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## **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023**

### **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**

*Readings selected from:*

*Psalm 26:1-8 | Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b | Exodus 3:1-15 | Jeremiah 15:15-21  
Matthew 16:21-28 | Romans 12:9-21*

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Rich readings this week! Jesus tells us that faithfully following him is a hard and costly path. And so it is, if we heed St Paul: "Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers." Not a comfortable call.

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### **Our Shared Worship**

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Holy 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 Alec Gill
- 6pm Evening Worship, St John's, Grove

### **Upcoming Services**

#### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

- 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 – Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev John Durant
- 6pm Evening Prayer, St John's, Grove

## BENEFICE NEWS

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**VOLUNTEER NEEDED AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH** Help required with grass cutting at the church. For more details, please contact John Harris, either through the Benefice office, the Benefice directory or see him after the 10am service. Thank you.

**OPEN TABLE HOME GROUP MEETINGS** At 'Open Table' (starting on Wednesday evening) we hope to be exploring what Jesus meant by the Kingdom of God. Please note that this is not a home group, but a fortnightly happening, open to anyone and everyone, who'd like a light supper followed by a time of wondering about their faith journey with fellow travelers. 6.30-8.30pm at the Cornerstone Café. Bring a friend. No charge!

**WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP MEETING:** For this month the women social group will be meeting on the second Sunday, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 3-4.30 pm, in the Lower St John's Room. All welcome. After this, meetings will be held on the first Sunday of each month.

**ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY (CORNERSTONE)** Cornerstone Tea party will be starting again on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September from 2-3 pm. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. All welcome.

### CORNERSTONE NEWS

- We are now advertising for a **Kitchen Manager** and a **Cook**. Adverts for both these posts are on the Grove Church noticeboard. Contact Cornerstone for more info.
- Unfortunately, we are unable to start up **Make & Bake** at the moment as we do not have anyone to run it. If this is something you might be interested in doing, or would like to know more information, please contact Cornerstone.
- We have a new **Take Note** promotion running throughout September which includes books and CDs. Come in and see what is on offer.
- We are still looking for a **volunteer for the "till" work on Wednesday afternoons**. Please contact us if you are able to help.
- Remember: **Community Fridge** runs here Thursdays (4-5pm). Do take surplus food to help stop food wastage. Tel: 772280 / [office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk](mailto:office@cornerstonegrove.org.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.

**GROVE AND WANTAGE SCHOOLS PRAYER GROUP** Come and join us to pray for our local schools. We meet from 4 - 5pm in the St John's Rooms at Grove Parish Church on the following Wednesdays: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024, and 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024. All Welcome. For more information: John Wilson or Helen Harwood at [johnmwilson2012@gmail.com](mailto:johnmwilson2012@gmail.com); [andrewandhelenharwood@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:andrewandhelenharwood@yahoo.co.uk);

**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 now deliver them (if you can) 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 biro's & highlighters, used toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, candles (whole or stubs), & ink cartridges.

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

**GROVE CHURCH NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR: Tech Help at the back of church:**

Projector, PA desk and OBS on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (10am Service),  
PA desk or OBS on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (6pm Carol Service) and  
PA Desk or OBS on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (10am Remembrance Day service).  
If you can help with any of these, please contact the Benefice Office on  
[office@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@valebenefice.org.uk) / Tel: 01235 771479. Thank you.

**RIDE AND STRIDE (GROVE)** Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 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 <https://ohct.org.uk>, download a form & record the churches you have visited. Riders are welcome to join Steve & Lorna Swanton who are leading a ride from Old Mill Hall at 9.30am. See Steve's post on the Cycling UK Wantage Facebook page or <https://cyclingukwantage.org.uk/rides.php?curid=8906> for details. We need volunteers in church 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, contact Hilary on [hilarycakebreadhall@gmail.com](mailto:hilarycakebreadhall@gmail.com).

**RIDE AND STRIDE (CHALLOW)** Please get in touch with Janet Parker.

**FRIENDS ON FRIDAY GROUP** Starting again on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2-4 pm in St John's Church Hall. Then meeting 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays (3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays with Holy Communion Service).

**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP** Next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September in the St John's Rooms 2-3.30pm. Meeting bi-weekly after that.

**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.

**WANTAGE LITERARY FESTIVAL** 21<sup>st</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> November. For more details and to book tickets: [www.wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk](http://www.wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk)

**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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## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18	Exodus 4:10-31	Revelation 3:1-6
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18	Exodus 5:1-6:13	Revelation 3:7-13
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18	Exodus 7:14-25	Matthew 12:22-32
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 149	Exodus 9:1-7	2 Corinthians 12:11-21
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 149	Exodus 10:21-29	Romans 10:15b-21
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 149	Exodus 11:1-10	Matthew 23:29-36

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

**Health and healing:** Peter Rich, Rosemary Hedderley, John Butter, Norah Lunn, John Blair, Sandra Foster, Ari Psaras, Laura Challis, Ursula Geer, and Richard Hummerston.

**Friends & Family mourning:** Barbara Wood, Trevor Herman, Sandra and Chris Baker, Jayne Tidmus, Ernest Harford, Walter Wright and Pat Charles.

**These living at:** Faringdon Road and Field Gardens in East Challow; Ebbs Lane in East Hanney; Glebe Gardens, Peregrine Way, and Pound Croft in Grove

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## DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 4<sup>th</sup> September)*

<b>Mon</b>	10am	U3A Art Group, St John's Room
<b>Tue</b>	10am	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney</b>
	2pm	U3A Main Meeting, St John's Church Hall
	6pm	St John's Academy, Lower St John's Room
<b>Wed</b>	9.15am	St John's Toddlers Group, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
	6.30pm	Open Table Home Group, Cornerstone, Grove
	7pm	Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
<b>Thu</b>	9am	SIAMS Training, Lower St John's Room
	9.30am	Extend Your Fitness, St John's Church Hall
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow</b>
	11.30am	Funeral of Barbara Wood, St John's Church, Grove (Followed by Funeral Reception in St John's Church Hall)
	4-5pm	Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove
	6pm	St John's Academy, Lower St John's Room
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
<b>Sat</b>	8.30am	Cornerstone Prayer Breakfast, Cornerstone, Grove
	10am – 6pm	RIDE & STRIDE
<b>Sun</b>	Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet.	
	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)