

VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER

12th October 2025

17th Sunday after Trinity

Readings selected from:

2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2.8-15; Luke 17.11-19

There's something appropriate in the news that the next Archbishop of Canterbury was once a cancer nurse and a midwife. Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London, takes on an awesome role caring for our divided part of God's Church. We must pray for her that she may be given resilience and love to fulfil her intention "to be a shepherd, who enables everyone's ministry and vocation to flourish – whatever the tradition." Bishop Jill Duff commented, "I hope for this next season to be marked by unlikely people finding hope, healing and home with Jesus. Not least those trapped underground by poverty, racism or elitism. Not as 'poor unfortunates' that we take care of but because... 'the poor are our greatest teachers'." Our gospel reading suggests this is God's way.

Our Shared Worship Sunday 12th October

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill

9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney – Rev Alec Gill & Rev Miriam Jones

10am Holy Communion, St James', Denchworth – Rev Roger Williams

10.15am Morning Worship, St John's, Grove – Sarah Shackleton (LLM) & Nnamdi Obieniu

11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow – Rev Alec Gill & Rev Miriam Jones

Upcoming Services Sunday 19th October

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Miriam Jones

9.30am Parish Eucharist, St James', Hanney – Rev Geoff Maughan

10am Holy Communion (Harvest), St James', Denchworth – Rev Miriam Jones

10.15am **Baptism & Confirmation**, St John's, Grove with Rt Rev Gavin Collins

11am No service, St Nicholas', East Challow

Send newsletter content to news@valebenefice.org.uk. Items for newsletter inclusion will be for 2 weeks. Please re-send your content by **noon 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

BENEFACTICE NEWS

ONLINE NICENE CREED STUDY GROUP will meet weekly online on TEAMS starting on Thursday 11th September and ending on 16th October (8pm – 9pm), please see below for the online login details for these TEAMS meetings.

Meeting ID: 321 459 007 039 7 Passcode: Wm9xp6yy

GENEROSITY WEEK AND GIFT DAY AT ST JOHN'S. During our **Generosity Week**, we ask you to prayerfully consider God's generosity to us and our giving to the church. There is currently information on the church's financial position being given out at our morning services, together with details of how to give. If you are a member of St John's and not already giving regularly, then we would ask you to consider whether this would be possible.

THANK YOU to the Grove Church Flower Display Team for the wonderful Harvest displays in the church.

FOODBANK & HARVEST Thank you to our Benefice Churches and Schools for all the donations given to the Foodbank this Harvest. We also received 320 items from Grove CE School at their Harvest Service in church last week, and we thank you all for this. St John's Church also donated 142 items last weekend, and our Foodbank shelves are stocked much better now! We really appreciate all the support that you are giving.

HARVEST DONATIONS AT ST JOHN'S Many thanks to all those who donated money at the recent Harvest Lunch. Once costs have been taken out we are able to send £181 to the Wantage and Grove Food bank.

CARD MAKING FOR OVER 18's Sunday 12th October – 2-4.30pm. If you would like to come to Sue and Emma's card making session, please sign up on the form in the Entrance Hall or email Sue at suepowditch@gmail.com or text her on 07833 503674. Sue and Emma would love someone to come and make tea/coffee etc. for refreshments at 3.30pm; please contact Sue if you'd be happy to do this.

BENEFACTICE BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION SERVICE at St John's Church, Grove, on Sunday 19th October 2025 during the 10.15am service.

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR VACANCIES Grove CE Primary are looking to appoint two Lunchtime Supervisors with immediate effect to work with two children who have Special Educational Needs. Each will work 1:1 with each of the children. The job is 12–1pm, Mon–Fri | £12.65/hr. Apply at www.groveprimary.org by 23 Oct.

BESPACE IS HIRING! We're looking for a part-time (28 hours) Operations Coordinator to join our small Christian charity for a year. Help support schools and churches across Oxfordshire with admin, events, and communications. Remote | £22–25k pro rata | Apply by 4pm on 17 Nov | info@bespace.be for details

LINKED TO HOPE SHOE BOX APPEAL This year, the benefice churches are supporting 'Linked to Hope' shoe box appeal. The shoeboxes will be distributed to the poorest people in Ukraine, Moldova, Bulgaria, and Romania. Unlike many other shoebox appeals, this scheme collects boxes for entire families and the elderly, so nobody's left out. There are many ways you can support- fill a shoe box or donate items for a shoe box. More information can be found on the display in St John's Church or by visiting <https://linktohope.co.uk/shoebox-appeal-2025>

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE is on Saturday 29th November 2-4pm. Please can you let us know if you can help with a stall. Additionally, a sign-up sheet is located sheet in the foyer. Please start saving nearly new gifts, tombola gifts, books, etc. This is a lovely festive event that we like to open up to our community. Even if you haven't helped before, please do come and speak to Nicky Gibbard, Angela Rich or Sue Powditch who can tell you more about it.

LIVE STREAM LINK – St John's Church, Grove (10.15am only)

The 10.15am Sunday service at St John's Church, Grove, is live streamed weekly on YouTube. Watch live or later:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjvzip6GG1Tybyw58vRe9YveNSDZh92S>

(This link stays the same each week.)

Auto-captioning is available and can be turned off. Camera views are wide shots; sit rear left to avoid being on camera. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Health and healing: Rev Dick French, Norah L, Khin WM, Rob S, Peter Ch, Pat B, Emmeline (Pat B's granddaughter), Susanne C, Wendy R, Katherine S, Laura C, Ursula G and Richard H.

Friends & families mourning: Shiela Goddard, Fr. Robert Teare, Mary Betteridge, Gina Bunting, Charles Dingwall, Linda Warren, Sue Tyser, Dorothy Lucas and Valerie Bone.

All living in: Curlew Meadow (Denchworth); Faringdon Road (East Challow); The Green (East Hanney); Woodhill Drive, Teal Close, Collett Way (Grove); The Meads (West Hanney)

Rt Rev Sarah Mullaly for grace and for her protection as she prepares for her new ministry as our archbishop; and **those negotiating peace** In the Holy Land

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalm 71	2 Chronicles 9.1-12	Mark 14.1-11
Tue	Psalm 73	2 Chronicles 10.1-11.4	Mark 14.12-25
Wed	Psalm 77	2 Chronicles 12	Mark 14.26-42
Thu	Psalm 78.1-39	2 Chronicles 13.1-14.1	Mark 14.43-52
Fri	Psalm 55	2 Chronicles 14.2-end	Mark 14.53-65
Sat <i>Luke the Evangelist</i>	Psalms 145, 146	Isaiah 55	Luke 1.1-4

DIARY FOR THE WEEK *(Starting on Mon 13th October)*

Mon	10am	GroW Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	10am	U3A Genealogy Group, St John's Lower Room
	12.45pm	GroW Babies, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	1st Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	St John's Finance Committee Meeting, Lower Room
Tue	10am	Simply Singing Group, LOWER St John's Room
	6.30pm	Wantage Chess Club, ALL St John's Rooms
	7pm	2nd Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
Wed	9am-3pm	SWIFT Training Course, LOWER St John's Room
	9.15am	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Badminton on Wednesday (BoW), St John's Church Hall
Thu	9.30am	White Horse Extend 50's+ Exercise, St John's Church Hall
	10am	Mid-week HC Service, St Nicholas Church, E. Challow
	2pm	Bible Study Group, LOWER St John's Rooms, Grove
	5.30pm	1st Grove Brownies, St John's Church Hall
	8pm	ONLINE Nicene Creed Study Group
	8pm	St John's Badminton Group, St John's Church Hall
Fri	1.30pm	ASC Coffee Afternoon, Grove CE Primary School
Sat	8.30am	Morning Prayers, Frances Gillott's House, Grove
	10am	Private Booking, St John's Church Hall
	11am	Baptism Meeting with Rev Alec Gill, Lower St John's Room
	2pm	Benefice Churches' Tea Party, Cornerstone, Grove
Sun	1pm	Boardgames Afternoon, St John's Church Hall
	7pm	Senior Youth Group, St John's Church Hall

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Rev Alec Gill: 07739563894 vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Rev Miriam Jones: 07474095190 vicarmiriam@valebenefice.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Sarah Shackleton: 07587776609 SarahLLM@valebenefice.org.uk

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