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## **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

### **Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

*Readings selected from:*

*Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13 | Psalm 114 | Genesis 50:15-21 | Exodus 14:19-31  
Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 | Matthew 18:21-35 | Romans 14:1-12*

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New starts: we were all sad last Sunday to hear the announcement that John and Sally would be leaving us at the end of the year. For them, and in time for the benefice, it will also be a new start. We thank God and pray for them. A lot of our young people too face a time of new beginnings – at new schools, colleges, or universities – and jobs. The good news for all of them, and us, is, as the old prayer puts it: “Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left.” Amen.

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### **Our Shared Worship**

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Rev Charles Draper
- 10am Holy Communion and Baptism, St John’s, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Canon Robert Teare
- 6pm Evening Worship, St John’s, Grove

#### **Upcoming Services**

#### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist and Baptism, St James, Hanney – Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Harvest Morning Worship, St John’s, Grove – Sarah Shackleton
- 10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth – Rev Robin Lapwood
- 11am Harvest Parade Service, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev John Durant
- 6pm Evening Communion, St John’s, Grove

## BENEFICE NEWS

**ST JOHNS HARVEST LUNCH** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September after the morning service. The lunch will include Vegetarian & Meat Chilli, Jacket potatoes, Grated cheese, and Salad, with Apple crumble and Custard / Cream for dessert. Donations will be taken on the day or can be made beforehand, and any additional donations will be donated to Wantage and Grove Foodbank. Everyone is welcome. I do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us.

**RIDE AND STRIDE** Thank you to everyone who helped support this in our **Benefice Churches**. Lorna, Peter & Terry would like to thank all those who sponsored them for this year's very hot journey. A special thank you to our church "welcomers" on the day. There was always someone to welcome those coming to our church. If you have sponsored any of us, we would appreciate the money as soon as possible. The amount raised will be announced in due course. Thank you all again.

**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.

**WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP Meeting:** Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month, in the Lower St John's Room (3pm – 4.30pm). All Welcome.

**OPEN TABLE MEETINGS** Next meeting Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>, 6.30-8.30 pm. 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. Bring a friend.

**ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY (CORNERSTONE)** A reminder: this Saturday (16<sup>th</sup>) at 2pm – everyone is invited to join us for tea – all ages – come for an hour's informal fellowship and Cornerstone's renowned refreshments. Come and chat, or enjoy the children's play-corner and browse the books and cards etc. Hope to see you there!

### CORNERSTONE NEWS

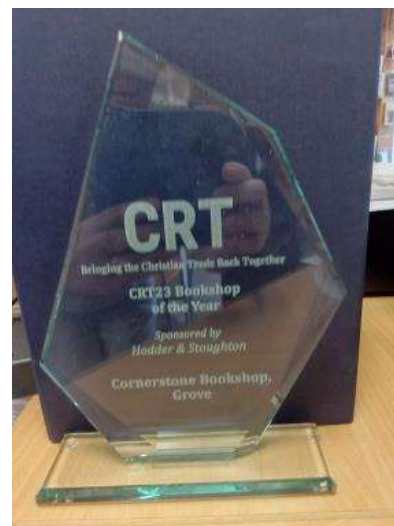
- We are delighted to say that Cornerstone has been awarded **CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP OF THE YEAR** by the Christian Booksellers Association. A great achievement considering there are 189 Christian bookshops in the country. Well done!

- We are still advertising for a **Kitchen Manager** and a **Cook**. Adverts for both these posts can be seen on the church noticeboard or contact Cornerstone for more information. Please pray that the right people will come forward to fill these roles.

- Our **hot meal special** this month will be Beef Bourguignon and it will be served on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September** at 12.30pm. Please do book this in advance so we know how many to cater for.

- In the bookshop we have a new **Take Note** promotion running throughout September which includes books and cds – come in and see what is on offer. Tel: 772280 Email: [office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk](mailto:office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk)

**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 PCC MEETING** 8.00pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, Lower St Johns Room.

**SAYING GOODBYE REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AT ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL**

A service on 9<sup>th</sup> of September at 7pm for anyone who has lost a baby in pregnancy, at birth or in early years, whether the loss was yesterday or 80 years ago. This event is also for those grieving that they have never been able to conceive. For more information go to [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org)

**BLISTER PACKS** Please keep collecting/recycling, but as St. John's Church foyer gets full, **PLEASE try to deliver them now to "The Mix if you can,"** Mill Street, Wantage. **Mon:** 2pm-6pm; **Wed:** 10.30am-3pm; **Sat:** 10am-1pm. They also collect **old** biro, highlighters, toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, candles, ink & cartridges.

**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);

**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.

**GROVE CHURCH NEEDS TECH VOLUNTEERS FOR: Tech Help at the back of church on the following dates:**

Projector, (and PA desk or 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.

**SPONSORED WALK IN AID OF PILGRIM HOMES** Approximately 5 ½ mile circular walk from Christopher's Wood Car Park to West Hendred & the Ginges meeting at 10.30am on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Please note good walking shoes or boots are strongly recommended as the route is of mixed terrain. All proceeds go towards the support of the Framland Pilgrim Home, Pilgrims' Friend Society. Sponsorship forms available from Dave Pepler via email – [dave.a.pepler@gmail.com](mailto:dave.a.pepler@gmail.com)

**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 Tuesday night. Email: [news@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:news@valebenefice.org.uk)

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## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

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

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

**These living at:** Hyde Road in Denchworth, Berry Lane in East Hanney; The Meads in West Hanney, Godfrey Close and Oxford Lane in Grove; Grove Park Drive

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## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 77	Joshua 3:1-17	Hebrews 11:23-29
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 77	Nehemiah 9:9-15	Romans 14:13-15:2
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 77	2 Kings 2:1-18	Mark 11:20-25
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45	Exodus 15:22-27	2 Corinthians 13:1-4
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45	Exodus 16:1-21	2 Corinthians 13:5-10
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45	Exodus 16:22-30	Matthew 19:23-30

## DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 18<sup>th</sup> September)*

<b>Mon</b>	10am	GroW Toddlers Group, St John's Church Hall
	12.45pm	GroW Babies Group, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
<b>Tue</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney</b>
	2pm	U3A Main Meeting, St John's Church Hall
	6.30pm	Wantage Chess Club, All St John's Rooms
	7pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	St John's PCC Meeting, St John's Church
<b>Wed</b>	9.15am	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
	6.30pm	Open Table Meeting, Cornerstone, Grove
	7pm	Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
<b>Thu</b>	9.30am	Extend Your Fitness, St John's Church Hall
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow</b>
	11am	U3A Leaders Meeting, Lower St John's Room
	12 noon	WGCP Meeting, Lower St John's Room
	2pm	Funeral Service (Trevor Herman), W.Hanney Church,
	4-5pm	Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove
	5.30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall
	5pm	Wedding Rehearsal, St John's Church, Grove
	7.30pm	Wedding Rehearsal, St James Church, W. Hanney
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
<b>Fri</b>	1.30pm	Burial of Chris Baker at St James Churchyard, W. Hanney
	5.45pm	NCT Meeting, St John's Church Hall
<b>Sat</b>	8.30am	Morning Prayer Group, Frances Gillott's House
	1.30pm	Wedding at St John's Church, Grove
	2pm	Wedding at St James Church, W. Hanney
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Sunday Clubs / Creche, St John's Church Hall &amp; Rooms</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Harvest Parade Service, St Nicholas Church, E. Challow</b>
	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Harvest Lunch, St John's Church Hall</b>
	6.30pm	Senior Youth Group, St John's Church Hall

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](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)