

Midweek Services and Regular Events in the Benefice of Linton,
Coxheath, Hunton, East and West Farleigh



St Nicholas Parish News
Issue 157 February 2016

	Frequency	Time	Service	Location
Tues	First Tuesday of month	6.45pm	Compline	E. Farleigh
Wed	Last Wednesday of month	12 noon	Said Holy Communion (Light Lunch, Soup/Roll)	Linton
Thurs	Every week	10am	Holy Communion	Coxheath
Sat	Quarterly (See notice sheets for details)	10am	Alternative Service	Coxheath
Last Tuesday in the month	10 – 11.30am	Coffee and chat at Holy Trinity, Coxheath (Contact Becky Parnham 07949 646865)		
First and third Wednesdays in the month	7.30 – 9pm	'The Next Step' – A group that meets for study and prayer. (Contact Anne Whybrow 749704)		
Every Thursday	1.30 – 3pm 3.30pm	'Up and Running' Toddler Group, Holy Trinity Coxheath (Contact Kate Till 746482 for details) 'Seekers' (6-11yrs) Holy Trinity, Coxheath. (Further information from Becky 07949 646865)		
Every Saturday	10 - 11am	Ladies Prayer Group – at the home of Pat Wilmshurst (East Farleigh). Leader, Eileen 204241		

Rector
Rev'd Peter Callway (01622) 747570 (Not available Fridays)
www.unitedbenefice.church
Honorary Associate Rector
Rev'd David Jones (01622) 741474 (Not available Fridays)
Associate Rector
Rev'd Eileen Doyle (01622) 204241 (Not available Mondays or Tuesdays)

Churchwarden
Mr Roger Bettle 743278
Items for March News
by 15th February to Harold Pounds 745303
h.p.pounds@btinternet.com

East Farleigh Farmer's Market will be held on Sunday 7th February 2016, from 10.00am to 1.00pm providing all of the regular food and drink, plants and shrubs and a variety of other goods. For information please contact Sue Morris on 01622 726164

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/linton-st-nicholas
and: <http://lintonkent.org/church>

Printed by **LintonPrint** – your printwork too?
Email lintonprint@gmail.com, or phone 01622 747572

Services in Linton Church in February

Sunday 7th February 9.30am Holy Communion Revd Eileen Doyle
Wednesday 10th February 7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service

Holy Trinity, Coxheath

Sunday 14th February 9.30am Family Service Revd Peter Callway

Sunday 21st February 8.00am Holy Communion 1662 Revd Peter Callway

Sunday 28th February 9.30am Holy Communion Revd Peter Callway

Successful Messy Christingle!

St Nicholas Church held its first Messy Christingle on Saturday 9th January. Many will remember the wonderful Christingle services held here in the past when the church was filled to overflowing with families, all terribly worried about their children's hair catching alight as they paraded around the church with their lit Christingle candles! Well, this was something a little different as they made the Christingles themselves. There were other craft activities to do as well and then, after a short 'service' time, we all sat down to a meal of jacket potatoes with toppings of chilli, baked beans and cheese. All followed by delicious home-made cakes and cups of tea. Watch this space for news of other events at St Nicholas. Many thanks to Becky and Peter and also to Margaret, Chris, Paul, Jim, Daphne, and to all of the others for helping and the families who came along. Photos will be in the scrapbook shortly.

Linton Parish News is produced by St Nicholas Parish Church. It started in 2003, is for the whole village community and is delivered to every home in Linton. We would like to include more news and information about the village – what goes on in the Village Hall, news of what the Parish Council is doing, significant birthdays and anniversaries, amazing and interesting things you or someone you know in the village is doing, in fact anything you think will bring the village community together. (Sometimes space may be limited and, of course, we reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate items!) Just email Harold Pounds on h.p.pounds@btinternet.com or telephone 01622 745303 by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition. We hope that you find it interesting and useful and we would love to make it more so with your input.

Centre Pages: Peter's letter; Benefice Lent Course; Linton Neighbourhood Watch; Maidstone Friends of Music; Linton Walker's, 2016; Rochester Cathedral Activity Trail.
Back Page: Midweek Services and Regular Events; Who's Who; East Farleigh Farmer's Market.

In the UK a new record has just been achieved in the pay out on the National Lottery - two winning tickets each collecting 33 million pounds. The Euromillions prize for the upcoming weekend draw is estimated at £61 million. The US Powerball lottery jackpot was £1.04 billion sterling. Yes, over a billion pounds. £1,040,000,000. Each of these amounts are astonishing and clearly life changing amounts of money to win. I wonder how many of you reading this buy a ticket regularly? And how you feel each week as the draw is made? The UK National Lottery has been running for 21 years - that's just under 1100 weeks. Is it now a matter of routine? Has the draw lost some of its excitement? I guess so. I occasionally buy a ticket (paradoxically when the prize is at its biggest and so have less chance of winning!) but each time I do, I think about all the good things I could do with that amount of money. I always hope that I'll win, but never expect to.

On all US currency, coins and notes, the motto of the United States is printed or embossed. That motto is "In God we trust" which it is said comes from the words of the Star Spangled Banner "And this be our motto 'In God We Trust'". In a country where church and state are legally separate, it is perhaps surprising to see this still present, and a third legal attempt is currently under way to have it removed. All of this begs the question, in whom do we trust? Our Christian Bible has something to say on the matter. "The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil" (note: not money itself!) from 1 Timothy 6.10. "No one can serve two masters ... you can't serve God and mammon" from Matthew 6.24. These verses give pause for thought about trusting money as the saviour of our problems and issues. The Psalmist writes that we are not to "put our trust in princes, in human beings" because, of course, they will always let us down eventually. Rather, the writer of Proverbs (probably King Solomon) tells us to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" (Pr 3.5). It isn't easy to do that, of course, if you are like me and want to solve all your own problems and all those around you. The very next verses in Proverbs suggest that we can do that by simply asking God on a regular basis "In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" (v6); soaking up the awesomeness of God and "Not be impressed with your own wisdom, instead fear the Lord and turn away from evil". And the benefits of placing our trust in God? His peace which goes beyond human understanding. Joy in the face of challenge and difficulty. And a promise of hope for the future.

Many blessings
Peter Callway,
Rector

Benefice Lent Course - week commencing 18th February for five weeks

We will study together the Pilgrim course on The Eucharist. "This second book in the Grow Stage explores in greater depth how Christians know and worship God. Its sessions reveal the reasons why The Eucharist is celebrated as a memorial of Christ's saving passion and stands at the very heart of Christian worship". Please indicate, on the form at the back of the church, whether you wish to **Attend** a course; **Host** a course, offering hospitality and planning; or **Lead** a course - using supplied materials to guide the group through the study. Please also indicate your preference for daytime or evening, and day of week. Once we have all of the information to hand, we will determine when and where the course will be run. **To do this, please sign up by 7th February.**

Linton Neighbourhood Watch

We give a warm welcome to Patricia Burden who has taken over responsibility for the Linton Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. She will be in touch with residents about the scheme, for which contact details are:-

Email lintonnhw@gmail.com
Mobile 07979 430148
Website <http://lintonkent.org/nhw>

Maidstone Friends of Music.

Would you like to be a member of Maidstone Friends of Music? You could travel by coach from Maidstone (Grove Green or Castle Road, Allington) to venues in London or the Southeast for Orchestral Concerts, Ballet, Opera and Theatres. Recent outings have included Royal Festival Hall, Brighton Dome, London Coliseum, The Barbican, Sadler's Wells Theatre, The Hawth, Crawley and Great Comp Music Festival. Annual membership for 2016 - £10.

Members are sent a newsletter giving details of the outings and an invitation to apply for tickets. The outing cost includes tickets and coach travel. Application forms available from: The Secretary: Jean Talboys 01622 880349, jtalboys@btinternet.com

The Linton Walker's 2016 programme of weekly walks - 76 of them! - is now available from the Linton website: <http://lintonkent.org/walks>. The first walk will start at 11am promptly on Thursday 4th February from Linton church car park, why not come along? Evening walks begin on Tuesday 8th March, this first walk also starts from the Linton church car park, although later walks will visit most of the villages round about..look at the schedule for full details.

Rochester Cathedral is holding another series of Activity Trail days aimed at Pre-school and Toddlers. Thursdays in February, 11th, 18th and 25th, and March 3rd. Drop in at any time between 13.45 and 15.00. No charge, but donations welcome