

## DIARY FOR THE MONTH The following groups will still meet in August:

10am – 11.30am: **Simply Singing Group**, Lower St John's Room  
(5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August)

2pm-4pm **Badminton on Wednesdays (BoW)**, St John's Church Hall  
(20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August)

8pm- 10pm **Thursday Badminton Group**, St John's Church Hall  
(7<sup>th</sup> ?, 14<sup>th</sup> ?, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August)

7pm – 8pm **Jungle Fitness Group**, St John's Church Hall  
(20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August)

2pm – 5pm **Board Games Afternoon** (Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August)

**Private bookings** in St John's Church Hall (2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August)



**The newsletter will resume on Sunday 31st August.**

If anyone has specific prayer requests, please email confidentially to  
[prayer@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:prayer@valebenefice.org.uk)

### CONTACT DETAILS

**Vicar:** Revd. Alec Gill: 07739563894 [vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk)

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Sarah Shackleton: 07587776609

[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. 01235 771479. [office@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@valebenefice.org.uk)

Please note: The Benefice Office hours are variable over the summer holidays so please contact me 1<sup>st</sup> to make an appointment if you need to come in. Thank you.

# VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER

27th July 2025  
6th Sunday after Trinity

*Readings selected from:*

Genesis 18.20-32; Psalm 138; Colossians 2.6-15; Luke 11.1-13

An Irish blessing for the summer: "May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

## Our Shared Worship

### Sunday 27th July

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove - Rev Alec Gill  
9.30am Patronal Service, St James', Hanney – Rev Alec Gill  
10am **No service**, St James', Denchworth  
10.15am **No service**, St John's, Grove  
11am **No service**, St Nicholas', East Challow

### Sunday Services in August

#### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev ?  
9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney – Rev Geoff Maughan  
10am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth – Rev Peter Rich  
10.15am Morning Worship, St John's, Grove  
(with Sarah Shackleton (LLM) & Gary Sheffield)  
11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow – Rev Geoff Maughan

#### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Margot Hodson  
9.30am **No Service**, St James', Hanney  
10am **No Service**, St James', Denchworth  
10.15am **Benefice Holy Communion** St John's, Grove  
(with Rev Margot Hodson and Martin Hodson)  
11am **No Service**, St Nicholas', East Challow

## Sunday Services in August continued

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev ?  
 9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney – Rev Velma Oxley  
 10am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth – Rev ?  
 10.15am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Geoff Maughan  
 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow – Rev Velma Oxley

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August

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

*(Services correct at the point of printing)*

## BENEFICE NEWS

**APPOINTMENT OF REV DR MIRIAM JONES TO THE POST OF ASSOCIATE VICAR IN THE VALE BENEFICE** Miriam's licensing service will take place Thursday 4th September (7.30pm) at St James the Great, West Hanney, OX12 0LP. All Welcome.

**BENEFICE WELCOME HAMPER** for Miriam and family: We would like to provide Miriam and her family with a Food hamper on their arrival at the Grove Vicarage in August, from the Vale Benefice Churches. If you would like to give a monetary donation for this, it would be very welcome and would allow for our co-ordinator to buy items nearer the time and according to the family's dietary requirements. There will be a labelled wooden donation box for this in the St John's Church foyer until **Sunday 3rd August**. Any donations from Hanney, Challow or Denchworth churches can be collected and brought to the Benefice Office or labelled and left in the Benefice Office post box by **Friday 1st August**.

If you wish to make a donation for this by bank transfer, please use the bank transfer reference "**Hamper**" and make payment by 3rd August to the following bank details for Grove Church, Many thanks.

**Account Name:** Grove Parochial Church Council, **Bank:** Co-op Bank,

**Sort code:** 08-92-99, **Account Number:** 65094983

**THE VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER** The newsletter will pause from 3rd to 24th August, resuming on Sunday 31st August. Please send items for 31<sup>st</sup> August to [news@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:news@valebenefice.org.uk) by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August. Thank you.

**NO MID-WEEK Communion Services** at the Vale Benefice Churches from 31<sup>st</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025.

**FRIENDS on FRIDAY GROUP:** No August meetings. Next meeting Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept.

**ONLINE NICENE CREED STUDY GROUP** From Thursday 11th Sept, from 8-9pm via Teams (online) for 6 weeks, we will be exploring the Christian faith through the Nicene Creed, exploring and reflecting on our core beliefs, passed down to us through the centuries. This will also be an opportunity to prepare for baptism and/or confirmation on Sunday 19th October at 10:15am in St John the Baptist Church, Grove. Please let Rev Alec Gill know if you are interested in being confirmed at this service. Please contact [vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk) or [office@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@valebenefice.org.uk) for login details.

**THANK YOU** to Wendy Rutterford for the beautiful flowers in St John's Church in memory of your mum. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Thank you also to the Grove Church Flower Team for creating such beautiful arrangements in the church.

**PAT BATES update:** Pat is coming home this weekend. She will need a few days to settle in & after that will look forward to welcoming visitors. Please contact her first.

**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST Invitation - 9th August** at Stanford in the Vale Village (Large Hall), 8.30am for 8.45am start. Our lovely speaker Elaine Sugden is talking about "Cancer & Faith". We will serve a "continental" style breakfast. Please advise on special dietary requirements. Seats are limited. Please leave a message on 07880655102 to book a place. We look forward to hearing from you. Love and blessings, The Women's breakfast Team, (Gaynor, Maz, Penny, Rachel and Susan)

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

**GROVE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL** Lunchtime supervisor: We are still looking to recruit a lunchtime supervisor to start in September. Parent Governor: We are still looking to recruit a Parent Governor to join our Local Governing Body. Please contact the school if you are interested. [office.3228@grove.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3228@grove.oxon.sch.uk) Tel: 01235 769867.

## 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, Barry Dillon, Roderick Venners and Charles Dingwall.

**Those living on their own** in our four parishes

**Miriam & Thomas Jones**, with Emily, Julia, Zoë and Adam preparing to move south from Gosforth and settle in Grove in August.

**Families on holiday**, those unable to go away, and those with no family. Children receiving their exam results during August.

**The person** called to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury