

## Pastoral Letter for October 2026

Books! I am thinking about books today as I write to you. And writing for the October letter has reminded me of one book in particular: L.M. Montgomery's Anne of Green Gables.

Anne Shirley (who is my absolutely favourite literary character) was enthralled by October (she was enthralled by most things to be fair – one of the things that draws me to her is her ability to find almost anything to be extraordinary...)

There is a famous quote that is shared all over social media at this time of year: "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

And there's a little bit that comes after that I just love:

"It would be terrible if we just skipped from September to November, wouldn't it? Look at these maple branches. Don't they give you a thrill – several thrills? I'm going to decorate my room with them."

One of the wonders of Anne for me is her ability to throw herself completely into any and everything she comes across. Whether she likes or dislikes something; whether she is glad or sad; Anne feels everything with a wild and furious passion. Utterly committed to embracing the depths of the people and world around her and the full expanse of every experience.

I rather love her (you may have guessed...) and I not-so-secretly yearn to grab hold of some of the spirit with which she devours life and takes every ounce of everything it presents to her.

I am sure I have an Anne Shirley inside me, all ready to burst out, living with wild abandon; loving with depth and honesty; dancing through life in all its fullness.

It's not easy though... I am not, in fact, a literary character, and I don't, unbelievably, live a whimsical life on a little Canadian island in years gone by. I inhabit this life; my life, with all its joys and sorrows; all the challenges of modern life and family, the anxiety of living in an uncertain world, the drudgery of laundry and shopping and cleaning and a garden I can't manage... But I do love an October. And thinking about Anne Shirley today has reminded me that there is so much LIFE to be found in life itself. I must not let it pass me by. I must not miss the beauty there is to be found if only I will notice it!

I wonder who your favourite literary character is? And I wonder why you love them? And what you learn from them? And what that might mean about who you are, and what you are longing for... And if you don't have one? Read some books this autumn... email me for some recommendations! Lorna

**November 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 28<sup>th</sup> October**

## Holy Trinity Church October 2026



|                                                                      |                        |                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>                                 | <b>Holy Communion</b>  | <b>19<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost</b> |
| <b>11.00am</b>                                                       |                        | Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner             |
| Readings: Isaiah 5 v1-7, Philippians 3 v4b-14, Matthew 21 v33-end    |                        |                                        |
| <b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October</b>                                | <b>Morning Worship</b> | <b>20<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost</b> |
| <b>11.00am</b>                                                       |                        | Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner             |
| Readings: Isaiah 25 v1-9 or Philippians 4 v1-9, Matthew 22 v1-14     |                        |                                        |
| <b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>                                | <b>Holy Communion</b>  | <b>21<sup>st</sup> after Pentecost</b> |
| <b>11.00am</b>                                                       |                        | Led by: Rev Lorna Faulkner             |
| Readings: Isaiah 45 v1-7, 1 Thessalonians 1 v1-10, Matthew 22 v15-22 |                        |                                        |
| <b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>                                | <b>All Age Worship</b> | <b>22<sup>nd</sup> after Pentecost</b> |
| <b>11.00am</b>                                                       |                        | All age team                           |
| Readings: Preachers Choice                                           |                        |                                        |

Please remember to put your clocks **back** one hour before you go to bed on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October

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

Hon. Associate Rector Revd. David Jones 01622 741474

Benefice Safeguarding Officer - Margaret Poole 07729 176762

## Diary Dates

### 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

Cakes, bric-a-brac and cards for sale. 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 or Amanda Bird. Thank you

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October Beacon Men Fish and Chip Night\*** at Holy Trinity Church **7pm start** Guest speaker, **Guy Bartlett** 'Who Won the Space Race?' See Guy's talks at: <https://www.guyinthesky.co.uk/Popular-Talks/> Ladies are welcome. **Please book in by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October** Email: [beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com](mailto:beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com) or call / text Mike on 07595 428639.

\*(Sausage /Vegetarian options)

Cost £14 F&C or £10 S&C Booking forms are also available at the back of the church.

### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am – 12noon

Community Coffee Morning at St Nicholas, Linton. All Welcome

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2.00pm – 4.00pm 'Light' Crafternoon** at Holy Trinity, Coxheath Crafts and activities with cuppas and cakes for all the family. No booking required

## Other News and Information

**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 8<sup>th</sup> November**

## Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance

This annual service will be taking place but is still at the planning stage. Details will be shared in church and on the Benefice website when plans are finalised.



Amanda Bird would like to say a big thank you to all those who sponsored her for the 150th Anniversary Fundraising Challenge for Mothers' Union. She completed 150+ lengths of Maidstone Leisure pool on August the 5th. She has raised £585 for the fund.

We presented her with a certificate at our recent branch meeting.

See [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org) for more information about the 150th Anniversary Fund and challenges.

Thank you to all who came along to 'Soup on Sunday' enjoying soup and fellowship. Next soup will be in November.

Thank you also for your kind donations which we used to support a variety of projects. See list on notice board.

### 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.

|                                          | <b>Benefice Services 9.30am</b> |                                                                |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday<br><b>4<sup>th</sup> October</b>  | <b>East Farleigh<br/>Hunton</b> | Harvest/Becky P<br>Holy Communion/Rev David                    |
| Sunday<br><b>11<sup>th</sup> October</b> | <b>West Farleigh</b>            | Harvest/ Rev David & Rev Clinton                               |
| Sunday<br><b>18<sup>th</sup> October</b> | <b>East Farleigh<br/>Hunton</b> | Holy Communion/Rev Lorna<br>Harvest/Rev David                  |
| Sunday<br><b>25<sup>th</sup> October</b> | <b>West Farleigh<br/>Linton</b> | Morning Worship/Rev Lorna<br>Communion/Rev Clinton & Rev David |