

*I am the Way  
the Truth  
and the Life*  
John 14:6

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## **Sunday 7th May**

### **Fifth Sunday after Easter**

*Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 | \*Acts 7:55-60 | 1 Peter 2:2-10 | John 14:1-14*

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St Peter had a rough journey on his way to faith. No doubt he once felt he was like a new-born child. But he'd traveled a long way. Jesus was his way, his truth, his life, and when he wrote his letters he knew he was nearing the end of his life. But he sees and passes on a wonderful truth: "you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people". Yesterday we saw a human coronation, but all of us are invited to something even better: to be God's own daughters and sons in his glorious eternal kingdom. "Our Father... thy kingdom come."

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### **Our Shared Worship**

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

8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove with Rev John Durant

10am Holy Baptism, Confirmation & Communion Service  
with Bishop Gavin Collins, St John's, Grove

3pm Coronation Service, on the Green, St Nicholas, Challow  
with Rev John Durant & Rev Alec Gill

6pm Coronation Service, St James, Hanney with Rev John Durant

### **Upcoming Services**

#### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove with Rev Alec Gill

9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney with Rev John Durant

10am Morning Worship, St John's, Grove with Rev Alec Gill

10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth with Rev Geoff Maughan

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

## BENEFICE NEWS

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**FRIENDS on FRIDAY CORONATION PARTY** THIS FRIDAY - 5th 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 this Sunday (7<sup>th</sup> May) to lead a Holy Baptism, Confirmation and Communion service at 10am in 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' this Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 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. Please let the office know if you would like to come to help us with planning. We hope you can join us as we celebrate together. There is no charge for this meal, any donations towards the cost are voluntary.

**CHALLOW FESTIVAL of FLOWERS** Saint Nicholas Church is having a Coronation Flower Festival this weekend (May 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>). All welcome to come and view.

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

**HANNEY CORONATION SERVICE** will be held at St James the Great Church, this Sunday (7<sup>th</sup> May) at 6pm.

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May and every other week. All Welcome.

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

**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.

**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.

**BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON** is taking place on Sunday 28th May (2-5pm). Can you help by making cakes / serving refreshments at these events? If so, please let the office know. Many thanks.

**ADVANCE NOTICE for St John's Church FETE 24th June (2-4pm).** Please save 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)

**"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)

**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.

**Take Note** – There is a new promotion running and leaflets with details of the books available can be found on the Welcome Table at St John's as well as in Cornerstone.

**Volunteers** - We are still looking for volunteers, particularly on Saturdays. If you are able to give a couple of hours either on a regular basis or just occasionally or would like to know more of what is involved, please do get in touch.

**Foodbank and Clothes Bank** – A reminder that we are a collection point for the Wantage & Grove Foodbank and also the Clothes bank (children's clothes only).

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

**CORNERSTONE PRAYER BREAKFAST** 8.30am on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May.

**OPEN TABLE Home Group Meetings** on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month from 6.30pm at Cornerstone, Grove. Next one will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

**ST JOHN'S Tea Party at Cornerstone** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month. All ages welcome.

**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.

**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.

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE GOF (GODFREY) SMITH** My Dear Brother Gof passed away 4.4.2023. There is a Thanksgiving Service in SS. Peter & Paul Parish Church, Wantage on Tuesday 2nd May (11:30am). He was a professional medic & provided first aid at community events in this area. He was also a Community First Responder volunteer with South Central Ambulance Service & taught FAW to organisations & individuals. He owned a business "The Foot Man" providing foot care in Wantage & Faringdon. While in Wantage he became Superintendent of St. John's Ambulance Wantage Division. He is dearly missed by so many. On 21st May from 11am, TFD Gym members & others are walking 10k (locally) from TFD to raise monies for Grove RFC AED to be placed in a special cabinet in the entrance porch so it may be used 24/7 to Save a Life in the vicinity of the Recreation Ground. Please join us and raise funds if you can. Many thanks. Stephen Smith.

**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.

**THE KING'S SCHOOL** There are two job vacancies available and we would be grateful if you could share them and pray for the right people:

- Lunchtime and Playground Supervisor – part time
- Secondary Science Teacher and Tutor – part time

More information is available on our website <https://www.tkswitney.org.uk/about-us/job-vacancies>. Olivia Watterson. Registrar. The King's School part of Oxfordshire Community Churches. Registered Charity 1056921.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

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

**Friends & Family mourning:** Annis, Lesley, Ada, Diana, Mollie, Anne and John.

**Those living at:** Snuggs Lane in East Hanney; Main Street in West Hanney; Vale Avenue, Caudwell Close & Tulwick Lane in Grove; The Orchard in East Challow.

**King Charles III** and all those involved in the coronation.

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## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 102:1-17	Exodus 13:17-22	Acts 7:17-40
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 102:1-17	Proverbs 3:5-12	Acts 7:44-56
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 102:1-17	Proverbs 3:13-18	John 8:31-38
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 66:8-20	Genesis 6:5-22	Acts 27:1-12
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 66:8-20	Genesis 7:1-24	Acts 27:13-38
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 66:8-20	Genesis 8:13-19	John 14:27-29

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## DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 8th May)*

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Church Hall in use</b>
<b>Tue</b>	9.30am	Make & Bake, Cornerstone, Grove
	10am	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room
	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney</b>
	2pm	U3A Film Meeting, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
<b>Wed</b>	9.15am	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
	7.30pm	Trefoil Guild Meeting, <b>Lower</b> St John's Room
	7.30pm	GroW AGM, <b>Upper</b> St John's Room
<b>Thu</b>	9.30am	Extend Your Fitness (over 60's) Group, St John's Hall
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow</b>
	4-5pm	Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove
	5.30pm	Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
<b>Sat</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Prayer Breakfast, Cornerstone, Grove</b>
	9.30am – 4pm	Grove CE School Governors Meeting, Lower St Johns Room
<b>Sun</b>	Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet.	
	6.30pm	Senior Youth Group, St John's Church Hall

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## 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)