

Pastoral Letter for October 2025

Dear Readers

Referring back to last month's letter from Sue I can truthfully say that I can remember my first day in school in 1947. I also have a photo of the event, standing next to my big sister (only a year older) with short trousers, a blazer, sandals, no socks and my 'piece' in a paper bag in my left hand. My 'piece' you ask? Yes, something for playtime, in this case a piece of homemade shortbread baked by my granny which by playtime would have made the paper bag go almost transparent with the grease! That 'piece' accompanied me daily right up to the age of 18 when I left school.

Who'd a thought then that in 2025 I'd be marking the 25th anniversary of my ordination, married for 42 years, a teacher for 35 years then ordained for another 25 years, a father and grandfather. A rich life Indeed!

I wonder how many anniversaries you've had? For a few years now I've had a lovely long letter once a month from a lady who used to live in Coxheath but is now in a retirement community in London. She gets her carer to write – her scribe as she describes her – and I often wonder as I read her letters what the scribe must be thinking as the two 'ancients' share memories. Her memories are clear, happy in some ways but also the worrying times when her children grew up. They're letters so full of life and memories.

Well, I wasn't going to say anything this month as I felt depressed by so much happening locally, nationally and internationally. But then her letter arrived, full of memories and hope. I thought I'd share with you just the thought that when we get older and our joints remind us of the years, life is still worth living with the rich memories of the past and those who both share and remind us of them. As the evenings draw in, don't be in a rush to pull the curtains and turn on the light. Sit still and dwell for a moment or two and the memories will come back as darkness falls.

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
The darkness falls at thy behest;
To thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

David

To find out more information about our Benefice and five Benefice Churches go to www.unitedbenefice.church

November News Letter If you have an item for the letter, please contact Marian on 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com **BEFORE Wednesday 22nd October**

Holy Trinity Church October 2025



Sunday 5th October	Holy Communion	17th after Pentecost
11.00am	Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner	
Readings: Habakkuk 1 v1-14; 2 v1-4, 2 Timothy 1 v1-14, Luke 17 v5-10		
Sunday 12th October	Morning Worship	18th after Pentecost
11.00am	Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner	
Readings: 2 Kings 5 v1-3,7-15c, Luke 17 v11-19		
Sunday 19th October	Holy Communion	19th after Pentecost
11.00am	Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner	
Readings: Genesis 32 v22-31, 2 Timothy 3 v14 - 4v5, Luke 18 v1-8		
Sunday 26th October	All Age Worship	20th after Pentecost
11.00am	Led by: Rev Lorna & Becky Parnham	
Readings: Preachers Choice		

Please remember to put your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday 25th October

Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath

2nd Wednesday of the month 12 noon Holy Communion at Linton

Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 01622 741474

Diary Dates

Tuesdays at Holy Trinity Brew and a Bite

We are open during **school term times every Tuesday** 12 noon-7.00pm.
From 5.30 – 7.00pm this is a time specifically for a youth group in school years 7 -13. There is no charge but you are invited to give a donation if you so wish.

Saturday 11th October 10.00am – 12.00noon **Holy Trinity Church Coffee**

Morning 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 are usually members of the Parish Council to chat with.
All welcome

November Saturday Coffee Morning

There will be a Christmas Gifts Stall at the November coffee morning. If you have any unwanted new or 'good as new' gifts that you would like to donate, please bring them to church on a Sunday beforehand and hand to Mags Poole
Thank you

Thursday 23rd October 2.00 – 4.00pm **Autumn Crafternoon**

Lights and Autumn crafts and activities with cuppas
and cakes for all the family. No booking required



Saturday 18th October **Church Quiz Night** 6.45 pm for 7pm start at **Coxheath Scout HQ, Westerhill Road.** £10 for a table of 6

Please bring your own drinks and food. Nibbles and prizes provided.
Quizmaster will be Steve Parnham.

Why not start gathering your team now and book in by contacting Mike 07595 428639 or Steve 07904 212245 or email to beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com
Please pay on the day. No team? Just turn up and we will add you into one.

Tuesday 28th October 10.00am – 12noon

Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton. All Welcome

Sunday 2nd November **Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance** 3pm at **Holy trinity, Coxheath**

Each year we hold a service in one of the churches in the benefice to give thanks and remembrance for people whose funeral services we have taken in the benefice or at Vinters Park Crematorium in the past years. We invite relatives and friends to the service from the registers over the last two years and extend the invitation via the monthly newsletters to anyone else whose relatives would like to add names to the list of names read out. If you would like a name added please contact Rev David Jones with the name you wish to be remembered before the end of October email at davidjones.coxheath@gmail.com

Friday 14th November 7.15 for 7.30pm start **Talk by Mike Marsh:** Sea Shells and Ships, a brief look at Britain's Maritime Heritage and how the Shell Oil company began and developed. Holy Trinity Church Coxheath, refreshments available. Open to all.

Other News and Information

Lots of thanks! Thank you to everyone who helped at, donated to, or supported our Church Coffee and Cake event which raised the great sum of £535.50 towards church funds. Many thanks also to the musicians for entertaining us so well

Benefice Kids – Bible Brick Builders This is a new club starting on the 2nd October running from after school until 5pm at Holy Trinity, Coxheath. The club is suitable for children in school years 1 - 6. To book a place (only 20 available) and for more information please email becky.thecat@btopenworld



Lending Library

Holy Trinity now offers a small lending library. Whether you are new to Christianity, exploring your beliefs, or seeking guidance and encouragement in our ever-changing world the library provides resources that may be of interest to you. There is a book to sign in when you borrow and then for when you return a library book

Thanks to those who donated to our Giving Sunday supporting the work of Involve. £330 has been forwarded to the charity which included a donation from church funds.

Suggestions for Giving Sunday Charities Do you have any suggestions for our Giving Sundays? We are looking for 2 new charities which we will support for three years. If you do, please fill in a nomination form which you will find at the back of the church from **mid-October** and place the slip in an envelope which you will find by the forms. When completed please place in the box alongside the forms and envelopes. The final date for nominations is **Sunday 16th November**

Benefice Services

	9.30am	
Sunday 5th October	East Farleigh Hunton	<u>Harvest</u> Morning Worship Holy Communion
Sunday 12th October	West Farleigh Linton	Holy Communion <u>Harvest</u> Morning Worship
Sunday 19th October	East Farleigh Hunton	Holy Communion <u>Harvest</u> Family Service
Sunday 26th October	West Farleigh Linton	Morning Worship Holy Communion