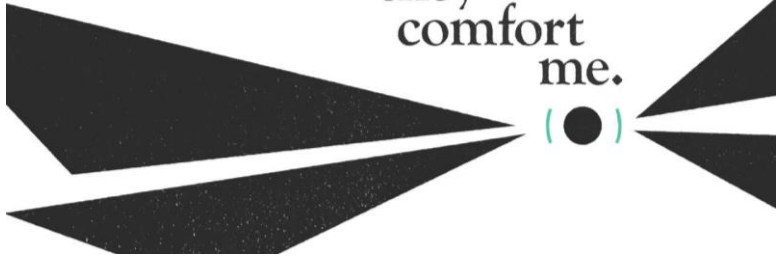


*your rod and your staff,*

they  
comfort  
me.



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## **Sunday 30th April**

### **Fourth Sunday after Easter**

*Psalm 23 | \*Acts 2:42-47 | 1 Peter 2:19-25 | John 10:1-10*

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These days we are bombarded by adverts telling us what we need for a full life: stimulation, comfort, possessions, security, long life. Jesus Christ shows us something quite different: his offer of abundant life is following him, like first-century sheep followed a shepherd. As St Peter puts it, "Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly." And he loved us to death. "Follow me." That's abundant life!

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### **Our Shared Worship**

#### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist & Baptism, St James, Hanney – Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Family Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth – Rev Velma Oxley
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev Alec Gill
- 6pm Evening Prayer, St John's, Grove – Rev John Durant

### **Upcoming Services**

#### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 10am Holy Baptism, Confirmation & Communion Service  
with + Gavin Collins, St John's, Grove
- 3pm Coronation Service, on the Green, St Nicholas, Challow – Rev John Durant &  
Rev Alec Gill
- 6pm Coronation Service, St James, Hanney – Rev John Durant

## BENEFICE NEWS

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**CHALLOW CHURCH APCM:** Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in church after Eucharist

**GROVE CHURCH APCM:** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (7pm) in the church hall.

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May and every other week. All Welcome.

**FRIENDS on FRIDAY CORONATION PARTY** FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY (2 - 3.30pm). Come and join our regular members and celebrate the King's Coronation. GOOD FOOD, GOOD COMPANY and a ROYAL (team) QUIZ! It would be helpful to know for catering purposes if you can make it. Phone Peter or Angela 411315.

**CONFIRMATION** The Bishop of Dorchester + Gavin Collins is coming on 7<sup>th</sup> May to lead a Confirmation service at the 10am Service at St John's Church, Grove. This is a service for all the Benefice.

**BIG LUNCH** As part of the Coronation Celebrations, we are having a 'Big Lunch' on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May here at St John's after the morning Confirmation and Communion service. This will be for our church and an open invitation to our wider community to join in with us. Our celebration meal will be:

- Coronation Chicken with Rice and Salad
- Trifle
- Coronation Cake
- Teas and Coffees

There will be dietary options available. We ask that you sign up to let us know an idea of numbers. We hope you can join us as we celebrate together.

There is no charge for this meal, any donations towards the cost are voluntary.

**E. CHALLOW FESTIVAL of FLOWERS** Saint Nicholas Church is having a Coronation Flower Festival on the weekend of May 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, to which all will be welcome to come and view.

**E. CHALLOW CORONATION SERVICE** An informal open air Coronation Service on the Village Green at 3pm on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Refreshments in the church (1pm – 5pm). All Welcome.

**W.HANNEY Coronation Service** will be held at St James the Great Church, on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm. All Welcome.

**FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH CLUB MEETING:** Following the 10am service on 28<sup>th</sup> May, there will be a gathering over refreshments for all those interested in talking about re-starting the Friday Night Youth Club at St John's Church. If you are not able to make it, but are interested, please contact Alec Gill.

**VIVA NETWORK LUNCH** at St John's Church on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May. Please do join us for the 10am Service (with Viva) and lunch in the hall afterwards. All welcome.

**BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON** is taking place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May (2-5pm). Can you help by making cakes / serving refreshments at these events? If so, please let the office know. Many thanks.

**DONATE OLD IPOD OR IPHONES** If anyone has an old iPod, iPad, or iPhone (needs to have a screen) that they no longer need and would like to donate to use at the sound desk at Grove church, please speak to Chris O'Neil. Thank you.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHALLOW TODDLER GROUP** Volunteers needed to help with refreshments at the GroW Toddler session in East Challow Village Hall. The group runs on Tuesdays in term time 10-11.30am. Please email

[contact@growfamilies.co.uk](mailto:contact@growfamilies.co.uk) or phone Tel: 01235 376037 if you might be able to help.

## CORNERSTONE NEWS

**Cornerstone Board** - We are delighted that Matt Morgan has been appointed by the PCC to the Cornerstone Board as a representative from St John's. Please pray for him along with our other representatives Miranda Hawkins and Sue Parnell, co-opted member Michael Wenham, and all the Board.

**Make and Bake** for the Under 5s runs every Tuesday in term time 9.30-11am. £2 per child, no need to book.

During the Easter holidays we served 84 **free breakfasts** to families with children who have free school meals. Many thanks to those who donated towards the cost of this. We are still in need of a **Cleaner** - Monday-Wednesday 4-5pm. If you are interested or know someone who might be please get in touch.

Tel: 772280 Email: [office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk](mailto:office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk)

**ADVANCE NOTICE for St John's Church FETE 24th June (2-4pm)**. Please start saving tins, jars & bottles of food, drink, toiletries for the tombola, nearly new toys, books, bric-a-brac & raffle prizes. If appropriate, please ask your place of work to consider donating raffle prizes or promises for our auction. Please plant extra seeds (flowers & vegetables) for our plant stall, & donate homemade produce, jams & honey etc. Any ideas for stalls? Contact Nicky [nicolagibbard@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nicolagibbard@hotmail.co.uk)

**WANTAGE & GROVE FOODBANK** needs volunteers to pack & deliver food parcels (Monday & Wednesday mornings fortnightly). Also need a shopper (Friday mornings). Need to be fit, healthy & have a car. We also need larger premises & to be working from 1 site at a nominal fee (not multiple sites). If you know of anywhere with parking & no stairs, do get in touch.

**"DAWES" LADIES Bike for Sale:** In good condition. If interested, please contact Mary Mawdesley on 01235 767153.

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

**NEWSLETTER** Send any notices to be included in the newsletter by 10pm on Wednesday night. Email: [news@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:news@valebenefice.org.uk)

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## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

**Health and healing:** Jeannette, John, Norah, John, Sandra, Ellie, Ari, Laura, Ursula and Richard.

**Friends & Family mourning:** Diana, Alan, Anne, and John.

**Those living at:** Woodhill Lane and Canal Way in East Challow; Orchard Close in East Hanney; Carlton Close, Vestry Close and Catmore Close in Grove.

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## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 100	Ezekiel 34:17-23	1 Peter 5:1-5
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 100	Ezekiel 34:23-31	Hebrews 13:20-21
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 100	Jeremiah 23:1-8	Matthew 20:17-28
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Genesis 12:1-3	Acts 6:8-15
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Exodus 3:1-12	Acts 7:1-16
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Jeremiah 26:20-24	John 8:48-59

# DIARY FOR THE WEEK (Starting on Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May)

**Mon**    **Bank Holiday**

**Tue**    9.30am    Make & Bake, Cornerstone, Grove  
10am        Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room  
**10 am**        **Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney**  
2pm         U3A Main Meeting, St John's Church Hall  
6.30pm     Chess Group, All of St John's Rooms  
7.30pm     Discipleship Meeting, Vestry Room, St John's Church  
7pm         2<sup>nd</sup> Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall

**Wed**    9.15am     St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall  
10am        **Mid-week Eucharist at St John's, Grove**  
10am        Wellington Gate Community Meeting, Lower ST John's Room  
2pm         Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall  
2pm         U3A New members meeting, Lower St John's Room  
6.30pm     Open Table Meeting at Cornerstone, Grove  
7pm         Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall

**Thu**    9.30am     Extend Your Fitness (over 60's) Group, St John's Hall  
**10am**        **Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow**  
4-5pm      Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove  
5.30pm     Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall  
2pm         Bible Study Group, Lower St John's Room.  
6pm – 7pm   St John's Academy Open Meeting, Lower St John's Room  
8pm         St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall

**Fri**    **ALL WEEKEND:** E. Challow Festival of Flowers, Coronation Special  
2pm         Friends on Friday (Royal Coronation Party), St John's Church Hall

5.45pm     NCT Meeting, St John's Church Hall

**Sat**    8.30am     Morning Prayers, Frances Gillott's House

## Coronation of Charles III and Camilla

**Sun**    Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet.  
**BIG Coronation LUNCH at St John's Church Hall after the 10am service**



### 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. 07739563894. Email: [vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicaralec@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 noon. Tel. 01235 771479. Email: [office@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@valebenefice.org.uk)