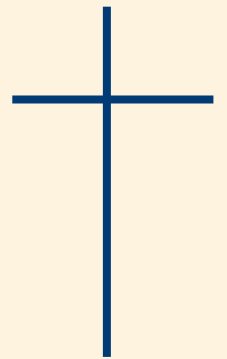




Welcome

From Churches in
Wantage and Grove



Welcome to Wantage and Grove

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to our area. We would have hoped to pop round to welcome you in person, but the current situation has made that difficult at the moment.

Despite how it may look with masks for all, the Christian Churches in Wantage and Grove are still meeting online, and wonderfully have now been able to re-start in-person services. Our events welcome and are open to all.

We have put together a brief information leaflet to let you know something about how we are meeting during the Covid-19 restrictions. The information is likely to change regularly so please look at our websites for more up-to-date information, or sign up to newsletters.

There is also some practical information, useful phone numbers, foodbank and community fridge details, opportunities to help others as well as some of what is available for families and young people.

If you have any comments on this leaflet, or any suggestions on information to include, we would love to hear from you. newhomes@valebenefice.org.uk

We have printed and delivered this booklet in a Covid-secure manner, and have police and council approval for delivering it to homes.

April 2021



St John's Church Grove

Welcome to St John's

We usually have a lot of activities and community groups taking place at our site on Main Street, Grove. As a Christian church our main priority is to worship and witness to our Saviour and loving God, and share that love with our communities.

We are part of the Church of England and are joined with East Challow, Hanney and Denchworth Churches as the Vale Benefice. We also have strong links with Grove C of E Primary School and the planned new Church of England all-through school in Grove.

Although our choices are currently restricted, we would love to meet and worship with you online or in person, and hope you will know the love of Jesus, hear His truth, share friendship and be filled with hope and peace.

Online Services

Please contact the office for information on how to join

Sundays 10am - Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

Wednesdays 7.30pm - Evening Prayer or Study Course

In-Person Services

If you wish to attend a service at St John's Church, or one of our sister churches of East Challow, Hanney and Denchworth, please contact the office for details and to let us know you are coming.

Private Prayer

If you would like to use the church for private prayer please contact one of the clergy (see below).

Deepening our faith

During Lent, starting on 24th February, there will be a Study Course on Wednesday Evenings at 7.30pm instead of the evening prayer service. If you would like to join us please email John Durant for further details.

Exploring Christianity

If you are interested in exploring Christianity in a small local on-line group please contact the church office for further details.

The Diocese of Oxford will also be running a 'come and see' course open to all. You can find out more and register here: oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see

Contact information

Website: groveparishchurch.org.uk

Church Office:

office@valebenefice.org.uk 01235-771479 (office times vary at present but you may leave a message).

Clergy:

John Durant: vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Alec Gill: vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Chris Ashton: CurateChris@valebenefice.org.uk





The Parish of Wantage

Wantage has two places where we meet to worship. The **Parish Church**, just off the Market Place, is a fine medieval building dating to the 13th century, with a history reaching back to Saxon times. A daughter church, **Holy Trinity**, was established in Charlton in 1848. It recently underwent radical refurbishment, and has quickly proved to be a flexible modern space ideally suited for both worship and outreach.

The style of pastoral care, teaching and worship of the parish is rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. You will find at the Parish Church a quiet celebration of **Holy Communion at 8.00am**. The Parish Mass is offered at **9.15 and 10.30am**, with all the usual ceremonial and a well-established musical tradition.

We offer Mass at different times and venues throughout the week. The Parish Church is open each morning from **10.30 am** until **12.30pm**.

The Parish Church was renewed 1996 and is used for a wide variety of activities including concerts and entertainment, feasts and fasts.

Arrangements for Baptism, Banns of Marriage and Marriage are made with Vicar.



At **Holy Trinity, Charlton**, there is a quiet Vigil Mass on Saturday at **5.00 pm**. A Toddler Group meets on Monday mornings in the hall.



Online Services

The **9.15 Sunday Mass** will continue to be live-streamed on the Parish Facebook page [@WantageParishEvents](https://www.facebook.com/WantageParishEvents). You don't need a personal account to access this service. This is followed by a time for coffee and chat on Zoom, the link to which is in the Parish Email.

Contact Us

The Parish and both churches are served by the Vicar who lives at the Vicarage and can be contacted on **01235 762214** or by email at vicar@wantageparish.com

The weekly Newsletter and monthly Magazine can be found on the website www.wantageparish.com





Wantage Methodist Church

Full details and up-to-date information along with our weekly notice sheet and monthly magazine can also be found on our website wantagemethodist.org.uk

Services

Normally worship time on Sunday is at 10:30am. **Currently this service is taking place via Zoom at 10:30am** everyone is welcome to join us. Please email our minister on keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk for further information.

Our wide range of church activities have, along with public worship, been suspended at this time due to Covid, but we look forward to welcoming you as soon as it is safe and practicable to do so.

In the meantime we host **via Zoom, "Tea@Three" on Tuesdays** and study groups from time to time. Again, please contact the Minister Keith, for further details

Home Communion in Wantage and Grove

When it is possible, the Minister Revd. Keith Underhill is able to make home visits for the distribution of Holy Communion to those who are house-bound.



Grove Methodist Church

Full details and up-to-date information, along with our monthly magazine can be found at wantab.org.uk/churches/grove.html.



Services

Normal worship time on Sunday is at 10:45am and 6:30pm **Currently Sunday morning service is at 10:30am via Zoom** See previous page for how to join us.

Our range of church activities have, along with public worship, been suspended at this time due to Covid, but we look forward to welcoming you as soon as it is safe and practicable to do so.

In the meantime we host **via Zoom, "An on-line Coffee Morning" on Wednesdays at 10:30am** and study groups from time to time. Again, please contact the Minister Keith, for further details.

The Methodist Church is also providing FREE phone lines for prayers, reflections and news from the Methodist Church

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to a pastoral message from the President and Vice President: 0808 281 2695

Listen to our Podcast: 0808 281 2478





Wantage Community Church

Connection

Lockdown can make us all feel more isolated and less connected. Nevertheless, we are here for you. No one should feel alone or isolated, we seek to be a community together and to serve the communities we find ourselves in.

One to One

If you simply need to connect with someone, please do get in contact using the details here.

Sundays

The centre of our meetings is time worshipping Jesus and learning together about what it means to live life well. Our Sunday mornings are available on line, and you can attend in person. To connect online please use the links on this page. A great place to start is also our Facebook page. To join in person, please go to our webpage where we keep the information up to date!

Pastor

Neil & D Townsend: 01235 771152
neil@wantagecc.org.uk
denise@wantagecc.org.uk



Small Groups

Small Groups are the powerhouse of the local church. It's where we can most effectively give and receive support and grow in our walk with Jesus. Wantage Community Church is a family and meeting regularly during the week, as well as on a Sunday, helps us live life together. If you would like to know more then please get in touch with: Andy Bruce, Assistant Pastor
07850 112358 andy.bruce@wantagecc.org.uk



Community

Toddler groups, Dad's out groups, Men's meals, craft groups ... these are also things we love to run, and as soon as possible we will get them going and put the information up on Facebook and our webpage.

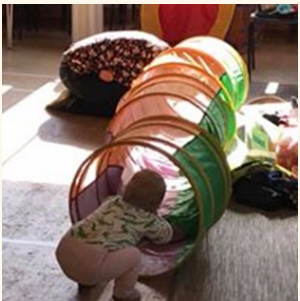
Alpha

Alpha is a no pressure course is for anyone interested in learning more about the Christian faith including those who have no faith and just want to ask some questions about Christianity. See the alpha page on our website for more details, or connect via Facebook or email

Contact details

Email: hello@wantagecc.org.uk
Phone: 01235 470041
Website: wantagecc.org.uk
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wccopengate>





General Church Information

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals

Church weddings and funerals, are subject to current government guidelines. For up-to-date information on these as well as baptisms and christenings please contact any of the clergy (see previous pages for contact details).

Prayer

If you would like prayer for any reason, we have a small group of people who will pray for you and your need in confidence.

Please email prayer@valebenefice.co.uk

or pop your request in through the letter box at the side of the St John's Rooms, Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove OX127LQ labelled 'prayer request'.



20s-30s group

The 20s-30s homegroup is a great place to build lasting friendships and encourage each other in our walk with God.

We meet every Wednesday evening from 8pm . If you are interested in joining the group or would like any more information, contact James Mabbett at 20s-30s@valebenefice.org.uk.

General Community Information



You can find lots of information about Wantage and local groups at lovewantage.uk



[@wantagemarkets.community](https://www.facebook.com/wantagemarketscommunity)

This facebook page will keep you up to date with the regular twice weekly (Wednesday and Saturday), and the occasional extra markets in the market square.

You can also find a list of community groups, clubs and organisations in the area, with contact details to find out their current activities at standbrook-guides.com/wantage-and-grove/orgs

Examples:

Wantage Gardeners Association - wantagegardeners.org.uk

Wantage Camera Club - wantagecameraclub.co.uk

For Families

GroW—Grove and Wantage Family Community Group

GroW is supports families with children under 5 years old in the OX12 area.

We run Bumps and Babies (pre-crawler), Crawlers and Toddler groups. Due to Covid restrictions and number limitations, spaces on all groups must be booked by emailing contact@growfamilies.co.uk.

Find out more information and see our latest programme by visiting growfamilies.co.uk and follow us at facebook.com/growfamilies. If you are pregnant or have a baby under 12 months old, join our WhatsApp Chat. Message us on our Facebook page and you will be sent a link to join. It's a great way to connect with other parents and carers in our area.

11.00am Sunday - Family Zoom Church services

Hosted by St John's Church about twice a month, contact office@valebenefice.org.uk for dates and log-in details.

Weekly bible-based activity/ideas sheets for families are also available from this email address if you request them.

Local Play Parks

Looking for a new place to play?
See freeparks.co.uk/town/wantage

Oxfordshire mind

for those that may be struggling mentally see oxfordshiremind.org.uk who have also been offering free online workshops for parents supporting teenagers.

Guiding and Scouting

groups are offering online sessions during lockdown - sign up via girlguiding.org.uk or scouts.org.uk

Wantage Chess Club

Beginners and experienced players welcome - from 6 - 106.
Junior club organisers. Roly Piggott roly@piggottfamily.co.uk
Ray Cordon. raycordon@mypostoffice.co.uk 01235 764264
Club secretary. George Spalding
g.h.spalding@btinternet.com 01235 868466

Wantage Silver Band offer online lessons and free instrument loan during lockdown, see their website for more information.
Wantageband.org

Facebook groups

These Facebook groups might also be useful

- **@wantagelibrary** have a weekly rhymetime on Wednesdays
- **@wallingfordbabybar** who do a weekly Facebook Live on Saturday mornings, answering questions and supporting mothers in all aspects of baby feeding.
- **Things to do With Kids In And Around Oxfordshire And Surrounding Area**
- **@thesweatbox** for local teenagers to connect with each other

Health Contacts

Doctors Surgeries

The Health Centre, Mably Way, OX12 9BN

Newbury Street Practice:

01235-763451 newburystreetpractice.co.uk

Church Street Practice:

01235-770245 wantagechurchstreet.co.uk

Minor Injury Units

Open 10am-10.30pm 7 days a week.

Abingdon Community Hospital

Marcham Road, Abingdon OX14 1AG 01865 903476

Witney Community Hospital

Welch Way, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 6JJ 01865 903841

NHS Physiotherapy and Podiatry

For information, advice and to self-refer see
healthshareoxfordshire.org.uk

Urgent medical advice

Phone: 111 Website: 111.nhs.uk

Life threatening emergencies

Phone: 999

Coronavirus/COVID-19 information

nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19

Mental Health

Mind.org offer advice and support

Samaritans.org offer 24/7 support on 116 123

Dental Surgeries

Wantage House Dental Practice

The Chapel, Newbury Street, Wantage, OX12 8DJ
01235-760491 wantagehousedental.co.uk

Bupa Dental Care Wantage

1A Post Office Ln, Wantage OX12 8DR
01235-768877 bupa.co.uk

Portway Dental Care

Portway, Wantage OX12 9BU
01235-762187 portwaydental.co.uk

Cherrytree Dental Care

1 Vale Ave, Grove, Wantage OX12 7LU
01235-763322 cherrytreedental.co.uk

Veterinary Surgeries

Medivet Wantage

Elms Farmhouse, Grove Rd, Grove, OX12 7PD
01235-770227 medivet.co.uk

Abivale Veterinary Group

12A Belmont, Wantage OX12 9AS
01235-770333 abivale.com

Practical Support

Community Fridges

These provide free bags of good surplus food to help reduce food waste for any who would find them helpful. Free feminine care products are also available.

In Wantage: The Mix Community Space, Mill Road
Mondays 4-6pm, Wednesdays & Fridays 10.30am-12 noon
sustainablewantage.org.uk

In Grove: The Cornerstone Christian Centre, Savile Way
Thursdays 2-3pm cornerstonechristiancentre62.vpweb.co.uk

These details are subject to change.
Please check the websites for up to date information before you go.

Coronavirus Support Group

A local community group which aims to offer a range of services to help elderly and vulnerable people and needy families living in isolation or those people/families choosing to self-isolate because they are concerned they have Coronavirus in Wantage and within 5 miles.
01235-260033 or email: info@raycollintrust.org

A Helping Hand, Grove and Wantage area

Who help with things like shopping and medication collection.
Email: a.helping.hand.grove.and.wantage@gmail.com, or see their Facebook page for further information
[Facebook.com/groups/2586930931632843](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2586930931632843)

Wantage Independent Advice Centre

Advice is available by phone or email at the moment.

The Centre is based at 16 Market Place Wantage OX12 8AE (behind Barclays Bank). Contact them for advice or if you would like to volunteer to support others. There is a volunteer transport scheme (there is a charge to use it and you must call to book in advance) for those who find it hard to use public transport. 01235 765348 help@wantageadvice.org.uk

Food Bank

If you need a food parcel, contact one of: The Wantage Independent Advice Centre; Social Services; Job Centres; your child's school; your doctors' surgery; your health worker; charities working with people/families in need; your local church

Local Business support

If your businesses has been affected by Covid-19, see the South and Vale Business Support website where any grants for businesses can be accessed too. www.svbs.co.uk

Keeping Healthy

See these sites for information on walking/cycling locally

Wantage.com: wantage.com/walking-cycling

Cycling UK Wantage: cyclingukwantage.org.uk

Countryside Access

Map: publicrightsofway.oxfordshire.gov.uk/Web/standardmap.aspx

Opportunities to help

Food Bank

To donate food

See the website for information on which foods are required. No fresh, homemade or out of date food please. You can leave food at the collection points in Sainsbury's and Waitrose in Wantage Town Centre.

To donate money

Please email wantageandgrovefoodbank@gmail.com

To volunteer

You will need a reference from a local church leader.
Email as above for an application form.

The Mix Community Space, Wantage

Free Laptops for Schoolchildren

If you have an unused laptop you would like to donate please email:
wantagemix@gmail.com.

The laptop will be wiped clean of data, repaired where needed and set up ready to help schoolkids get connected.

VGA and HDMI cables are also appreciated.

Council Information

Test and Trace grants

The government's Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is being extended to 31 March 2021. It had been due to end on the 31 January. This is the scheme that provides a £500 grant to eligible recipients if they lose out financially from having to self-isolate through the national Test and Trace system.

The cut-off time for applications has been increased to 28 days after the first day of self-isolation. This makes it easier for the council to administer and verify and it also provides a bit more time for people to submit their application.

Council Tax and Refuse Collection

These are the responsibility of the District Council. Please see their website for further information. whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Reporting road or street problems

Please do this online at fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk