



Sunday 23rd July 2023 **Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

Readings selected from:

*Psalm 139:1-11,23,24 | Psalm 86:11-17 | Genesis 28:10-19a | Isaiah 44:6-8
Wisdom of Solomon 12:13,16-19 | Romans 8:12-25 | Matthew 13:24-30,36-43*

“You hem me in, behind and before....” If there’s a common theme in our readings this week, it could be that God will always be there in the future as He has been in the past – something that should fill us with hope as well as awe. Last week some of us heard Martin and Margot Hodson talking about the environmental crisis we are facing, for which we are collectively responsible. Their warnings about the dangers our planet faces were truly sobering; but Margot reminded us also of our hope in Christ. As Christians, we know the future is ours to shape but ultimately belongs to God.

Our Shared Worship

Sunday 23rd July

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Rev John Durant
- 10am Morning Worship, St John’s, Grove – Sue Powditch
No 10am Service St James, Denchworth
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev John Durant
- 6pm Patronal Evensong, St James, Denchworth with
+Gavin of Dorchester & Rev John Durant
No Evening Service at St Johns, Grove

Upcoming Services

Sunday 30th July

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Rev Geoff Maughan
- 10am Family Communion, St John’s, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth – Rev Robin Lapwood
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev Robert Teare
- 6pm Evening Communion, St John’s, Grove

BENEFICE NEWS

GROVE PCC At our Grove PCC we approved the buying of a streaming license; agreed the dates of our services – 24th September Harvest; Carol Service 17th December; discussed the possibility of changing the morning service time to slightly later and agreed to consult with people; considered what the church was for based on the passages of Matthew 22: 34-40, 28: 16-20; Acts 2: 42-47 & Luke 4: 16-19; reviewed, agreed & signed the Health and Safety policy; agreed that the FMG are practically responsible for decisions implementing our Hiring Policy; set up a working group to create a pastoral care team / coordinator; gratefully received the finance update; were informed about several tasks that are required to keep us safe and environmentally friendly as well as the challenge to pay for this; approved the church organisations which need to be covered by safeguarding and received a short Deanery Report.

CONGRATULATIONS Many congratulations to Bev Rolls who recently celebrated her 70th birthday. Bev kindly donated this week's flower pedestal to mark her special occasion.

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 September.

OPEN TABLE HOME GROUP MEETINGS: We will not meet during August.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP Meeting: 1st Sundays of the month, in the Lower St John's Room (3pm – 4.30pm). All Welcome. No meetings in August.

ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY (CORNERSTONE) The Saturday Tea party at Cornerstone will be taking a summer break, which means NO Tea party in July and August. However, Cornerstone Café will of course be open as normal.

CORNERSTONE NEWS

Cook – we are looking for a new cook and will be advertising shortly. If you would like more information or know someone who would be interested, please get in touch.

Saturday teams - we aim 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. Remember we are a collection point for the **Foodbank** and Children's **Clothes bank**. **Community Fridge** is here every Thursday afternoon from 4-5pm.

For more news and information, see the newsletter on the noticeboard & emailed out. Email: office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk Tel: 772280

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.

BLISTER PACKS What a fantastic response to the blister pack collections! A big thank you too all. Please keep collecting/recycling, but as St. John's Church foyer gets rather full, PLEASE try to deliver them now to "The Mix", Mill Street, Wantage (Park in Sainsburys car park and go through the Angel Walk alley to Mill Street). Mon: 2-6pm; Wed: 10.30am-3pm & Sat: 10am-1pm. They also collect old biros & highlighters, used toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, candles (whole or stubs), & ink cartridges.

RIDE AND STRIDE (GROVE) Saturday 9th September (10am-6pm). Find sponsors, prepare your route & visit as many churches as you wish. Money raised is halved between your church & historic churches trust. Our benefice has benefitted before. To take part; go online, download a form & record the churches you have visited. We need volunteers as welcomers during the day if you can help write your name on the form in the entrance hall. Any questions contact Terry Mawdesley.

RIDE AND STRIDE (HANNEY)

St James Hanney also takes part in R+S and has recently received grants. If you could help by being a welcomer, please contact Hilary on

hilarycakebreadhall@gmail.com

RIDE AND STRIDE (CHALLOW AND DENCHWORTH) Please get in contact with the individual churches for information.

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.

WING WALK FOR SOBELL HOUSE Bev Rolls and her Granddaughter Ellie are doing a wing walk on 15th September in support of Sobell house hospice. If anyone would like to sponsor them there are forms in the St John's foyer.

ARDINGTON & LOCKINGE SINGERS SUMMER CONCERT Sunday 30th July, outside Lockinge Church. Gates Open at 6pm with the concert beginning at 6.30pm. Admission is free but a donation to charity can be made. Don't forget to bring a picnic!

WANTAGE LITERARY FESTIVAL 21st October – 4th November. For more details and to book tickets: www.wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk

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 Tuesday night. Email: news@valebenefice.org.uk

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

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

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

These living at: Sarajac Avenue and Main Street in East Challow; Crown Meadow in East Hanney; Savile Way, Farmstead Close and Rosebay Crescent in Grove.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 139:13-18	Genesis 32:3-21	Revelation 14:12-20
Tue	Psalm 139:13-18	Genesis 33:1-17	Galatians 4:21-5:1
Wed	Psalm 139:13-18	Genesis 35:16-29	Matthew 12:15-21
Thu	Psalm 105:1-11, 45b	Genesis 29:1-8	1 Corinthians 4:14-20
Fri	Psalm 105:1-11, 45b	Genesis 29:9-14	Acts 7:44-53
Sat	Psalm 105:1-11, 45b	Genesis 29:31-30:24	Matthew 12:38-42

DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 24th July)*

Mon	10am 1.45-2.15pm 8pm	U3A Science Group, St John's Room Extra GroW Babies Group, St John's Church Hall Worship Group/Tech Meeting, Lower St John's Room
Tue	9.30am 10am	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney
Wed	2pm 7pm	Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
Thu	9.30am 10am 4-5pm 8pm	Extend Your Fitness, St John's Church Hall Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
Sat	2pm	Interment of Ashes of Rosemary Clark at St Nicholas, East Challow
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.

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