



Sunday 15th October **Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Readings selected from:

Psalms 23 | Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 | Exodus 32:1-14 | Isaiah 25:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14 | Philippians 4:1-9

How would Jesus react to events in his homeland today? Would he have cried, as he did over Jerusalem, “How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing?” In our gospel Jesus tells a parable of a king arranging a wedding banquet for his son. Having been rebuffed by the original guests, he sends out further invitations and “the servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good.” That’s God’s heart. He wants everyone, Jew and Christian, Muslim and faith-less, to share his kingdom of peace, justice and love – together.

Our Shared Worship

Sunday 15th October

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
- 9.30am Sunday Service, St James, Hanney
- 10am Holy Communion, St John’s, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth – Rev John Durant
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev John Durant
- 2.30pm Blessing & Thanksgiving Service, St John’s Church, Grove
- 6pm Evening Prayer, St John’s, Grove

Upcoming Services

Sunday 22nd October

- 8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Velma Oxley
- 10am Morning Worship, St John’s, Grove – Sarah Shackleton
- 10am Holy Communion, St James, Denchworth – Rev Alec Gill
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, East Challow – Rev Alec Gill
- 6pm Evening Communion, St John’s, Grove

BENEFICE NEWS

GROVE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL A huge Thank you to the children, parents/carers and the school staff for all the wonderful Harvest donations given, which have all been collected by the Food Bank and forwarded on to those in need.

CHALLOW CHURCH PCC St Nicholas Church PCC at The Funky Teapot, discussed the church calendar (noting that Prayer Space will take place 21st – 24th November) as well as the forth coming vacancy. We decided to provide new altar cloths, accepted Jeff Penfold as deputy Church warden, approved the Health & Safety policy and received the finance, Fabric Safeguarding & Deanery reports.

CHRISTCHURCH, OXFORD: Please pray for Sarah Shackleton at her Lay Minister Licensing Service on 4th November (11am).

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS Craft FAYRE: Sat 2nd December (3pm–5pm), Church Hall. With children's & adult crafts for sale, nearly new gifts, tombola, books & toys stall, kids' activities, homemade candles, Cornerstone goods, mulled wine & mince pies. Do bring donations for tombola, books & toys (in good condition) to Church Office. Please invite friends & family to this festive afternoon. If you can help, contact Nicky Gibbard.

CHRISTMAS "CRAFT EVENT": A special Craft making evening event on Sat 16th December at Grove Church Hall. Helpers needed: contact Louise O'Neil or the Benefice Office. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS CARDS For those who like to be organized early for Christmas, Sue Powditch is selling cards after church on Sundays 22nd & 29th October, 5th & 19th November. All proceeds to St John's, unlike most charity cards which only give a percentage to the charity concerned. Do come and have a look.

POST BABY MEAL TRAIN for Rachel, Andy & Pippa Hutchin We are organising meals for this family (2 adults, 1 toddler) as they prepare to welcome their baby this month. We will collect meals for their freezer at Grove's 10am service THIS Sunday (15.10.2023). Also looking for people to drop over a meal from 23rd October. If you can help, speak to Johanna for details and their address on: 07808504286 or sign up to: https://docs.google.com/document/d/10472LdXh0_hESRBhjT_FqNQ729iDiZBr2GH2KD_VlwE/edit?usp=sharing

SAMARITAN'S PURSE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2023 Leaflets and boxes should now be available at **All Benefice churches**. A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes in is fun, what comes out is eternal. Be part of changing children's lives & making them smile all over the world. More details <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child> The kings Centre (opposite Sainsburys) is an official Samaritans Purse Shoe box collection Centre & opens Mondays & Tuesdays (10am-1pm), Wednesdays - Saturdays (10am-4pm). Or leave at your Benefice Church by 16th November & we will transport them for you. Thanks. For more info email Jane.syme@virginmedia.com

The Vale Benefice Schools will have their filled boxes collected from schools by our volunteers at a mutually arranged date/time before week starting 13th November 2023. Thank you all for your help with the planning and logistics of this worthwhile cause.

NEWSLETTER Send any notices to be included in the newsletter by 10pm on Tuesday night. Email: news@valebenefice.org.uk

PRAYER REQUESTS If anyone has specific prayer requests, please email confidentially to; prayer@valebenefice.org.uk

CORNERSTONE NEWS: Email: office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk Tel: 772280

We are advertising for: **Kitchen Manager & Cook**. Adverts for these posts are on Grove church noticeboard or contact Cornerstone for information. Please pray that the right people will come forward to fill these roles. **Make and Bake** for the Under 5s is up & running again. Tuesdays in term time (9.30am - 11am). £2 per child includes activities & drink. Just turn up! We are offering **Free Breakfasts** in half term to families in receipt of free child meals, but we need **volunteers** to help during the week starting 23rd October (9.30am - 11.30am). If you can help us, please get in touch. Thank you.

Fairtrade: We have found a new source for Fairtrade goods & at the moment have a small selection of tea, coffee, hot chocolate & chocolate (with more goods to follow).

FULL SIZE ACOUSTIC GUITAR: FREE A small chip on the machine head. Has a lovely bright, resonant sound. Comes with a battered but serviceable case. Good for beginners. Contact Sarah Jane Frideswide ruacheish@gmail.com

WELLINGTON GATE COMMUNITY FAIR 28th October (2-5pm). Held at St. John's CE Academy, (new primary school). Local organisations encouraged to host a stall, contact Anne & Stasya wellingtongatecommunity@southandvale.gov.uk

GROVE CHURCH NEEDS TECH VOLUNTEERS FOR: Projector, (& PA desk or OBS) on **25th December 2023 (10am Service)**. PA desk or OBS on **17th December 2023 (6pm Carol Service)**. If you can help, please contact the Office. Thanks.

OPEN TABLE MEETING: Wednesday 18th October (6.30pm) at Cornerstone Café, Grove. Details from Pete & Jane Beckley or Michael & Jane Wenham.

WANTAGE & GROVE CHILDREN'S CLOTHES BANK: Needs children's winter coats, particularly 6-11yrs. Please drop at Cornerstone, Grove or contact w.g.clothesbank@gmail.com Thank you.

TEABOOKS WITH AGEUK: 3rd Fridays, 10.30 - 11.30am at Wantage Library. Small, friendly book group to share love of books, reading & meet people. £1/session (1st session free). Please book. Wheelchair accessible. Call 01235 849434, email teabooks@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire.

BLISTER PACKS Thank you for your donations over the past few months. We are not collecting these in church now. Please contact the Mix to see if they are still collecting.

TASTE & SEE MEAL Thank God for His provision & reflect on challenges persecuted believers' face. October 22nd at the food.gives warehouse, Swindon. Call 01793 744557 or email gives@barnabasaid.org or visit www.barnabasaid.org/events to book.

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

SPONSORED WALK IN AID OF PILGRIM HOMES: 14/10/2023: 10.30am. 5-mile circular walk from Christopher's Wood car park, Ardington, Wantage, OX12 8PD. Contact Dave Pepler: dave.a.pepler@gmail.com

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 97	Exodus 32:15-35	Jude 17-25
Tue	Psalm 97	Exodus 33:1-6	Philippians 3:13-4:1
Wed	Psalm 97	2 Kings 17:7-20	John 6:25-35
Thu	Psalm 99	Exodus 33: 7-11	3 John 9-12
Fri	Psalm 99	Exodus 31:1-11	1 Peter 5:1-5
Sat	Psalm 99	Exodus 39:32-43	Matthew 14:1-12

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

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

Friends & Family mourning: Cyril (Sam) Golding, Norah Grover, Beatrice Ridgway, and Sacky Fernandes.

These living at: Dandridge Close, Walnut Close, Anderson Place, The Stables, Stevenson Close, Elderberry Close in Hanney; Kingside, Queen's Row, Bishop's Way, Rook End, Castle Pieces, and Knight's Green in Grove.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 16th October)*

Mon	10am	GroW Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	12.45pm	GroW Babies Group, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	1 st Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
Tue	9.30am	Make & Bake (under 5's) at Cornerstone Café, Grove
	10am	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room
	10am	Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney
	12 noon	WGCP Meeting, Lower St John's Rooms
	2pm	U3A Group Meeting, St John's Church Hall
Wed	6.30pm	Wantage Chess Club, St John's Rooms
	7pm	2 nd Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
	9.15am	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	10am	St James School, Hanney Harvest Service
	11am	Team Ministry Meeting, Lower St John's Room, Grove
Thu	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
	8pm	Vale Elim, Meeting, Lower St John's Rooms
	9am	Harvest Service at St John's Academy, Grove
Fri	10am	Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow
	2pm	St James Church, Denchworth PCC Meeting, in Church
		St Nicholas School Collective Worship, in church
	4-5pm	Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove
	5.30pm	1 st Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall
Sat	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Friends on Friday, St John's Church Hall
Sun	6pm	Private Party, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	St John's Tea Party at Cornerstone Café, Grove
		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: lm@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