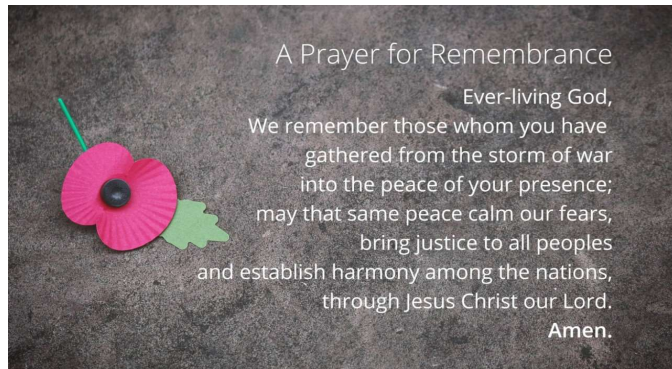


DIARY FOR THE WEEK *Starting on Mon 10th November*

Mon	10am	GroW Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	10am	U3A Genealogy Group, LOWER St John's Room
	12.45pm	GroW Babies Group, St John's Church Hall
	1pm	GroW Baby Massage, LOWER St John's Room
	7pm	1st Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
Tue	10am	Simply Singing Group, St John's Lower Room
	2pm	U3A Film Meeting, St John's Church Hall
	6.30pm	Wantage Chess Club, ALL St John's Rooms
	7pm	2nd Grove Guides, St John's Church Hall
Wed	9.15am	St John's Toddler Group, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Badminton on Wednesday's, St John's Church Hall
	2.30pm	Trefoil Guild Meeting, LOWER St John's Room
Thu	9.30am	Extend Your Fitness Class, St John's Church Hall
	9.30am	GroW Parenting Course, LOWER St John's Room
	10am	Mid-week HC Service, St Nicholas Church, E. 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	U3A Yarn Group, LOWER St John's Room
Sat	8.30am	Morning Prayers, Frances Gillott's House, Grove
	10am	Private Booking, St John's Church Hall
	2pm	Cornerstone Tea Party, Cornerstone, Grove
Sun	3pm	Cornerstone 30 th Celebration Service, St John's Church, Grove
	6.30pm	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

Benefice Office: Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove, OX12 7LQ

Open: Mon–Fri. 10–12 noon. 01235 771479. office@valebenefice.org.uk

VALE BENEFICE NEWSLETTER

9th November 2025

Remembrance Sunday

Readings selected from:

Job 19.23-27a; Psalm 17.1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-end; Luke 20.27-38

This year we have been marking 80 years since the end of World War 2 both in Europe (8th May) and in the Far East (15th August). While we honour the servicemen and women who gave their lives for freedom of others, we also remember that it saw the start of mass civilian casualties in warfare and the use of nuclear weapons — the horrors of which still fill our screens and haunt our fears. Christ, Prince of peace, have mercy.

Our Shared Worship

Sunday 9th November

8am Holy Communion, St John's, Grove – Rev Alec Gill
 10am Act of Remembrance & Service, St James', Denchworth – Rev Miriam Jones
(Procession at 9.45am to church)
 10.15am Remembrance Service, St John's, Grove – Rev Margot Hodson
 10.30am Remembrance Service, St James', Hanney – Rev Alec Gill
 11am Act of Remembrance & Service (11.15am), St Nicholas', East Challow with Rev Miriam Jones & Martin Hodson

Upcoming Services

Sunday 16th November *2nd before Advent*

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 Miriam Jones
 10.15am Holy Communion (Safeguarding Sunday), St John's, Grove with Rev Hannah Lewis & Rev Alec Gill
 11am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas', East Challow – Rev Miriam Jones
 3pm Cornerstone Celebration Service, St John's Church, Grove

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

BENEFICE NEWS

ST JAMES CHURCH SERVICES, HANNEY Due to ongoing building work, all information on St James Church Services, Hanney, is provisional. Services may be changed/cancelled at short notice. See local notices.

CRAFT AND FELLOWSHIP AFTERNOON THIS Sunday 9th NOVEMBER at St John's Church, Grove. For those who enjoyed the card making, and anyone else who'd like to come, we're decorating little boxes from 2.30 to 3.30pm, followed by tea and cake round the table together. Please let Sue know either by text on 07833 503674 or email at suepowditch@gmail.com if you'd like to come.

GROVE AND HANNEY TREFOIL GUILD invite you to join their next meeting on Wednesday 12th November at 2.30pm in the lower St. John's room for a slide safari with Andy Clark and John Kelly of their travels over the year

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

LEAD LIKE JAZZ: An Evening with Scott Olson
Join Scott Olson—CEO of the Christian nonprofit One Collective and acclaimed jazz musician—for a free evening exploring leadership through the lens of jazz. Discover how improvisation and being “in tune” can transform how we lead. Featuring live music from Oxford's Gospel Jazz Project and refreshments after the talk. Event Details: Monday 17th November, 5.30pm, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, Free entry – booking essential, Optional donations to support One Collective's work in Cowley Book tickets here: <https://www.wycliffe.ox.ac.uk/event/lead-like-jazz>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Share Bible Stories with Children Love storytelling and working with children? Join our Open the Book team at St Nicholas School, Challow, bringing Bible stories to life through simple drama and props. Thursdays, 8:30–9:30am (term-time). No acting skills needed — training provided! It's fun, rewarding, and a great way to share God's love. Interested? Please contact one of the OTB team. Linda Hopkins 07925218850

LINK to HOPE Christmas Shoeboxes: A Huge Thank you to all our Vale Benefice Schools (& their families & staff) and our Benefice Churches' congregations who have supported the shoeboxes appeal this year. We are grateful for your generosity. If you have a filled box, please ensure it is delivered to St John's Church, Grove by 12 noon tomorrow, **Thursday 6th November** so it does not miss its onward journey. Thank you.

CORNERSTONE CHRISTMAS LUNCHES: There are still some spaces to book your Christmas Lunch with us on 5th and 11th December, but please do book soon as we close the bookings diary on 17th November. Contact Cornerstone for our Christmas Menu. Tel: 01235 772280 / office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk Thank you.

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE Saturday 29th November (2-4pm). Let us know if you can help with a stall (sign-up sheet in church foyer). Please start saving nearly new and 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.

ALL WELCOME to PETER'S MUSICAL AFTERNOON: Come & relax after the Christmas Fayre in Church on Sunday 30th Nov. (2.30pm – 4.30pm). With Wantage Male Voice Choir, Simply Singing, Rebecca Osborne, & family group. (Interval in the hall to enjoy refreshments & 80th birthday cake!) Donations welcome for Hope Gardens, India. Thank you.

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:
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjvzip6GG1Tybyw58vRe9YveNSDZh92S>
(This link stays the same each week.) Sit at the rear left to avoid being on camera. Contact the church office if you have any questions.
This email containing the link will **not be sent out weekly** after Sunday 26th October.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Health and healing: Rev Dick French, Norah L, Rob S, Peter Ch, Pat B, Emmeline (Pat B's granddaughter), Susanne C, Wendy R, Katherine S, Laura C, Ursula G & Richard H
Friends & families mourning: Shiela Goddard, Fr. Robert Teare, Mary Betteridge and Gina Bunting.

All living in: Rose Terrace (Denchworth); Claypit Lane (E.Challow); Barn Croft (E.Hanney); Bradfield Farm Cottages, Edington Place, Old Mill Close (Grove); Church Street (W.Hanney)

All remembering relatives who died in war “who for our tomorrows gave their today”. Also, men & women in the armed services today.

True lasting peace in the world's intractable trouble spots.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER

Mon	Psalms 19,20	Isaiah 5.8-24	Matthew 4.23-5.12
Tue	Psalms 21,24	Isaiah 5.25-end	Matthew 5.13-20
Wed	Psalms 23,25	Isaiah 6	Matthew 5.21-37
Thu	Psalms 26,27	Isaiah 7.1-17	Matthew 5.38-end
Fri	Psalms 28,32	Isaiah 8.1-15	Matthew 6.1-18
Sat	Psalms 33	Isaiah 8.16-9.7	Matthew 6.19-end