

Pastoral Letter for March 2024

The year is moving on - it's March already and finally the days are a little longer and a little lighter! Perhaps you are reading this with the gentle, warming rays of the Spring sun spilling through your windows and the fresh smell of hope on the breeze. Perhaps it's one of those ghastly grey days when you genuinely wonder if the weather has looked at the calendar lately. Either way, be of good cheer! Winter is out the door (hooray!) and the season of growth and life is upon us.

March, history tells us, was named after Mars the Roman god of war. The month was so named as it was the time of year that military campaigns, interrupted by the winter weather, could be resumed with gusto. Now, I am hoping none of us has a war on hold that we might like to get stuck back into. However, I do wonder what we've put on the 'back-burner' of our lives that we might be inspired to pick up again in this season of new beginnings and fresh starts?

Something we were enjoying or tackling and have let slide. A hobby? A project maybe? A decision? A question we need to answer? A friendship that needs some investment? Maybe now is the time to take a deep breath and give it the attention it needs to finally be completed - or, if you're queen of the good intention like me, just started would be a bonus!

As we approach the celebration of Easter, we observe the period of Lent, when we are called to consider our lives on a deeper level. We take time to be mindful of all those ways in which we might live better, truer, lives and draw closer to God. The triumph of Easter - life over death, mercy over judgement, grace over condemnation - is a wonderful reminder to us all of the opportunities we have to begin again - embrace new life from a new perspective. As Christians, we seek to find - and live - life from the perspective of a God who loves us, and loves us with *his* life.

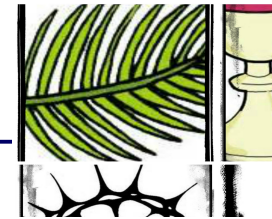
May each of us discover the joy of Spring. May each of us be blessed and re-energised in this season. May we notice opportunities for growth and new beginnings, and may we be inspired to embrace them and the life that comes with them.

Happy Easter, Lorna

To find out more information about our Benefice and five Benefice Churches go to www.unitedbenefice.church which also includes useful links

April News Letter If you have an item for the April letter, please contact Marian 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com by **Thursday** 28th March

Holy Trinity Church March 2024



Sunday 3rd March **Holy Communion** **3rd in Lent**
11.00am Led by: Rev David Jones
Readings: Exodus 20. v1-17, 1 Corinthians 1. v18-25, John 2. v13-22

Sunday 10th March **Morning Worship** **Mothering Sunday**
11.00am Led by: Rev Lorna and MU
Readings: Colossians 3. v12-17, John 19. v25-27
Giving Sunday in aid of Young Lives Foundation



Sunday 17th March **Holy Communion** **5th in Lent**
11.00am Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner
Readings: Jeremiah 31. v31-34, Hebrews 5. v5-10, John 12. v20-33

Sunday 24th March **All Age Worship** **Palm Sunday**
11.00am Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner,
Readings: Preacher's Choice

Sunday 31st March **Easter Sunday Communion** Led by Rev Lorna
Christ is risen, he is risen indeed, Alleluia
Readings: Isaiah 25. v6-9, Acts 10. v34-43, Mark 6. v1-8

Set your clocks forward one hour

Don't forget to put your **clocks forward** on Saturday evening 30th March

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

Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570
Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 741474



Diary Dates

Friday 1st March 10am World Day of Prayer at Holy Trinity, Coxheath

This years' service has been planned and prepared during the last four years by Christian women of Palestine All are very welcome and there will be refreshments following the service.

Saturday 9th March 10.00am – 12.00noon Holy Trinity Church Coffee Morning with **Easter Food and Drink Raffle** please hand any donations to **Mags Poole** A warm and friendly welcome awaits you at the **Scout HQ, Westerhill Road**. Admission £1 which includes free tea/coffee and biscuits. You can buy from the popular cake, bric-a-brac and card stalls.



There will be **Easter Cards** for sale and some in church priced at 50p. There are usually members of the Coxheath Parish Council there to chat to.

Sunday 10th March Giving Sunday in aid of Young Lives Foundation

Wednesday 13th March Holy Trinity will be open for prayers for Coxheath from 9:30 am culminating in a time of worship at 7:30 pm

Saturday 16th March 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.

Saturday 16th March 9.00am Beacon Men's Breakfast

at the Toby Inn , Laight Road, Langley, ME17 3EU. This is a joint meeting with the All Saints Loose Men's group. Contact beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com or call Mike on 07595 428639 if you are interested so we can coordinate transport. Do invite your friends and relatives.

Sunday 17th March Soup on Sunday

This will be held after the morning service and the usual refreshments. Please consider inviting someone else who might be on their own for Sunday lunch.

Tuesday 26th March 10.00am – 12noon Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton All Welcome

Tuesdays and Thursdays Brew and a Bite at Holy Trinity, Coxheath

We are open (during school term times) every Tuesday 2.30pm – 5.00pm and Thursdays 11am – 1.00pm. There is no charge but you are invited to give a donation if you so wish.

News and Other Information

Lent If you would like to join a Lent course for reflection and discussion please contact Lorna. Email revlornafaulkner@gmail.com or 01622 747570. These courses are taking place on Wednesday evenings in Coxheath or late afternoons in Hunton

Easter Flowers and Memorial Page

This Easter we will be decorating the church with lilies and spring flowers. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one and have their name written on a memorial page then please contact Sandra Baker by Sunday 24th March at the latest

LENT - EASTER

Date	Service	Venue and Time
Monday 25 th March	Holy Week Reflection 1	Hunton 7.30pm
Tuesday 26 th March	Holy Week Reflection 2	East Farleigh 7.30pm
Wednesday 27 th March	Holy Week Reflection 3	Linton 7.30pm
Thursday 28 th March	Maundy Thursday Agape meal	West Farleigh 7.00 for 7.30pm
Friday 29 th March	Good Friday: An hour at the cross	Coxheath 2.00pm

Benefice Services

	9.30am	
Sunday 3 rd March	East Farleigh Hunton	Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday 10 th March	West Farleigh Linton Hunton	Holy Communion Morning Worship Family Service
Sunday 17 th March	East Farleigh Hunton	Holy Communion Family Service
Sunday 24 th March	East Farleigh (with West Farleigh) Linton	Morning Worship Holy Communion
31 st March	East Farleigh Hunton Linton	Communion (with West Farleigh) 9.30am Holy Communion at 11am Holy Communion 9.30am

Childe Rolande Folk Band

The folk evening was enjoyed by all those who were fortunate enough to attend. £650 was raised in aid of the restoration of the chancel floor and drainage works.

Prayer Chain and Thinking of you cards

The Benefice has a prayer chain which prays confidentially for anyone who asks for prayer.

If you know of anyone in our congregation who has been ill, is moving away, has suffered a bereavement, or is no longer able to get to church a card can be sent from our church family at Holy Trinity.

The contact person for the prayer chain and thinking of you cards is Marian 01622 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com