



St Nicholas Linton Advent & Christmas 2025

Services and events at Linton and around the Benefice

Sunday 30th November – Advent Sunday

10.30am at St Mary Hunton, the first Benefice service with the Archdeacon of Tonbridge officiating.

Sunday 7th December Advent 2



10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Linton
4.30pm Carols and Christmas tree light switch-on at Coxheath

Wednesday 10th December

12 noon - Holy Communion in Linton Church.

A short, informal service, followed by some refreshments. All are welcome.

Saturday 13th December

10am–5pm Christmas Tree Festival in Coxheath
4pm Carols around the tree at East Farleigh

Sunday 14th December Advent 3

1– 5pm Christmas Tree Festival in Coxheath
10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at East Farleigh
4.30pm Carol Service at West Farleigh

Saturday 20th December



3pm Messy Christingle at Linton, followed at...
4.15pm Carol Service at Linton

Sunday 21st December Advent 4

10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Hunton
11.00am All-age Christingle at Coxheath
4pm Carol Service at Coxheath

Monday 22nd December

6 – 7.30pm 'Lights of love' at Coxheath

Christmas Eve

4pm Christingle at East Farleigh
4.30pm Children's service at Coxheath
6pm Carol Service at Hunton
9.30pm Christmas Eve Communion at West Farleigh
11.15pm Midnight Communion at Coxheath



Christmas Day at 10am **10am Family Service and Communion at Linton**

10am Family Worship at Coxheath

Sunday 28th December

10.30am Holy Communion at Coxheath

Linton Community Coffee Morning

This Tuesday coming (25th Nov) is our regular coffee morning from 10am to 12 noon. When our annual Christmas Raffle will be drawn. Tickets still available. Hope to see you there!



Christmas Wreath Workshop
Fancy making a beautiful Christmas wreath but don't know where to start? Come along to our workshop in St

Nicholas Church on Friday 12th December, from 10am and Donna and Pam will teach you how to achieve a beautiful wreath. Please register your interest with Kath Cooper (07876 101390). £25. Open to the whole Benefice.

Pastoral Letter from the Rector

It's the time of year for my guilty pleasure: *The Christmas movie. Made for TV schmaltz. Big city girl, small town boy (in a flannel shirt, probably runs a Christmas Tree farm or a café...) meet; instant attraction; some misunderstandings occur; there's a Christmas pageant; wiser older community person says wise words... there's a kiss, and a happy ending.* However, whilst they are a whole lot of escapist fun, I have had to learn, over the years, to be very careful

about allowing Christmas films to shape my expectations around what Christmas *should* be. Christmas must be indulgent, cosy, sparkly, tidy, perfectly decorated, romantic, filled with laughter. It must be red and white and green and gold and there must be waffles and Christmas sweaters, champagne for breakfast and perfectly iced cookies and snow and coordinating hats and scarves and open fires and hot cocoa and parties and... STOP!!!!!!

I bought the Christmas edition of a supermarket magazine a few years ago. Articles included how to wrap the perfect present, make the perfect cocktails, lay the perfect table, arrange the perfect drinks tray, host the perfect party, wear the perfect dress, do the perfect make up... and then, right at the back, there was an advice page where someone had written in saying that the pressure of Christmas made them feel depressed and overwhelmed...

I confess, I can be a sucker for it all; I have felt the sharp pinch of imagined failure...

So, this time of year, I just want to remind you – and myself - that all the games and trimmings are a riot – they can be fun and make dull winter days feel a little warmer... but there is no *should* with Christmas... apart from remembering that Christmas should be whatever works for you and your loved ones. My prayer for you all this Christmas is not that your decorations are perfect or that your homemade crackers go bang; my prayer is that wherever you are, whatever you do, whatever you wear, or eat, or drink, or watch, that you will simply know the presence and love of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, God with you. Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Lorna



Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion, Coxheath Church

Brew and Bite at Holy Trinity Coxheath

We are open during school term times every Tuesday 12 noon-7pm. From 5.30 – 7pm 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

Benefice Kids – Bible Brick Builders This is a new club starting on 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



We have a Give-a-little account to enable web donations to St Nicholas Church. As we don't have any mobile or internet signal in the church we are unable to have a 'sum-up' box, but if you click on the link or the QR code it will take you to our Give-a-little page for donations.



<https://givealittle.co/c/xxwg1j2vTAIepiHL878wE>

Second-hand book library in St Nicholas

If you love it, keep it. £1

If it's a good read, swap it for another. 50p

Donations welcome

St Nicholas Linton is registered with

[easyfundraising](#). If you are buying Christmas presents online don't forget to use easyfundraising. Sign up and help St Nicholas Church for FREE. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use [easyfundraising](#) to shop online with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-nicholas-linton>



BENEFICE CONTACTS

Rev. Lorna Faulkner, Rector 01622 747570

Rev. David Jones, 01622 741474

Kath Cooper, Linton Churchwarden: 07876 101390

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

Children's Work Becky Parnham 07949 646865

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

Men's Prayer Group Mike Marsh 07595 428639

Ladies Prayer Group Dawn Burnell

Beacon Men Steve Poole 07904 212245

Mothers' Union Margaret Poole 07729 17676

Lesley Marsh 07814 817204

Benefice Safeguarding Officer - Margaret Poole

Our Benefice and five Benefice Churches website is

www.unitedbenefice.church

