



21st April 2024

Easter 4

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

John, one of the disciples who'd been arrested for preaching to the crowds in Jerusalem, later in life reflected on what love means because he'd seen it in his friend, Jesus: "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?" Such a radical and uncomfortable question for each of us!

Our Shared Worship

Sunday 21st April

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove - Rev Alec Gill
9am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth - The Venerable David Tyler
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney - Rev Alec Gill
10.15am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove - The Venerable David Tyler
11am Morning Worship Service, St Nicholas', East Challow
6pm Evening Worship, St John's, Grove

Upcoming Services

Sunday 28th April

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove - Rev Alec Gill
9am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth - Rev Robin Lapwood
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney - Rev Charles Draper
10.15am Morning Worship, St John's, Grove - Sue Powditch (LLM)
11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow - Rev Alec Gill
6pm Evening Worship, St John's, Grove

PRAYERFUL LISTENING TO GOD

Do come and join us for a weekly time of prayer for our churches and our benefice, & where God may be leading us. Sundays (9:40am-10am) in the St John's rooms,

BENEFICE NEWS

REMINDERS:

ASC SUPPORT COFFEE AFTERNOON (with SENCo: Mrs Elgar) at Grove CE School (2pm) **THIS Thursday 18th April**. Grove & Wantage community welcome.

FRIENDS ON FRIDAY GROUP Holy Communion, **THIS Friday 19th April** (2pm) in St John's Church Hall.

ST JOHN'S TEA PARTY at Cornerstone, Grove; **THIS Saturday 20th April** (2pm).

BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON: Sunday 21st April (2pm-5pm) St John's Church Hall.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH (21st April 2024) Colin & Jenny Moulds celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary today & invite you to enjoy a piece of cake with your coffee after the service. Congratulations!

DENCHWORTH (St Jame's Church) This Sunday, 21st April, the Venerable David Tyler will be taking our 9am Service. All welcome with refreshments after the Service.

HANNEY (St James Church) AGM THIS Sunday (10.45am) in the church.

GROVE (St John's Church) AGM on Saturday 11th May (7.30pm) in the church hall.

CHALLOW (St Nicholas Church) AGM on Sunday 12th May (12 noon) in the church.

PARISH AUDIT WORKSHOPS (St John's) Thank you all for submitting your questionnaires. Please do sign up for one of the remaining 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 are in the Lower St John's Room on; - **Monday 22nd April** (8pm – 9.30pm) **Friday 26th April** (8pm-9.30pm). Many thanks.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL UPDATE 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.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH Nomination Forms for election of "Church Wardens" & "PCC Members" are available on the Welcome Table in the church foyer. Please put your completed forms in the St John's Rooms post box (on the side of the building).

OPEN TABLE After Easter, Open Table continues on Wednesday 1st May at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome: food for the body and food for the spirit.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH FETE 2024 (29th June 2-4pm) as part of St John's Patronal Festival. Please save tins, jars & bottles of food, drink, toiletries for the tombola, nearly new toys, books, bric a brac & raffle prizes etc. Please grow plants for our plant stall & advise me if any of your family or friends can do face painting. Please let Nicky Gibbard know if you can help in any way. nicky.gibbard@valebenefice.org.uk Many thanks.

GROVE CHURCH FETE DONATIONS: Please do not leave donations items in the church foyer. We need to keep that area clear & tidy for funerals, weddings & other functions. Please leave donated items in the St John's "small" Room (10am-12noon).

GROVE & WANTAGE SCHOOLS' PRAYERS We are meeting to pray for our local schools on Wednesday 24th April (4pm--5pm) in the St John's Rooms at Grove Parish Church. As always, we look forward to seeing as many as can come, and please feel free to extend the invitation to others in your churches & fellowships who might like to join us. Yours in Christ, John Wilson johnmwilson2012@gmail.com

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

SECURE CASH DONATIONS to St John's Church please put your **cash** donations in a labelled envelope in the secure post box of the St John's Rooms building OR in the secure donation slots (in the inside wall of the church itself. Please ask a churchwarden, sidesperson or the the office if you need more information. Thank you.

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

Cream Teas: We are serving cream teas during April for £5 per head.

Part-time paid cook vacancy: we are looking for a cook for Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.15am-2.30pm. If you or someone you know is interested, do get in touch.

Volunteers: We are also in need of more volunteers, either serving in the café, washing up or helping in the bookshop. Again, do get in touch if interested.

Monthly hot meal special: This will be served on Wednesday 24th April (12.30pm). Please book in advance so we know how many to cater for.

COMMUNITY: Urgently needed: 3-bedroom home for Ukrainian family in Wantage area, having to leave their Host Home. Mother & 2 teenagers. For more information please call [07593 812649](tel:07593812649).

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

ST JAMES SINGERS presents "On Land & Sea". A selection of songs & poems, on **Saturday 20th April** (7.30pm) at **St Mary's Church, Childrey**. There will be a retiring collection for the **Christina Noble Children's Foundation**.

ART COMPETITION (for Grove & Wantage Extravaganza) Grove Parish Council have agreed to sponsor an Art competition at this event to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D Day (6th June 1944), with prizes up to £500 in total. See posters up in the St John's church hall for more details or ask your Benefice Churchwarden (as the poster has been sent to them). Entries to be delivered to Grove Parish Council by 12 noon on Friday 31st May 2024.

ELMBROOK COURT (Oakwood Care) Friendship Cafe 29th April (2pm) in the Daisy Lounge (ground floor). Silvertime Legal will be guest speakers. Refreshments available. Contact; Samantha Spencer, Client Relations Manager; Tel: 01235 617617 or 07511 403183 or Email: clientrelations.ec@oaklandcare.com

GroW EVENTS: To book an event email: 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 1st Aid Course: 4.5.2024. 10am in St John's Church Hall.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT: 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.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 103	Exodus 32.1-14	Luke 2.41-end
Tue	Psalm 5,146	Joshua 1.1-9	Ephesians 6.10-20
Wed	Psalm 135	Exodus 33	Luke 3.15-22
Thu	Psalm 37.23-end,148	Isaiah 62.6-10	Acts 12.25-13.13
Fri	Psalm 33	Exodus 35.20-36.7	Luke 4.14-30

PLEASE PRAY FOR....

- Health & healing (short term):** Sue Parnell, Wendy Rutterford and Lucille Vaughan
- Health & healing (long term):** Gemma Gill, Bob Bulpitt, John Butter, Ari Psaras, Laura Challis, Ursula Geer & Richard Hummerston
- Friends & Family mourning:** John Hedges, John Hudson, Gabriella-Angel Kahlari
- Those returning to:** playgroups, nursery, childcare, school, university, college, work or work placements after the Easter holidays
- Those being married** in the Vale Benefice Churches this weekend
- Those living in** Northmead Road in Denchworth; The Mulberries and Main Street in East Hanney; Edington Place, Shepherds Close and Elswith Close in Grove

DIARY FOR THE WEEK (Starting on Monday 22nd April)

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
	8pm	Parish Audit Workshop No:3, Lower St John’s Room
Tue	9.30am	Make & Bake at Cornerstone, Grove
	10am	Tuesday Simply Singing Group, Lower St John’s Room
	12.30pm	Funeral of T/L John Hudson at St John’s Church, Grove
	6.30pm	Wantage Chess Club, St John’s Rooms
	7pm	2 nd Grove Guides, St John’s Church Hall
Wed	9.15am	St John’s Toddler Group, St John’s Church Hall
	9am-4pm	GroW staff 1 st Aid Training, Lower St John’s Room
	2pm	Ancients’ Badminton Group, St John’s Church Hall
	4pm	Grove & Wantage School Prayers, Lower St John’s Room
	7pm	Konga Fitness Class, St John’s Church Hall
	8pm	Section 11 Vacancy Meeting, St John’s Church
	8pm	Vale Elim Meeting, Lower St John’s Room
Thu	9.30am	Extend Your Fitness, St John’s Church Hall
	10am	Mid-week Eucharist at St Nicholas, East Challow
	2pm	Bible Group, Lower St John’s Room
	5.30pm	1 st Grove Brownies, St John’s Church Hall
	8pm	St John’s Badminton Group, St John’s Church Hall
Fri	7.30pm	Banns Info (for couples) Meeting, Upper St John’s Room
	8pm	Parish Audit Workshop No:4, Lower St John’s Room
Sat	8.30am	Morning Prayer at Frances Gillott’s house, Grove
	11am	Christening Enquiries Meetings, St John’s Church Hall
Sun	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

- Associate Vicar:** Rev Alec Gill: Tel. 07739563894 Email: vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk
- Licensed Lay Minister:** Sue Powditch: Tel. 01235 768141 Email: llm@valebenefice.org.uk
- Licensed Lay Minister:** Sarah Shackleton: Tel. 07587776609
Email: SarahLLM@valebenefice.org.uk
- Benefice Office:** Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove, OX12 7LQ.