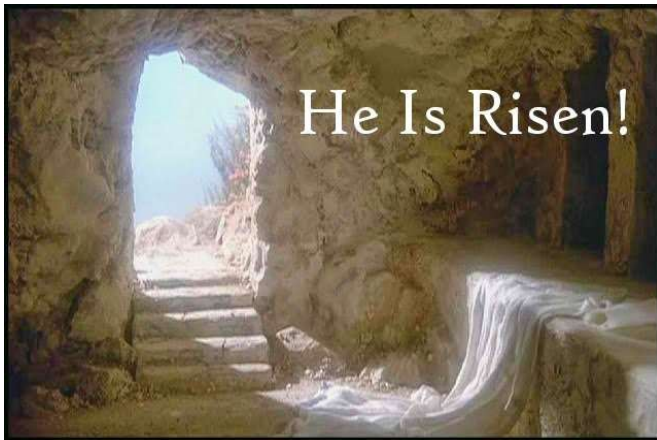


## DIARY FOR THE WEEK (Starting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April)

<b>Mon</b>	<b>Bank Holiday – Benefice Office Closed</b>
<b>Tue</b>	10am Tuesday Simply Singing Group, Lower St John's Room 2pm U3A Main Meeting, St John's Church Hall 6.30pm Wantage Chess Club, St John's Rooms
<b>Wed</b>	10am <b>Mid-week Eucharist at St John's Church, Grove</b> 2pm Ancients' Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall 7pm Konga Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall 8pm Vale Elim Meeting, Lower St John's Room
<b>Thu</b>	9.30am Extend Your Fitness, St John's Church Hall 10am <b>Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow</b> 11am <b>Interment (T/L Kate &amp; Ronald Dandridge), St James Churchyard, West Hanney</b> 8pm St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
<b>Fri</b>	2pm <b>Friends on Friday Group, St John's Church Hall</b>
<b>Sat</b>	8.30am Morning Prayer at Frances Gillott's house, Grove 11am Private Party in St John's Church Hall
<b>Sun</b>	12noon-2pm Warm Spaces, St John's Church Hall 3pm Women's Social Group, Lower St John's Room

Church services for the Benefice are written on the front of this news sheet.



### CONTACT DETAILS

**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)

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Sarah Shackleton:

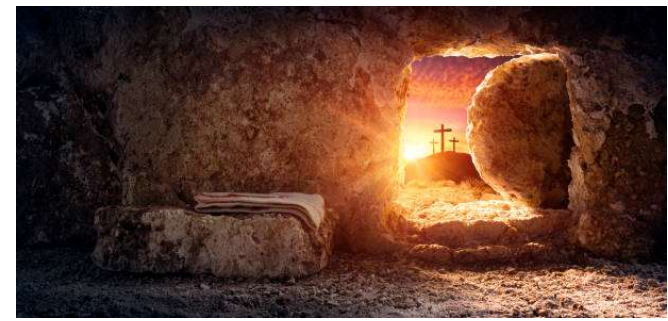
Tel. 07587776609

Email: [SarahLLM@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:SarahLLM@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)

## VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER



### 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 - Easter Day

*Readings selected from:*

Psalm 118.1-2,14-24; Isaiah 25.6-9; Acts 10.34-43; John 20.1-18; Mark 16.1-8

"We are witnesses to all that Jesus did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day." He is alive today!  
Happy Easter! "Goodness is stronger than evil; Love is stronger than hate; Light is stronger than darkness; Life is stronger than death; Victory is ours through Him who loves us" (Desmond Tutu). Alleluia! Praise the Lord.

### Our Shared Worship

#### Good Friday

10am Good Friday Reflection, St James church, Hanney  
12noon Good Friday Reflection, St Nicholas Church, Challow  
2pm Good Friday Reflection, St John's Church, Grove

#### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Easter Day

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove - Rev Alec Gill  
9am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth - Rev Alec Gill  
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney - Rev Velma Oxley  
10.15am Easter Communion, St John's, Grove - Rev Alec Gill  
11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow - Rev Robin Lapwood  
6pm **No service**, St John's, Grove

### Upcoming Services

#### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Nicholas Cheeseman  
9am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth - Rev Peter Rich  
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney - Rev Velma Oxley  
10.15am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove - Rev Robin Lapwood  
11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow - Rev Peter Rich  
6pm Evening Worship, St John's, Grove

## BENEFICE NEWS

**THE CLOCKS GO FORWARD at 1am on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March (EASTER DAY)!**

### LAST Minute REMINDERS:

**A PASSION PLAY: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.** Wantage Baptist Church. 7.45pm start  
**NO MID-WEEK EUCHARISTS at St Nicholas, E. Challow** on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
**GOOD FRIDAY (St John's Church Hall) All-Age Creative Event** (3pm - 4pm).  
**GOOD FRIDAY OPEN AIR SERVICE** 11am on the green (bottom of Vale Avenue)

**NO MID-WEEK EUCHARISTS at St Nicholas, E. Challow** on 11<sup>th</sup> April.  
**CONGRATULATIONS** to Frank and Sue Parnell who are celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary next Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH PROFILE: QUESTIONNAIRE Deadline Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March!**

If you are 10 years or above, & attend St John's Church, please could you fill in a questionnaire. The information you provide helps your church representatives build an accurate picture of the church for our profile. The profile will be used to advertise the church to applicants during the recruitment process for our new vicar. Please either complete it today online using <https://forms.office.com/e/txEvTWUjHW>. Or complete a hard copy from the Welcome table in the church foyer & put it in the box provided. There are **QR codes** around the hall to use if needed. We greatly value your participation in this stage of the process. Thank you.

**PARISH AUDIT WORKSHOPS (St John's)** Once the questionnaires are submitted, please sign up to attend one of the Parish Audit Workshops available (sign up sheets on the noticeboard in the Church Hall). All workshops are the same, so you only need to attend one. These will be in the Lower St John's Room on the following.

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April (8pm – 9.30pm), Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April (2pm -3.30pm),  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April (8pm – 9.30pm) Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April (8pm-9.30pm). Many thanks.

**EASTER FLOWERS (St John's Church)** Thank you to the Flower team who have created some beautiful Easter Flower arrangements in church. There is a basket at the back of church for donations towards this for those who would like to contribute.

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL "REVISION" 2024:** There are forms on the Welcome table in the church foyer. If you would like to join, amend or remove yourself from the electoral roll, please complete one and return to the office/leave in post box.

**FRIENDS on FRIDAY** 5th April, (2pm-3.30pm), Church Hall. With an Easter theme & including a Presentation by the Open the Book Team. All welcome.

**VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER** There will be no newsletter on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**VALE BENEFICE OFFICE** Please contact Andrea Morgan in advance to make an appointment if you need to visit the Benefice Office in the next 3 weeks. Many thanks.

**ST JOHN'S PCC** heard reports from the mission, environmental, GROW, children & youth sub-committees, were given an update on the vacancy by our parish reps and planned our APCM for 11th May.

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH** Front Door lock has been changed. If you have an old key, please pass it to the Benefice Office. Thank you.

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH FETE 2024** - 29.6.2024 -Save the date! Look out soon for more news regarding this, with an opportunity to sign up and get involved.

**OLD BATTERIES:** St John's has some (not quite fully used up) AA (1.5v) alkaline batteries if anyone wants them for remote controls etc at home. Contact the Office.

**LEISURE NEEDS SURVEY** Vale of White Horse District Council is inviting your comments on a Playing Pitch Strategy & a Leisure Facilities Strategy, giving feedback about what they need to protect, enhance, & provide. To complete your views, please go to <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/LeisurePitchVale>, the deadline is 17th April.

**WANTAGE PARISH CHURCH Open Air Easter Services: Good Friday: 29.3.2024**

Walk with Wantage & Grove Church Partnership. Meet 10:30am in Kingsgrove Square, finish: 1pm in Marketplace for hot cross buns!

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

**Easter opening hours:** We shall be closed on Good Friday & Easter Monday but open as usual on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March. **Outside catering:** We are able to supply outside

catering for your events, please contact us for more information. Remember we are a drop-off point for both the **Wantage and Grove Foodbank & Children's clothes bank.**

**LITTLE PEOPLE** need a volunteer who could assist with delivering items to families in need. Needs own transport availability in the daytime. Contact the Office. Thank you.

**NEWSLETTER CONTENT:** [news@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:news@valebenefice.org.uk) Items for newsletter inclusion will be put in for 2 weeks, Please re-send your content by 10pm on Tuesdays if you wish your notice to go into the newsletter again. Thank you.

**GroW EVENTS: To book an event email:** [contact@growfamilies.co.uk](mailto:contact@growfamilies.co.uk)

**Parenting Course:** Starts 17.6.2024 (for 5 weeks). 7.30pm in Lower St John's Room.

**Baby Massage:** Starts 15.5.2024 (for 5 weeks). 10.30am in Lower St John's Room.

**Pediatric 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Course:** 4.5.2024. 10am in St John's Church Hall.

**Save a baby's life workshop:** 27.3.2024. 1pm in Old Mill Hall, Grove.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please pray that Chris Collins will settle in quickly to his new home in Abingdon. Specific prayer requests: email to; [prayer@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:prayer@valebenefice.org.uk)

**PRAYERFUL LISTENING TO GOD** We will meet weekly for a time of prayer for our churches and our benefice, and where God may be leading us. 9:40am-10am Sundays in the St John's rooms, Grove Church. Do join us.

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 111	Exodus 12.1-14	1 Corinthians 15.1-11
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 112	Exodus 12.15-36	1 Corinthians 15.12-19
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 113	Exodus 12.37-end	1 Corinthians 15.20-28
<b>Thu</b>	Psalm 114	Exodus 13.1-16	1 Corinthians 15.29-34
<b>Fri</b>	Psalm 115	Exodus 13.17-14.14	1 Corinthians 15.35-50
<b>Sat</b>	Psalm 116	Exodus 14.15-end	1 Corinthians 15.51-end

### PLEASE PRAY FOR....

**Health & healing (short term):** Lucille Vaughan, John Hedges and John Hudson.

**Health & healing (long term):** Gemma Gill, Bob Bulpitt, John Butter, Ari Psaras, Laura Challis, Ursula Geer & Richard Hummerston.

**Friends & Family mourning:** Gabriella-Angel Kahlari, Barry Herman, Sue Aitken and Kate & Ronald Dandridge.

**Those living in** Ashfield Road in East Hanney; De Vitre Place, Station Road and Denchworth Road in Grove; Reynolds Way and Sarajac Avenue in East Challow