



Sunday 9th July

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Readings selected from:

*Psalm 45:10-17 | Song of Solomon 2:8-13 | Psalm 145:8-14 |
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 | Zechariah 9:9-12 | Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

The Old Testament isn't all lengthy laws, ancient history and bloody battles. Our psalms and reading include beautiful romantic poetry and a faith-infused love story. It's like life - as is the inner struggle that St Paul experiences, between his Christian intentions and his practical actions. Jesus recognises a similar perversity in his contemporaries. So where does the answer lie? For Paul it's in Jesus Christ his Lord. Jesus invites us all: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Our Shared Worship

Sunday 9th July

8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Rev Nicholas Cheeseman
10am Morning Worship, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth – Rev John Durant
11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev John Durant
6pm Evening Communion, St John's, Grove

Upcoming Services

Sunday 16th July

8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
9.30am Patronal Festival Eucharist, St James, Hanney with
Rev Charles Draper & Rev John Durant
NO SERVICE at St John's Church, Grove
NO SERVICE at St James Church, Denchworth
NO SERVICE at St Nicholas Church, E. Challow
6pm Evening Service, St John's, Grove

BENEFICE NEWS

BIBLE STUDY GROUP Our last meeting before the Summer will be Thursday 13th July, 2.00-3.30pm, at 8 Broadmarsh Close for food and fellowship. Peter and Angela

CORNERSTONE PRAYER BREAKFAST 2nd Saturdays of the month. Next one 8.30am on Saturday 8th July.

BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON THIS SUNDAY (9th July) 2-5pm. Can you help make cakes / serve refreshments? If so, please let the office know. Many thanks.

GROVE CHURCH VOLUNTEER ROTAS In order to shed some workload for the office, we are now creating the rotas twice a year instead of 3 times. I know many of you will not know all your absences for the whole period, but it takes less time for the office to help with swaps later on, than it does to do the whole rota creation each time. Therefore, please can all those who are kindly doing duties on church rotas let the office know your absences by 17th July for the September 2023 to end Feb 2024 rotas. Many thanks for all your hard work 😊.

MID WEEK EUCHARISTS There will be no mid-week Eucharist Services at the Vale Benefice Churches during August 2023

THE BENEFICE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED for annual staff leave from 24th July – 28th July and from 7th August – 11th August.

VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER: There will not be a newsletter coming out in August. The last one will be for Sunday 30th July (please send all items to be included to news@valebenefice.org.uk (by Tuesday 25th July) The next newsletter after that will be for Sunday 3rd July.

CHALLOW CHURCH CANDLE ENDS Can I thank everyone who got in touch with me about the candle ends, I so hate waste, and was delighted that the old candle ends can be used. A very kind lady Barbara, is taking them to Christ Church Cathedral to be used for lights and heaters in Ukraine. A very good cause and I had no idea about it, so this may spread the word to others. Liz.

SAYING GOODBYE REMEMBRANCE SERVICE at 1pm on 8th July at Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford. For more information: www.sayinggoodbye.org The Mariposa Trust.

OPEN TABLE HOME GROUP MEETINGS: We will not meet during August. So, Wednesday 19th July will be the final meeting this month. Everyone is welcome. The next Open Table will be on 6th September, 6:30 pm at Cornerstone, then the third and first Wednesday of each month.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP Meeting: 1st Sundays of the month, in the Lower St John's Room (3pm – 4.30pm). All Welcome.

ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY (CORNERSTONE) The Saturday Teaparty at Cornerstone will be taking a summer break, which means NO Teaparty in July and August. However, Cornerstone Café will of course be open as normal. We hope the Cornerstone Teaparty might begin again on Saturday 16th September at 2 pm.

AN EVENING WITH ENVIRONMENTALISTS' MARTIN & MARGOT HODSON

Thursday 13th July at 7pm – Cornerstone, Savile Way, Grove.

Tickets £5 includes refreshments available in advance from the Cornerstone.

For more information see poster in entrance hall or contact Cornerstone – 772280

CORNERSTONE NEWS

BBC Radio Oxford – Our manager Sarah will be on the Sunday Breakfast Show with Hedley Feast this Sunday 9th July. Do listen in.

Make and Bake: This has now finished for the summer but we are looking for an enthusiastic person to take the lead in this from September. Many activities have been prepared over the years so not a huge amount of work. Some craft preparation each week, a story to read and songs to sing. If you would be interested or would like more information do please contact us.

Till cover: We are looking for someone to cover the till on **Wednesday afternoons** 2-4pm. If you are interested in volunteering do get in touch.

Saturday teams: We are also keen to assemble a 5th Saturday team 12-2pm and 2-3.30pm. It's a great way to serve in the community and get to know Christians in other churches as you work together. Again do get in touch if you are interested. For more news and information, see the newsletter on the noticeboard & emailed out. Email: office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk Tel: 772280

THANKS – We have received thanks from the Cornerstone & Street Pastors for the recent grants we gave them. You can see their responses on the noticeboard in the entrance area.

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. contact@growfamilies.co.uk or phone Tel: 01235 376037 if you might be able to help.

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.

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

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Health and healing: Jeannette Rose, Barbara Wood, John Butter, Norah Lunn, John Blair, Sandra Foster, Ari Psaras, Laura Challis, Ursula Geer and Richard Hummerston.

Friends & Family mourning: Sandra Lake, Michael Pembroke, Rosemary Clark, James Patey, Frederick Carroll, Pat Charles, Roy Castle, Mollie Day and Joan & Stanley Doore.

These living at: Letcombe Hill in East Challow; Brookside in East Hanney; North Green in West Hanney; Sharland Close, Evenlode Close and Shannon Close in Grove.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Genesis 27:30-46	Romans 1:18-25
Tue	Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Genesis 29:1-14	Romans 3:1-8
Wed	Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Genesis 29:31-35	John 13:1-17
Thu	Psalms 119:105-112	Exodus 3:1-6	Romans 2:12-16
Fri	Psalms 119:105-112	Deuteronomy 32:1-10	Romans 15:14-21
Sat	Psalms 65:9-13	Isaiah 52:1-6	John 12:44-50

DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 10th July)*

Mon	10am	GroW Toddlers Group, St John's Church Hall	
	10am	U3A Genealogy Group, Lower St John's Rooms	
	12.45 pm	GroW Babies Group, St John's Church Hall	
	2pm	U3A Committee Meeting, Lower ST John's Room	
	7pm	1 st Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall	
Tue	9.30am	St John's Academy "Stay & Play", St John's Church Hall	
	10am	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room	
	10am	Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney	
	2pm	U3A Film Meeting, St John's Church Hall	
	7pm	2 nd Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall	
Wed	7.45pm	PCC Meeting, St Nicholas Church, E. Challow	
	Wed	9.15am	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall	
	2.30pm	PCC Meeting, St James Church, Denchworth	
Thu	6pm	St John's Academy "Stay & Play", St John's Church Hall	
	Thu	9.30am	Extend Your Fitness Group, St John's Church Hall
	9.30am	St John's Academy "Stay & Play", Lower St John's Room	
	10am	Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow	
	2pm	Bible Study Group Social, at Peter & Angela Rich's house	
Fri	2pm	Funeral of Michael Pembroke, St James, W. Hanney	
	4-5pm	Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove	
	5.30pm	Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall	
	8 pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall	
Fri	5pm	Grove CE Primary School Family Disco, St John's Hall	
Sat	8.30am	Morning Prayers at Frances Gillott's house	
	1pm	Wedding at St John's Church, Grove	
Sun	Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet.		

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. John Durant: Tel. 01235 766484. Email: vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Revd. Alec Gill: Tel. 07739563894. Email: vicaralec@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 noon. Tel. 01235 771479. Email: office@valebenefice.org.uk