesis 11.27–12.9	Matthew 26.1–16
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 36	Genesis 13.2–end	Matthew 26.17–35
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 46	Genesis 14	Matthew 26.36–46
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 47	Genesis 15	Matthew 26.47–56
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 65	Genesis 16	Matthew 26.57–end
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 68	Genesis 17.1–22	Matthew 27.1–10