



Sunday 22nd October **Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

Readings selected from:

*Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13) | Psalm 99 | Exodus 33:12-23 | Isaiah 45:1-7
Matthew 22:15-22 | 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*

“God of judgement and mercy, compassion, and steadfast love, look tenderly on your children at war in your holy land.

Still the souls bent on vengeance and destruction. Change the hearts plotting death and devastation. Raise up leaders within the warring parties and in the international community who can turn violence into wise reasoned argument and listen to the pain until a way forward emerges. Make us see that we have in common so much more than what divides us. And let all who trace their past back to Abraham find their common future in you. Through Christ your Son our crucified companion forever. Amen.” *(The Rev Dr Sam Wells)*

Our Shared Worship

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

Upcoming Services

Sunday 29th October

8am Holy Communion, St Johns, Grove – Rev John Durant
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James, Hanney – Rev Charles Draper
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
6pm Evening Worship, St John’s, Grove

BENEFICE NEWS

BENEFICE OFFICE CLOSED on Friday 27th October 2023

REMINDER: THE CLOCKS GO BACK on Sunday 29th October 2023

NO MID-WEEK SERVICES: Reminder: there will be **No Mid-week Eucharists** at the Benefice Churches during the week commencing 23rd October (half term week).

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

PLEASE PRAY for those affected by the conflict in the Middle East. If you wish to donate towards the Christian Aid appeal, there will be a retiring collection at St John's Church this Sunday (For other Benefice Churches, please ask your churchwarden or key contact). If you would like a copy of prayers from the Archbishop of Canterbury / booklet of prayers from other church leaders, please ask a churchwarden, sides person or the Benefice Office.

CHRISTMAS CARDS For those who like to be organised early for Christmas, Sue Powditch is selling cards after church on Sundays 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.

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS Craft FAYRE: Sat 2nd December (3pm–5pm) in the Hall. 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, please add your name to a stall or for setting up & clearing away (Sign-up sheet in church foyer). Thank you.



ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS CRAFTERNOON

Join us for a social afternoon of craft-making at St. John's on Saturday 16th December from 2-5pm. There will be several different Christmas craft packs for you to choose from (with volunteers on hand to help you with instructions) or you can bring your own craft. Mulled wine and mince pies will help us to get into the festive mood. The event is aimed at adults and there will not be provision for children (babes in arms are obviously welcome).

Please sign up by emailing the Benefice Office; office@valebenefice.org.uk or putting your name down on the sheet at the back of church so we have an idea of numbers; there is no charge, but donations to cover costs and towards the work of St. John's would be welcome.

SATURDAY MORNING PRAYERS 8.30am at Frances Gillott's house, Grove (except 2nd Saturdays when it is held at Cornerstone). All welcome.

CORNERSTONE PRAYER BREAKFAST 8.30am on 2nd Saturdays at Cornerstone.

ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY (at Cornerstone) **Saturday 21.10.2023 (2pm)**. All Welcome.

OPEN TABLE MEETINGS: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays (**18th Oct & 1st Nov**) at 6.30pm at Cornerstone Café. Details from Pete & Jane Beckley or Michael & Jane Wenham.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP We meet informally (1st Sundays of the month) 3pm - 4.30pm in St John's Rooms to get together & chat over a hot drink.

We are all ages & we'd love for more to join us. Next one on Sunday 5th November. Look forward to seeing you.

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

POST BABY MEAL TRAIN (Rachel, Andy & Pippa Hutchin) We are organising meals for this family (2 adults, 1 toddler) as they prepare to welcome their baby this month. If you can drop over a meal from 23rd October, please contact Johanna on 07808504286

CORNERSTONE NEWS - Email: office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk Tel: 772280
We are still advertising for a **Kitchen Manager** and a **Cook**. Adverts for both these posts are on the church noticeboard or contact Cornerstone for more information. Please pray that the right people will come forward to fill these roles.

We have a new **Take Note** promotion including the category winners from the Booksellers Conference – do come and browse.

Fairtrade – We have a new source for Fairtrade goods & at the moment have a small selection of tea, coffee, hot chocolate and chocolate & plan to add to this. Unfortunately, there will be **no hot meal special** this month.

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.

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

BLISTER PACKS Thank you for your donations over the past few months. We are **not** collecting these in church now & The Mix, Wantage have also stopped collecting.

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

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

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.

CHRISTIAN AID WALK 10KM This walk starts at Chilton on **SATURDAY 28th OCTOBER** (9am). If anyone would like to join us or sponsor us, please get in touch. Peter and Angela (01235 411315)

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/oxfordhire.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST 4/11/2023 (8.30am/8.45am start). Stanford in the Vale (Large) Village Hall. Speaker: Margaret Williams "Over the hill? It's not about getting older, but your vision when you reach the top." To book or for details, leave a message on 07880655102 / email Womensbreakfast@stdenys.org by 30th October.

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

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

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, Sacky Fernandes and Jeffery Lovelock.

Those starting their half term break next week: for health, safety, rest & recovery.

All those affected by the conflict in the Middle East

These living at: Alfred's Place in East Hanney; Floral Close, Princess Garden, Fulmar Close in Grove; Windmill Place and The Park in East Challow.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 63:1-8	Exodus 40:34-38	Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20
Tue	Psalm 63:1-8	Numbers 12:1-9	Revelation 18:21-24
Wed	Psalm 63:1-8	Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9	Matthew 17:22-27
Thu	Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17	Deuteronomy 31:14-22	Titus 1:5-16
Fri	Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17	Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18	Titus 2:7-8, 11-15
Sat	Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17	Deuteronomy 32:44-47	John 5:39-47

DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 23rd October)*

Mon	10am	U3A Science Group, St John's Small Room / Upper Room
Tue	10am	Simply Singing, St John's Lower Room
		No Mid-week Eucharist at St James, West Hanney
	6.30pm	Wantage Chess Club, St John's Rooms
Wed	2pm	Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
Thu		No Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow
	2pm	Bible Group, Lower St John's Room
	4-5pm	Community Fridge at Cornerstone, Grove
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
Fri		BENEFICE OFFICE CLOSED
Sat	2pm – 5pm	Wellington Gate Community Fair at St John's Academy.
Sun		Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet.
		THE CLOCKS GO BACK

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: 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