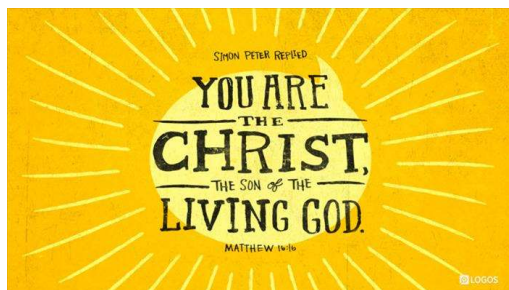


DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 30th June)*

Mon	10am	GroW Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	12.45pm	GroW Babies, St John's Church Hall
	1pm	GroW: Baby Massage Course, LOWER St John's Room
	1pm	ASC Support Coffee Afternoon, Grove CE Primary School
	7pm	1st Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
Tue	10am	Simply Singing Group, LOWER St John's Room
	10am	U3A Emergency Response Meeting, UPPER St John's Room
	2pm	U3A Main Meetings, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	2nd Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
Wed	9.15am	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	10am	Mid-week HC Service, St John's Church, Grove
	2pm-4pm	Badminton on Wednesdays (BoW), St John's Church Hall
	7pm	Jungle Fitness Group, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	Vale Elim Meeting, St John's LOWER room
Thu	9.30am	White Horse Extend 50's+ Exercise, St John's Church Hall
	10am	Mid-week HC Service, St Nicholas' Church, East Challow
	2pm	Bible Study Group, LOWER St John's Room
	5.30pm	1st Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
Fri	2pm	Friends on Friday Strawberry Tea, St John's Church Hall
Sat	8.30am	Morning Prayers
	10am	Private Party, St John's Church Hall
	11am	Blessing & Baptism Meeting, St John's LOWER Room
Sun	3pm	Women's Social
	4pm	Churchwarden's Visitation Service, St Mary Magdalene, Woodstock
	6.30pm	Senior Youth Group, St John's Church Hall



CONTACT DETAILS

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VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER

29th June 2025
Ss Peter & Paul Apostles

Readings selected from:

Zechariah 5.1-6a,10b-end; Psalm 125; Acts 12.1-11; 2 Timothy 4.6-8,17-18;
Matthew 16.13-19

Paul writing to his young friend, Timothy, uses the phrase “all who have longed for his (Christ’s) appearing”. Probably few of us spend much time actively longing for Jesus to return. But recent events on the world stage and even in Parliament may have left us confused and fearful for the future. At the benefice service we heard “PCR”: Maybe God was saying, “**P**eace” like a mother calming her child. “**C**ourage”, as Jesus said, Don’t be afraid. And “**R**esilience” like Jesus saying, Have faith. Trust me.

Our Shared Worship

Sunday 29th June - *Peter and Paul Apostles*

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney – Rev Geoff Maughan
10am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth – Rev Alec Gill
10.15am Morning Worship, St John's, Grove – Colin Moulds
11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow – Rev Alec Gill

Upcoming Services

Sunday 6th July – *3rd Sunday after Trinity*

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney – Rev Charles Draper
10am Service, St James', Denchworth
10.15am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
11am Morning Worship, St Nicholas', East Challow – Jeff Penfold

Send newsletter content to 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 for your notice to go into the newsletter again. If anyone has specific prayer requests, please email confidentially to prayer@valebenefice.org.uk

BENEFICE NEWS

APPOINTMENT OF REV DR MIRIAM JONES TO THE POST OF ASSOCIATE VICAR IN THE VALE BENEFICE

I am pleased to confirm that Miriam's licensing service will take place Thursday 4th September (7.30pm) at St James the Great, West Hanney, OX12 0LP and we very much hope you are able to attend.

ST JOHN'S FETE Many thanks to Nicky and all those involved in the fete last Saturday. A total of £1135 was raised towards church funds.

PAT BATES: After her time in the JR Trauma Unit, Pat has been moved to the Close Care Home, Burcot. She loves visits – any day. Let her know when you're visiting so that she's there and not flooded with visits! Thanks.

ASC SUPPORT COFFEE AFTERNOONS AT GROVE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPECIAL GUEST: Usma Farman will attend our next coffee afternoon on Monday 30th June from 1:30pm onwards. Usma is a Community Coordinator from the Oxfordshire Parent Carers Form and is eager to hear about your lived experience of living with SEN and to carry your thoughts and ideas to the Local Area Partnership.

25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY ALEC AND GEMMA GILL invite you to join them after the 10.15 service at St John's on 6th July, to mark their 25th wedding anniversary with cake!

ST JOHN'S SUMMER CLEAN & OUTSIDE WORK PARTY (if dry!) - SATURDAY 12th JULY, 9.30am - 12.00pm. Please sign up on the poster in the Church foyer if you can help for an hour or so with either cleaning jobs in the Church & Rooms or painting external woodwork or tidying in the grounds. Cleaning jobs include kitchen cupboards, fridges, low level windows & carpets. Outside jobs include painting gardeners' shed & Rooms cladding & tidying around the grounds.

PATRONAL EVENSONG: at St. James, Denchworth: 20th July (6pm). We will have our own sung evensong. We will sing the Ferial Responses as a simple chant, the Magnificate & Nunc dimittis are from the New English Hymnal (Tone II.i). The psalm sung as a hymn. It would be lovely if those who are musically inclined, with sung evensong experience, could help us out. We are practising before the service 5.20pm to run through the music and responses. There will be refreshments after the service. Please let Maggie Vaughan or Alec Gill know if you can help. Thank you.

BENEFICE Baptism & Confirmation Service - This will be held at St John's Church, Grove, on Sunday 19th October 2025 during the 10.15am service. Please let Rev Alec Gill know as soon as possible if you are interested in being confirmed at this service this year, so that the preparation course can be planned and booked. Thanks.

VOLUNTEER ROSTAS ABSENCES: A huge thank you to all those on the St John's Church Volunteer Rostas. The new ones for September 2025 – February 2026 (inclusive) will be created in July, so please send in the dates that you currently know you will not be available to the Benefice Office by Monday 14th July to give time to create & send them out before August. Thank you.

USED STAMPS FOR DENCHWORTH CHURCH Please pass these on to Suzanne Cox at Denchworth or the Benefice Office, Grove. Raising funds for the church.

UNIFORM SWAP SHOP Uniform Swap Shop – 16th–18th July

Clear out your cupboards and help others! Grove CE Primary School is hosting a Uniform Swap Shop in the school hall on Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th, and Thursday 18th July. Please donate any clean, outgrown or unused school uniform items (white tops, grey/black trousers, shorts, skirts, tunics, red jumpers/cardigans) by Monday 14th July.

MESSAGE from GROVE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL - PTA AGM on Friday 27th June at 3:30pm - 4:30pm (after sports day!) If you have children attending the school, it would be wonderful if you could attend our PTA AGM - our PTA is vital to our school and new members are always needed (parents, carers, grandparents all welcome).

WANTAGE ORCHESTRA at Wantage Parish Church, OX12 8AQ on Saturday 5th July 2025 (7pm). Guest Leader: John Hounam & Conductor: Christopher Fletcher-Campbell. **Much Loved Music for a Summer's Evening:** Marquez Danzón no 2, Khachaturian Adagio from Spartacus, Tchaikovsky Swan Lake, Grieg Hall of the Mountain King, Britten Soirées Musicales and John Williams Star Wars Suite. Free cake & hot drinks! Tickets in advance: Adults £10.00, Seniors/students: £8.00, Only £5 if bringing a schoolchild! (Schoolchildren free).

Tickets from: Wantage Bookshop and Regent Bookshop in Wantage.

WEST HENDRED Summer Event: In aid of Holy Trinity Church. Saturday 12th July (12-30 to 3:30pm) at Manor Farm House, opposite the Village Hall. Lots of stalls and fun for kids. Cake stall, raffle, tombola, Hot-dog stall and drinks bar.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Health and healing: Sylvia C, Pat B, Emmeline (Pat B's granddaughter), Fr.Robert T, Khin WM, Rob S, Peter Ch, Susanne C, Wendy R, Katherine S, Laura C, Ursula G and Richard H.

Friends & families mourning: Joan Rutterford, Rosemary New, Barry Dillon, Jean Orme and Roderick Venners.

Those living in: Windmill Place (East Challow); The Medway (East Hanney); Elm Farm Close, Kennet Close, Station Road, The Maples (Grove); The Croft (West Hanney)

Those being ordained this Petertide: including Rev Frances Caroe, curate at Wantage Parish Church, to be made priest on Sunday.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER:

Mon	Psalm 44	Job 19	Romans 9.1-6
Tue	Psalms 48,52	Job 21	Romans 9.19-end
Wed	Psalm 119.57-80	Job 22	Romans 10.1-10
Thu (St Thomas)	Psalms 92,146	2 Samuel 15.17-21	John 11.1-16
Fri	Psalms 51,54	Job 24	Romans 11.1-12
Sat	Psalm 68	Job 25-26	Romans 11.13-24