



St Nicholas Church Linton February 2022

Services in the Benefice

The 11am service at Holy Trinity, Coxheath will be available on Zoom every Sunday
<http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice>

Sunday 6th February

No service in Linton
9.30am Morning Worship at East Farleigh
9.30am Holy Communion at Hunton
11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

Sunday 13th February

9.30am Morning Worship at Linton
9.30am Holy Communion at West Farleigh
11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

Saturday 19th February

3-5pm Messy Church in St Nicholas Church.
Contact Becky for more information.

Sunday 20th February

No service at Linton
9.30am Holy Communion at East Farleigh
10.30am Benefice Service at Hunton
The Rt Revd Simon Burton-Jones, Bishop of Tonbridge will be leading us.

Wednesday 23rd February

12 noon Midweek Holy Communion in Linton, followed by a light lunch.

Sunday 27th February

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton
9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh
11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath. Also online at
<http://bit.ly/ThursdayCommunion>

The question everyone is asking is "When will a new Rector be appointed?" The answer is 'not yet!' Appointing a new incumbent is a long process but the wheels are now turning, slowly but gaining momentum. The churchwardens have been meeting together and a Parish Profile has been created. A representative from each parish has been appointed to take the process forward and this group has met with the Patron and Archdeacon. The advert for the position will shortly be advertised. You may wish to use this prayer during our time of interregnum.

*God our Father,
you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus
and called us to be his body in this place.
Send us your Holy Spirit,
at this time of uncertainty and change,
to fill us with vision and energy;
make us faithful in prayer and worship,
that we may be true to our calling
to bring new life to our community.
Guide with your heavenly wisdom
those who are to choose a new Incumbent for this
parish, that the one whom we receive
may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people:
ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith,
and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your
son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Friday 4th March

2pm World Day of Prayer at Coxheath (please note the time change for this year).

Our Benefice Churches join together with the Linton Road Free Church for this annual service which will be held at [Holy Trinity, Coxheath](#). The service, entitled 'I know the plans I have for you', has been prepared by Christian women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. All are very welcome.

Bible Study Course on Zoom

7.30pm on Wednesday evenings. If you are interested in, or would like to know more about this on line Bible Course, please speak to Lorna.

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

Tuesday 22nd February

9.30am to 12 noon in Linton Church.
Bacon rolls, scones, cakes and lots more. A member of Linton Parish Council will be present at the coffee morning to discuss any community matters you may have.



Saturday 12th February

10am – 12noon Holy Trinity Church Coxheath Coffee Morning

A warm and friendly welcome awaits you at the Scout HQ, Westerhill Road. Admission 70p which includes free tea/coffee and biscuits. You can also buy from the popular cake, card and bric-a-brac stalls

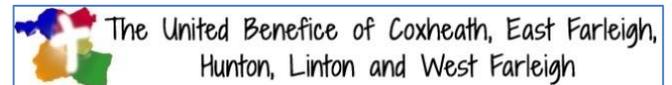
Wednesday 2nd March

7.30pm Ash Wednesday service will be held in West Farleigh Church.

Our Ministry Team and Churchwardens are requesting that everyone attending one of our Services continues to wear a Face Covering at the moment...

For up to date details about benefice group meetings please contact the following people:
Children's Work - Becky Parnham 07949 646865
Men's Prayer Group – Mike Marsh 07595 428639
Ladies Prayer Group – Dawn Burnell 435882
Beacon Men – Steve Poole 297144
Mothers' Union – Margaret Poole 01622 297144 or Lesley Marsh 07814 817204

Revd. Lorna Faulkner, Assistant Curate 01622 439304
Revd. David Jones - Hon. Associate Rector 741474
www.unitedbenefice.church
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9958/>
Becky Parnham – Benefice Children & Families Worker
<https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/>



For the Pastoral Letter, please see overleaf.....

Pastoral Letter from Becky Parnham

February – the month of love and romance - or so the shops will have us believe!

February 14th in the Anglican calendar is indeed the day of commemoration for Saint Valentine of Rome, and St Valentine of Terni. But very little is known about either of these men. There are many speculative stories that involve priests defying the emperor's laws and marrying couples in secret, or of Valentine falling in love with his jailer's daughter and writing her a letter but nobody really knows.

It appears that we actually owe more to the writer Geoffrey Chaucer for our modern day obsession of sending cards and gifts to our loved ones. He wrote a poem in 1382; entitled 'Parliament of Fowls' to commemorate the engagement of King Richard II to Anne of Bohemia; which was about birds choosing their mates at this time of year. By the 1400's this had translated into February 14th becoming an annual celebration of love, with lavish celebrations being recorded as happening in the courts of France – maybe starting the French reputation as the best lovers too?

Handwritten notes have changed into commercially made greetings cards that you can buy for just about anyone – from your significant other to your favourite pet! In recent years it has been thought that over 70% of the UK population will celebrate Valentine's day despite it not being a national holiday, spending around £30 per person! However, with the media and commercial establishments pushing this image of the perfect romance onto us it can be a difficult time for those who are on their own or suffering from a relationship breakdown. Feelings of loneliness and worthlessness can increase and even become detrimental to an individual's health.

This is where I believe having a Christian faith can help – we know we are all imperfect individuals, but God loves us anyway. It's not the mushy, romantic type of love that the shops are trying to sell us either, it's a deep, caring, lasting love that costs nothing

except time. So the challenge for us in this month of romance is to try to share God's version of love with everyone we meet.

With love to you all,

Becky