

## DIARY FOR THE WEEK (Starting Mon 14<sup>th</sup> April)

<b>Mon</b>	10am	U3A Genealogy Group, LOWER St John's Room
	1.30pm	U3A Committee Meeting, LOWER St John's Room
	7.30pm	Monday of Holy Week Service, St James Church, Hanney
<b>Tue</b>	10am	Simply Singing Group, LOWER St John's Room
	2pm	U3A Main Meeting, St John's Church Hall
	4pm	Tuesday of Holy Week Service, St James' Church, Denchworth
	6.30pm	Wantage Chess Club, ALL St John's Rooms
<b>Wed</b>	11am	Funeral of T/L Pamela Hayward, St John's Church
	7pm	Jungle Fitness Group, St John's Church Hall
	7.30pm	Wednesday of Holy Week Service, St Nicholas' Church, Challow
	8pm	Vale Elim Meeting, St John's LOWER room
	8pm	ZOOM Prayers (Discernment for new Associate Vicar)
<b>Thu</b>	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service at St John's Church, Grove
<b>Fri</b>	10am	Good Friday Reflections at St James Church, Hanney
	11am	WGCP Good Friday Service, corner of Vale Avenue & Main Street, Grove - United Church Service
	1pm	Good Friday Reflections at St Nicholas' Church, Challow
	2pm	Good Friday Meditation Service at St John's Church, Grove
	3pm	Messy Church Event, St John's Church Hall

### A prayer for Palm Sunday

Loving God,  
 Give us joy in our hearts as we shout Hosanna, welcoming Jesus our King with palms, celebrating all that we hope for as the Easter story unfolds.  
 Then, as the journey of Jesus turns towards Good Friday, help us know that you are with us when celebration turns to sadness.  
 Give us the faith we need to follow you on the way of the cross, which leads to life.  
 Amen.

# VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER

13<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
 Palm Sunday

*Readings selected from:*

Luke 19.28-40; Psalm 118.1-2,19-end  
 Isaiah 50.4-9a; Psalm 31.9-16; Philippians 2.5-11; Luke 23.1-49

Palm Sunday - the coronation procession of God's anointed King begins, but it ends in an unexpected enthronement, in darkness hanging on a criminal's cross.  
 And yet this is where we see Jesus in His glory. Here is the King showing how much He loves His world.  
 The way of love and glory goes through darkness, doubt, dereliction and despair.  
 We must wait for Easter.

## Our Shared Worship

### Sunday 13th April

- 8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney - Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Holy Communion, at St James', Denchworth – Rev Peter Rich
- 10.15am Morning Worship St John's, Grove – Grove Church Parish Reps
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow – Rev Alec Gill

## Upcoming Services

### Sunday 20th April – Easter Day

- 8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
- 9.30am Parish Eucharist (with Baptism), St James', Hanney – Rev Alec Gill
- 10am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth – Rev Margot & Martin Hodson
- 10.15am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Sarah Shackleton (LLM) & Rev Alec Gill
- 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow – Rev Margot & Martin Hodson

Send newsletter content to [news@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:news@valebenefice.org.uk)

Items for newsletter inclusion will be for 2 weeks. Please re-send your content by 10pm on Tuesdays if you wish your notice to go into the newsletter again. If anyone has specific prayer requests, please email confidentially to [prayer@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:prayer@valebenefice.org.uk)

## Holy Week Services

Mon 14th April		
7:30pm	St James', Hanney	Rev Velma Oxley
Tue 15th April		
4pm	St James', Denchworth	Rev Alec Gill
Wed 16th April		
7:30pm	St Nicholas', Challow	Rev Alec Gill & Jeff Penfold
Maundy Thursday 17th April		
	St John's, Grove (with feet washing)	Rev Alec Gill & Sarah Shackleton (LLM)
Good Friday 18th April		
10am	St James', Hanney	Rev Velma Oxley
11am	WGCP Service Vale Av Tree, Grove	United Church Service
12noon	Reflections at St Nicholas', Challow	Rev Alec Gill
2pm	Meditation at St John's, Grove	Rev Peter and Angela Rich
3pm	Messy Church, Grove	Sarah Shackleton (LLM)
BENEFICE NEWS		
<p><b>ASSOCIATE VICAR VACANCY PRAYERS</b> The advert for our associate vicar role is live. Please pray. Associate Vicar online ZOOM prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings (8-8:15pm) until 7th May, taking us up to the interview date. Link info below. <a href="https://shorturl.at/p0T8U">https://shorturl.at/p0T8U</a> Meeting ID: 897 3599 9634 Passcode: prayer</p>		
<p><b>ALL CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLLS</b> NEW ELECTORAL ROLLS must be prepared this year, instead of updating existing Rolls. If you are already on one, you still need to complete a new form, available from your electoral roll officer or Grove Church foyer. If you're not on a Roll, please consider joining. Please complete your form as soon as possible &amp; return it appropriately.</p>		
<p><b>VALE BENEFICE CHURCHES' APCM DATES</b>            St Nicholas', Challow - 11th May 2025 (after service)            St John's Church, Grove – 17th May (7pm)            St James', Hanney – 18th May (after the service)</p>		
<p><b>EASTER MESSY CHURCH</b> Good Friday 18th April 3pm – 4.30pm, St John's Church Hall. <b>Good Friday Reflective service</b> in St John's church: 2pm – 3pm.</p>		
<p><b>CORNERSTONE NEWS</b> Email: <a href="mailto:office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk">office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk</a> Tel: 01235 772280  <b>Easter stock</b> is now in with Real Easter Eggs in stock. <b>Make and Bake</b> runs for under 5s every Tuesday morning during term time. Cost £2 per child. No need to book.</p>		
<p><b>RECEPTION READERS</b> Millbrook Primary School are looking for people to come in and read with the children for an afternoon each week to listen to the children read their book starting from next term. If you are interested, please contact Zoe Ison-Jacques, Reception Class teacher <a href="mailto:Zison-Jacques@mbk.cambrianlt.org">Zison-Jacques@mbk.cambrianlt.org</a></p>		

**Easter Activities at Grove Library:** All activities are free & running during opening times in the Easter holidays from 5<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> April

**The Parish of St Andrew's Letcombe Regis, Ridgeway Benefice:** are looking for a treasurer. For more information contact: Rev Ness Brunner-Ellis, Tel: 07774 524756 [Rector.ridgeway@outlook.com](mailto:Rector.ridgeway@outlook.com)

**WELLBEING EVENT 2025** Church Street & Newbury Street Patient Groups. The Beacon on Saturday 26 April 2025 (12 – 4pm). to promote community health & wellbeing with a focus on self-care and “looking after yourself.”

**MEAL TRAIN** Congratulations to the Fadipe family on the arrival of their baby boy. Esther is organising food deliveries for them. If you would like to provide a meal, or provide COOK vouchers, please get in touch with Esther, or talk with Anna Mabbett after the service on Sunday. Thank you. Contact: [esther.rogobete@gmail.com](mailto:esther.rogobete@gmail.com) or add to this googledoc <https://shorturl.at/66yGa>

### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

**Health and healing:** Emmeline (Pat B's granddaughter), Jeannette Rose, Rob S, Peter Ch, Susanne C, Mary L, Wendy R, Katherine S, Bob B, John B, Laura C, Ursula G and Richard H.

**Friends & families mourning:** Ari Psara, Martin Realey, Pamela Hayward and Craig Soubieski

**These living at:** Kimbers Close (Denchworth); Field Gardens (East Challow). The Causeway (East Hanney); Wick Green, Steptoe Close, Mayfield Avenue (Grove); North Green (West Hanney)

### LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER:

<b>Mon</b>	Psalm 41	Lamentations 1.1-12a	Luke 22.1-23
<b>Tue</b>	Psalm 27	Lamentations 3.1-18	Luke 22.24-53
<b>Wed</b>	Psalm 102	Jeremiah 11.18-20	Luke 22.54-end
<b>Maundy Thu</b>	Psalm 42,43	Leviticus 16.2-24	Luke 23.1-25
<b>Good Friday</b>	Psalm 69	Genesis 22.1-18	from John 18 & 19
<b>Easter Eve</b>	Psalm 116	Job 19.21-27	1 John 5.5-12



### CONTACT DETAILS

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