



## **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

### **Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**

*Readings selected from:*

*Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45 | Psalm 145:1-8 | Exodus 16:2-15 | Jonah 3:10-4:11*

*Matthew 20:1-16 | Philippians 1:21-30*

Creationtide or the Season of Creation in the church calendar runs from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. “Unbidden, the enormity of issues facing the earth seemed to pour in... and incontrollable tears began to flow... Everywhere my mind wandered it saw destruction and brokenness, wildlife extinction, habitat loss, climate catastrophe, cruelty, eradication. Ecological grief can be so painful it physically hurts” (Mary Colwell, ‘The Gathering Place’, 2023). Morocco, Libya, Greece: remind us how the climate emergency affects Creation. As we thank God for our harvests, let’s pray generously for those without, with no food, water, and shelter.

### **Our Shared Worship**

#### **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 Johns, Grove

### **Upcoming Services**

#### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

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

## 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.

**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.

**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).  
PA Desk person needed for 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

If you can help with any of these, please contact the Benefice Office on. Thanks.

**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);

**WANTAGE AND GROVE CHILDREN'S CLOTHES BANK** We are in need of children's winter coats, particularly 6-11 yrs. Please drop at the Cornerstone in Grove or contact [w.g.clothesbank@gmail.com](mailto:w.g.clothesbank@gmail.com) if you can help. Thank you.

**OPEN TABLE MEETINGS:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month (6.30pm) at Cornerstone, Grove. All Welcome.

**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP** Meets bi-weekly in the St John's Rooms, Grove Church from 2pm - 3.30pm. Next meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

**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.

**ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY (CORNERSTONE)** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month. 2pm at Cornerstone, Grove. All Welcome.

**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. Tel: 772280 Email: [office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk](mailto:office@cornerstonegrove.org.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)

**BEV ROLLS & ELLIE WING WALK:** Congratulations to Bev & Ellie for their Wing Walk last week for Sobel House. You can still donate if you wish: See Bev Rolls.

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT EVENT:** It's a bit early to be mentioning Christmas, but we need some helpers for a special craft event we will be holding on Saturday 16th December (more details to follow). If you can volunteer for this event, there is a meeting in the church hall after the 10am service on 8th October. If you cannot attend this but want to be involved, please let the office know. Thank you.

**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)

**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)

**PENSIONERS' FAIR** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 12.30pm-4.30pm at The Beacon, in Wantage, OX12 9BX. Free to attend. Featuring organisations such as AgeUK, Barclays Bank, Alzheimer's Society, Vale Community Impact, Wantage Association of Retired Persons, Active Oxfordshire and more!

**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)

## 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:** Norah Grover, Beatrice Ridgway, Barbara Wood, Trevor Herman, Sandra & Chris Baker, Jayne Tidmus, Ernest Harford, Walter Wright, and Pat Charles.

**These living at:** Hardwell Close, Nobles Close and Harlington Avenue in Grove; Summertown in East Hanney; Rectory Farm Close in West Hanney; Reynolds Way in East Challow.

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 119:97-104	Exodus 16:31-35	Romans 16:1-16
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 119:97-104	Numbers 11:1-9	Romans 16:17-20
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 119:97-104	Numbers 11:18-23, 31-32	Matthew 18:1-5
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16	Isaiah 48: 17-21	James 4:11-16
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16	Numbers 20:1-13	Acts 13:32-41
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16	Numbers 27:12-14	Mark 11:27-33

## DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 25<sup>th</sup> September)*

<b>Mon</b>	10am 10am 12 noon 12.45pm 7pm	GroW Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall U3A Science Group, St John's Room Interment of Patricia Charles, W. Hanney Churchyard GroW Babies Group, St John's Church Hall 1 <sup>st</sup> Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
<b>Tue</b>	10am <b>10am</b> 6.30pm 7pm	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room <b>Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney</b> Wantage Chess Club, St John's Rooms 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
<b>Wed</b>	9.15am 2pm – 3.30pm 4pm – 5pm	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall Wantage & Grove School Prayers, Lower St John's Room

	7pm	Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
	8pm – 9.30pm	Vale Elim Meeting, Upper St John's Room
<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>
	2pm – 3.30pm	Bible Group Meeting, Lower St John's Room
	4-5pm	Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove
	5.30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
<b>Fri</b>	<b>7pm</b>	Konga Private Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
<b>Sat</b>	10am-12noon	GroW Pediatric 1 <sup>st</sup> Aid Course, St John's Hall
		<b>Hanney Michaelmas Fayre, Hanney</b>
<b>Sun</b>	12noon	Private Baptism Party, St John's Church Hall
	3pm	Women's Social Group, Lower St John's Room
	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)