

Pastoral Letter for May 2023

The Coronation of King Charles III. The thing that May 2023 will be remembered for.

A significant event in the life of our country and of the Church of England. And a huge responsibility for the Archbishop of Canterbury! I am sure this may be counted as one of the most extraordinary events in Justin Welby's time as Archbishop and I am sure he has found himself feeling more than a little daunted as the day approaches.

I am sure that King Charles doesn't come to this day without some anxiety either!

And it is this that I have decided to write to you about this month. Facing the enormous things of life - the opportunities and responsibilities that are a part of our human experience?

We are not all going to be anointing and crowning a king this month (thank goodness!) but many of us face things that feel huge to us: GCSE and A-level exams; starting a new job perhaps; a family event – getting married or having to plan and process a funeral having lost a loved one.

In all these things, we have the same resource available to us that Archbishop Justin has available to him: the presence and strength of God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In Paul's letter to the Philippians, he urges them not be anxious about anything – but to bring all their concerns to God and try and focus on what is good and uplifting. And in trusting God with the difficult circumstances of life, he writes that they will know God's peace with them.

If you are facing difficult circumstances at this time, or have something daunting on the horizon, may you also come to know God's presence and God's peace with you.

We'd be happy to pray for you – just get in touch via our website.

God bless you,

Lorna

Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 741474



Benefice website www.unitedbenefice.church

If you have an item for the June News Letter please contact Marian on 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com by **Thursday** 25th May (The June news letter will be available on Sunday 28th May)

Holy Trinity Church May 2023



Sunday 7th May 11.00am	Holy Communion Coronation Service Readings: Acts 7.v55-60, 1 Peter 2.v2-10, John 14.v1-14	Easter 5 Led by: Rev Lorna
Sunday 14th May 11.00am	Morning Worship Good News for Everyone (Gideons) Readings: Acts 17.v22-31, 1 Peter 3.v13-22	Easter 6 Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner
Sunday 21st May 11.00am	Holy Communion Readings: Acts 1.v6-14, 1Peter 4.v12-14; 5v 6-11, John 17.v1-11 Giving Sunday for Crossroads Care Maidstone	Easter 7 Led by: Rev David Jones
Sunday 28th May 11.00am	All Age Worship Readings: Preachers Choice	Pentecost Led by: Rev Lorna & Becky Parnham
Each Sunday the 11.00am service from Coxheath will be available on zoom http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice		

Thursday 18th May 7pm Ascension Day Holy Communion Service at East Farleigh Church

**Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath
Last Wednesday of each month 12.00pm Holy Communion at Linton**

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you' John 14 v27

Diary Dates

Sunday 7th May Coronation Service with Holy Communion followed by a picnic on the grass outside the church. Everyone welcome

Saturday 13th May 10.00am – 12.00noon Holy Trinity Church Coffee

Morning A warm and friendly welcome awaits you at the Scout HQ, Westerhill Road. Admission £1 which includes tea/coffee, biscuits and refills. Cakes, cards and bric-a-brac
Usually members of the Coxheath Parish Council there to chat to



Sunday 14th May Soup on Sunday

This is held after the morning service and the usual refreshments. Please consider inviting a friend or someone you know who might be on their own at Sunday lunch time to come and enjoy the delicious home made soups. All are welcome. Contacts: Margaret or Lesley

Monday 15th May 7.00pm PCC Meeting

PCC members are reminded that this is the date of the next meeting.

Thursday 18th May 7pm Ascension Day Holy Communion Service at East Farleigh Church

Saturday 20th May 11 am Beacon Men have a Boat Trip from Tonbridge.

Ladies are welcome at this event. Booking forms are at the back of the church with all the information or contact: beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com

Saturday 20th May 3.00 – 4.00pm Muddy Church at St Nicholas, Linton

Muddy Church is open to anyone and is 'Walking and Wondering' in the open air so weather appropriate clothing is a must. Becky Parnham 07949 646865

Sunday 21st May Giving Sunday

Supporting the work of Crossroads Care Maidstone

Tuesday 30th May 10am – 12noon Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton All Welcome

Other News and Information

Brew and A Bite

Open on Tuesdays 10am – 5pm

Pop into Holy Trinity, Coxheath for a free warm drink and a bite to eat. 3.30 – 5pm School Run Tuck Shop

Offers of help would be appreciated, please speak to Jen Tobin



Offertory Cards

If you make regular gifts to the church by way of Standing Order then you might like to use the small yellow cards that are on the left hand cupboard to the rear of the aisle. These can be placed in the offertory bags at services. The wording on the cards being 'I offer gifts to Holy Trinity by way of a Standing Order direct to the church'

Other Services in the Benefice

	9.30am	
Sunday 7th May	East Farleigh Hunton	Morning Worship Celebration Service
Sunday 14th May	West Farleigh Linton	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday 21st May	East Farleigh Hunton	Holy Communion Family Service
Sunday 28th May	West Farleigh Linton	Morning Worship Holy Communion

Group details

For up to date details about group meetings please contact the following people:

Children's Work - Becky Parnham 07949 646865

- Tiny Tots Toybox Thursdays 1.30 – 3.00pm for children from birth to 5 years with their parents or carers at Coxheath
- Little Angels Fridays 1.00 – 2.30pm for children from birth to 5 years with their parents and carers at West Farleigh
- Seekers after school club Thursdays after school until 5.00pm for children in school years 3-7 at Coxheath
- Bible Babble 1st Sunday of every month 7.30 - 9.00pm at Coxheath for young people, school year 6 and upwards

Men's Prayer Group – Mike Marsh 07595 428639

Ladies Prayer Group – Dawn Burnell

Beacon Men – Steve Poole 07904 212245

Mothers' Union – Margaret Poole 07729 176762 or
Lesley Marsh 07814 817204

Children's Society Boxes

It's during the month of May when the boxes are collected, monies counted and sent off to the society. If you're a box holder, please could you bring your box to church and pass to Marian Simpson. Thank you

Food Box for Homeless Care in Maidstone

After Harvest and Christmas the food stock at Homeless Care is starting to run low.

Please remember the collecting box on the windowsill at the back of the church for donations of non-perishable food and toiletries. These gifts are used to help vulnerable people and are also distributed in food boxes for families in great need. The donations are always gratefully received by the charity. Thank you to all those who support this cause.