

## Pastoral Letter for May 2026

Dear readers

We live in turbulent times and in one sense I am concerned about what to say this month. Things are changing fast. The delay between writing this letter and you reading it means that things may have changed far more rapidly than normal. Over the years we have been fortunate to have periods of stability but at other times life has been uncertain. This is the way life is and has always been.

I have very few letters from my father to my mother but the few I have are all around the time of my birth – the darkest days for World War II. In one letter my father writes of the uncertainty of the world that I was being born into and prayed that I would grow up trusting in the faithfulness of God and not in the 'strength of mankind to solve world difficulties' Two months later my father died of cancer so I was never able to experience the strength of his conviction in a faith based upon Jesus Christ.

Today, as I write, times are once again uncertain. Nothing really changes does it? Today the moon travellers return safely, the weather changes from the two wonderfully summery days to the 'normal' for this time of year The talks to solve the middle east war have proved fruitless and new threats have been exchanged. Ukraine and Russia promise a cease-fire over the Orthodox Churches Easter before no doubt fighting recommences. Elsewhere there will be things going on as yet unreported and of course in the next few weeks we will be plunged into promises of a better world with the local elections. (pot holes filled and bins emptied?)

What therefore do you want me to say in this letter? All will be well, put your faith in the risen Jesus of Easter and all will be well? No, but I will support my father's view that we ought to put our trust in Jesus Christ, not to get us out of trouble but for us to know that he is our constant companion and guide through the uncertainties of life. In these last few days thoughts of my childhood growing up in the days after the war the songs I leant at Sunday School have come flooding back. We sang simple choruses, not just words but sentences with meaning. The reoccurring one in recent days went like this. 'Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full into his wonderful face, and the things on earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of his glory and grace.\*

By the time you read this letter, heaven only knows what will have happened. I look forward to the June letter to learn.

David

\*Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus" (the first line of its chorus), is a hymn written by Helen Howarth Lemmel. Lemmel was physically blind when she wrote this hymn. It was inspired by a tract entitled Focused, written by the missionary Isabella Lilius Trotter.

**June News Letter** If you have an item for the letter, please contact Marian on 743977 or [david.marian@btinternet.com](mailto:david.marian@btinternet.com) **BEFORE Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

## Holy Trinity Church May 26



<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter</b>
<b>11.00am</b>		Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner
Readings: Acts 7 v55-end, 1 Peter 2 v2-10, John 14 v1-14		
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter</b>
<b>11.00am</b>		Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner
Readings: Acts 17 v22-31, <u>or</u> 1Peter 3 v13-end, John 14 v15-21		
Followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting		
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter</b>
<b>11.00am</b>		Led by: Rev Lorna and Becky Parnham
Readings: Acts 1 v6-14, 1 Peter 4 v12-14; 5 v6-11 John 17 v1-11		
Giving Sunday supporting Restored		
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>All Age Worship</b>	<b>Pentecost</b>
<b>11.00am</b>		Led by: All Age Team
Readings: Preachers Choice		
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Benefice</b>	<b>Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Communion at West Farleigh</b>	Rev David & Becky

If you need a lift to West Farleigh please speak to Jen or Lorna

Every Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 12 noon Holy Communion at Linton

To find out more information about our Benefice and Five Benefice Churches go to [www.unitedbenefice.church](http://www.unitedbenefice.church)

### Contact Details

Rector Revd. Lorna Faulkner 01622 747570

Revd. David Jones Hon. Associate Rector 01622 741474

Benefice Safeguarding Officer - Margaret Poole 07729 1767

## Diary Dates

### Tuesdays at Holy Trinity Brew and a Bite

We are open during **school term times every Tuesday** 12 noon-6.30pm.  
From 5.00 – 6.30pm 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.

**Memory Café** On the first Tuesday of the month Age UK are holding a Memory Café drop in gathering for tea and coffee between 1 – 3pm in the church. No need to book but if you would like more information please contact Tracy at Age UK on 01622 753618

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am – 12.00noon Holy Trinity Church Coffee Morning

**at the Scout HQ, Westerhill Road** Admission £1 which includes free tea/coffee and biscuits.

Cakes, bric-a-brac and cards for sale. There are usually members of the Parish Council to chat with. All welcome



### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May Annual Parochial Church Meeting

This annual meeting will be held after the morning service

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May Soup on Sunday

This will be held after the usual refreshments and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Please consider inviting someone who might be on their own for Sunday lunch.



### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May Beacon Men Breakfast 8.15am in the Scout HQ

Westerhill Road, Coxheath. Speaker Rev Simon Rowlands, former Army Pastor, Camp Bastion Afghanistan. Invites and details at the back of church. To book in please contact [beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com](mailto:beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com)

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May Giving Sunday

Supporting the work of Restored

### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union members, and friends, meet together on the 20th at 12noon, for Corporate Communion, followed by Bring and Share lunch.

**Contact Mags for venue.**

### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am – 12noon

Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton. All Welcome

## Other News and Information

### PCC Meetings and Minutes

If you are interested in the workings of the PCC and the things that are discussed copies of the minutes are displayed at the rear of the Church. If you would like any further details from the individual reports that are referred to please contact Helen Gregson, PCC Secretary 01622 741501

## Holy Trinity Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Please do come to this annual meeting to find out more about the life and work at Holy Trinity.

Nomination forms for church wardens, PCC members and Deanery Synod Reps will be at the back of the church. Please think about whether this is something you would be willing to consider and for more information please speak to Jen Tobin (church warden) or Rev Lorna. Please hand nomination forms to Helen Gregson (PCC secretary) or if she isn't available then to Jen Tobin.

### Group Details

Children's Work - Becky Parnham 07949 646865

Held during school term times.

- Tiny Tots Toybox Thursdays 1.30 – 3.00pm at HT Coxheath
- Little Angels 1.00-2.30 pm at West Farleigh Church
- Bible Brick Builders after school club at HT Coxheath Children in school years 1 – 6
- Bible Babble 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month 7.30 – 9.00pm at HT Coxheath. School years 6 and upwards

Brew and a Bite Youth Group – Jen Tobin

Tuesdays 5.00pm – 6.30pm for Young People in school years 7 - 13

Men's Prayer Group – Mike Marsh 07595 428639

Ladies Prayer Group – Dawn

Beacon Men – Steve Poole 07904 212245

Mothers' Union – Margaret Poole or Lesley Marsh

Benefice Safeguarding Officer - Margaret Poole 07729 1767

	<b>Benefice Services 9.30am</b>	
Sunday <b>3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>East Farleigh Hunton</b>	Morning Worship and APCM Holy Communion
Sunday <b>10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>West Farleigh Linton</b>	Holy Communion Morning Worship
Sunday <b>17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>East Farleigh Hunton</b>	Holy Communion Family Service + Baptism
Sunday <b>24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>West Farleigh Linton</b>	Morning Worship Holy Communion