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## **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

### **Third Sunday after Trinity**

*Psalm 13 | Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 | Genesis 22:1-14 | Jeremiah 28:5-9*  
*Romans 6:12-23 | Matthew 10:40-42*

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The benefice (our four churches) celebrates the birth of John the Baptist together this Sunday. His father Zechariah recognised that he would grow up to “be called the prophet of the Most High”; to prepare the Messiah’s way who would usher in the longed-for dawn from on high... “to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.” Little could he or John (or even Isaiah) have imagined Jesus kneeling like a slave to wash people’s dirty feet, let alone loving them enough to die for them. Yet this is the good news for us to share: “Here is your God!”

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### **Our Shared Worship**

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant  
St James, W. Hanney – **No Service**  
10am Patronal Festival and Holy Communion, St John’s, Grove with  
Rev John Durant, Rev Velma Oxley and Rev Alec Gill  
St James, Denchworth – **No Service**  
St Nicholas, E. Challow – **No Service**  
6pm Evening Prayer, St John’s, Grove

#### **Upcoming Services**

##### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant  
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Rev Charles Draper  
10am Family Communion, St John’s, Grove – Rev John Durant  
10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth – Rev Alec Gill  
11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev Alec Gill

##### **No Evening Service at Grove**

4pm Choral Evensong at Wantage Parish Church

## BENEFICE NEWS

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**PRAISE & WORSHIP Evening** at Wantage Baptist Church on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 6pm. "Lift the Name of Jesus" featuring songs by local songwriter John. M. Wilson.

**WANTAGE PARISH CHURCH:** 29<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July. A Sustainable Church Flower Festival. With Coronation Florist Shane Connolly. Information and tickets from [www.wantageparish.com](http://www.wantageparish.com)

**WANTAGE PARISH CHURCH:** Choral Evensong at 4pm followed by a garden party at Prior's Hold. Guest preacher: Dr Martin Hodson. All Welcome.

**WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP Meeting:** Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 in the Lower St John's Room (3pm – 4.30pm). All Welcome.

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH FETE:** A MASSIVE thank you to all those who have been involved in the planning, helping, running of the stalls & clearing up of this wonderful event on Saturday. Thank you also to those who helped advertise, those who did flyer drops, donated and those planning on attending on Saturday.

**ST NICHOLAS SCHOOL FETE:** St Nicholas Primary School, Challow, will be holding their School Fete on 2nd July from 2pm to 4pm at the school. Please do come along to support our local church school. Proceeds go towards helping to fund teaching and learning for the children at the school. Thank you.

**WEST HENDRED SUMMER LUNCH** at Manor Farm House (opposite Village Hall) on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July (12.30pm – 3.30pm) with the famous duck race! Free entry.

Lunch: £8 adults, £4 under 12years, under 5's free. All in aid of Holy Trinity Church.

### CORNERSTONE NEWS

**Volunteers needed** – especially during the summer holiday period.

**Teacher's Gifts** – we have a selection of cards and gifts suitable to give teachers as a thank you at the end of term.

**Monthly hot meal special** – this will be served on Wednesday 28th June, please do book in advance so we know how many to cater for.

Cleaner **urgently required** – Saturdays 3-4pm. Do get in touch for more information. Tel: 772280 / Email: [office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk](mailto:office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk)

**ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY AT CORNERSTONE** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month. All ages welcome. Please do come and support Cornerstone at this lovely regular event.

**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.

**CORNERSTONE PRAYER BREAKFAST** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays of the month. Next one 8.30am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

**SAYING GOODBYE REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** at 1pm on 8th July at Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford. For more information: [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org) The Mariposa Trust

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

**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)

**ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY (Ridgeway Benefice)** The Diocese of Oxford is advertising for an Administrator for the Ridgeway Benefice, to provide support to the Rector for 6 hours per week over 3 days (not Fridays), working from home with occasional meetings at the Rectory in Letcombe Regis. Salary: £5000 per year. This is a good opportunity for someone with administrative skills together with the ability to communicate well with people in a variety of situations, who can work to deadlines, handle confidential and sensitive information, with literacy & numeracy skills & excellent attention to detail. The person appointed would be subject to an Enhanced DBS check & undertake the appropriate Diocesan Safeguarding Training. Closing date: 28.7.2023. Interviews: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023. Please email: Rev Ness Brunner-Ellis [rector.ridgeway@outlook.com](mailto:rector.ridgeway@outlook.com) for details of how to apply.

**BeSPACE VACANCY** Job title: Prayer Space Coordinator Line management: Accountable to the Board of Trustees Hours: Full-time or part-time (30 hours per week) Remuneration: £ 22,130pa FTE Annual leave: 25 days (pro-rata), plus Bank Holidays. Place of work: Working from home combined with travel to prayer spaces and in-person meetings and events. **JOB PURPOSE:** BeSpace is a Christian Charity seeking to work with churches and individuals across Oxfordshire to encourage opportunities to pray and reflect as a part of our everyday lives. The Prayer Space Coordinator leads this work of engagement with schools and workplaces, supporting volunteers and other staff members to lead the Charity forward. The Prayer Space Coordinator works alongside the Board of Trustees to support the strategic direction of BeSpace and to ensure the ongoing sustainability, growth and success of the charity. The Prayer Space Coordinator acts as a strong figurehead for the charity; a positive ambassador and a positive leader and role model for employees and volunteers. We are looking for a mature Christian who is committed in a local church to fulfil this role, with prayer being at the center of the day-to-day running of BeSpace. For more information and insight into the work of BeSpace: <https://bespace.be/> For further information or to apply to this role please email Mary at [marylphillips84@gmail.com](mailto:marylphillips84@gmail.com)

**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.

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## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

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

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

**These living at:** Bramley Close in East Hanney; St John's Road, Easterfield and St Ives Road in Grove; Hill Close and Windmill Place in East Challow.

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## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 86:11-17	Genesis 16:1-15	Revelation 2:1-7
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 86:11-17	Genesis 25:12-18	Revelation 2:8-11
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 86:11-17	Jeremiah 42:18-22	Matthew 10:5-23
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 13	Micah 7:18-20	Galatians 5:2-6
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 13	Chronicles 20:5-12	Galatians 5:7-12
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 13	Genesis 26:23-25	Luke 17:1-4

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## DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 26<sup>th</sup> June)*

<b>Mon</b>	10am	GroW Toddlers Group, St John's Church Hall
	10am	U3A Science Group, St John's Rooms
	12.45 pm	GroW Babies Group, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	St John's Church FMG Meeting, Lower St John's Room
<b>Tue</b>	9.30am	Cornerstone Make & Bake (under 5's), Cornerstone
	10am	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney</b>
	1pm	Ashes interment: Joan & Stanley Doore, Hanney Churchyard
	7pm	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	Guides Volunteers Meeting, Upper St John's Room
	8pm	Vale Elim Meeting, Lower St John's Room
<b>Thu</b>	9.30am	Extend Your Fitness Group, St John's Church Hall
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow</b>
	2pm	Bible Study Group, Lower St John's Room
	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
<b>Sat</b>	8.30am	Morning Prayers at Frances Gillott's house
	1.30pm-4.30pm	Private Party, St John's Church Hall
<b>Sun</b>	Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet.	
	2pm	St Nicholas School Fete, Challow
	3pm	Women's Social Group, Lower St John's Room
	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)