



# St Nicholas Church Linton January 2023

## St Nicholas Church - Building work

The work to repair the ceilings in the north and south aisles is due to commence in the first week of the year. At present it is not known how long the work will take. Sunday worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays will take place but a decision will be made as soon as we are able regarding the Benefice service on 29<sup>th</sup>, the midweek communion on the 25<sup>th</sup> and coffee morning on the 31st.

## Services in the Benefice

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January

There will be just one service in the Benefice on New Year's Day.

10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's Hunton

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January (Epiphany)

9.30am Morning Worship at Linton

9.30am Holy Communion at West Farleigh

11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January

9.30am Morning Worship at Hunton

9.30am Holy Communion at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

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

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh

11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January

10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Linton  
(to be confirmed)

### Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion, Holy Trinity

Coxheath an online <http://bit.ly/ThursdayCommunion>

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January

12 noon Midweek Holy Communion in Linton followed by a light lunch of soup and a roll.

### Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

**10am – 12 noon**

### **COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING** in

Linton Church. Bacon rolls, scones, cakes and lots more.



### Pastoral Letter from The Rector

Janus – the Roman god from which the first month of our calendar gets its name – is most often depicted with two faces, looking in opposite directions. Known as the god of beginnings, gates, transitions, time, duality, doorways, passages, frames, and endings: An appropriate choice by the Romans to mark the turn of the year.

Now, while I do like the promise of new beginnings, I am increasingly coming to find the passing of time quite daunting. 2023 is here - I am sure it was 1987 last time I looked - and, this year, I turn 50. A milestone birthday they say. So old! (According to the younger generation...) Still young! (According to those who are older than me...).

I find myself looking forward with trepidation – wondering if I can manage to do any of the things this coming year that I have written on my ever-hopeful to-do list for life. I also find myself looking back more than is good for me... on the things I wish I had not left undone. The things I wish I had not done at all. The things I wish I could do again...but differently this time, with hindsight and experience. The one thing I don't do often enough, however, is just stand still and enjoy the view from this part of my journey. Seeing how far I have come in my 50 years of life, noticing where I stand today, acknowledging what has made me 'me', setting my feet in the direction of whatever is next.

Maybe we could all learn something from this double-faced image of Janus. Maybe there's something in taking time to stand still for moment – one foot in yesterday and one foot in tomorrow - as we mark this turning year.

Stop. Look. Take in the view. Count our blessings. Acknowledge our troubles. And see them all in the context of the whole. In one single moment, we are each all we have been, and we are each all we have yet to be. As humans we seem to be ever mindful of the past and ever wondering about the future. But the Bible reminds us that it is good sometimes to simply stop and take it all in. **'This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.'** Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful New Year.

*Lorna*

### Pastoral Support

#### **"Sometimes we just need someone to listen"**



The Benefice Pastoral Support Team will happily pray for you, or with you, if that is what you would like us to do. Call:

07437 544229 in confidence to speak to one of the team. If there is no answer please leave your name and number. You can also contact us online here: <https://unitedbenefice.church/contact-the-pastoral-support-team/>

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 01622 435882
Beacon Men	Steve Poole 01622 297144
Mothers' Union	Margaret Poole 01622 297144 Lesley Marsh 07814 817204

*Rev. Lorna Faulkner, Rector 01622 747570*

*Rev. David Jones, Hon. Associate Rector 741474*

*Becky Parnham, Benefice Children & Families Worker*

<https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/>

Benefice Websites:

[www.unitedbenefice.church](http://www.unitedbenefice.church)

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9958/>



The United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh,  
Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh