

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

Every Monday Except Bank Holidays	4.20 for 4.30pm	'Wellsprings' silent prayer – The Vestry, St. Nicholas Linton. (Details from 'Cilla 741318)
Term time only: First four Tuesdays in the month	10.00 - 11.30am	'PSST'- Fellowship and Bible study. (Contact Becky Parnham 07949 646865)
First and Third Wednesdays in the month	7.30 - 9.00pm	The Next Step - A group that meets for study and prayer. (Contact 1 st Wed – Jean 726248; 3 rd Wed – Anne 745702)
Every last Wednesday in the month	12 noon	A said Communion Service at St. Nicholas, Linton.
Every Thursday	10am 1.30-3 pm 3.30pm	Holy Communion (1662) Holy Trinity, Coxheath. "Up and Running" Toddler Group, Holy Trinity, Coxheath. Contact David 741474 for details. Seekers (6 – 11yrs) Holy Trinity, Coxheath. (Further information from Becky 07949 646865)
Every Saturday	10-11am	Ladies Prayer Time – All welcome (Details from Eileen 204241)

The Rector: Rev'd Peter Walker
747570 - Marriages,
Thanksgivings and Baptisms (Not
available Mondays)
Rev'd David Jones - 741474 (Not
available Fridays)
Deacon - Rev'd Eileen Doyle -
204241

Churchwardens
Mr Roger Bettle 743278
Mr John McKenzie 741318
Items for April Parish News by
14th March to Harold Pounds
745303
h.p.pounds@btinternet.com

MBC Freighter Service for free disposal of certain refuse. Corner of
Cornwallis Ave/Wheeler's Lane 13.40 - 14.20 Saturday 3rd March.

Don't forget! Alter clocks forward one hour on Sunday 25th March

Printed by Jerry Whitmarsh – your printing work too? Tel. 01622 747572
or email: print@jerrywhitmarsh.com



St Nicholas Parish News

Issue 110 March 2012

Services in Linton Church in March

Sunday 4th March 9.30am Holy Communion
 Sunday 11th March 9.30am Family Service
 Sunday 18th March 8.00am Holy Communion (1662)
 10.30am Family Service - **Mothering Sunday**, to include
 the Traditional Distribution of Spring Flower Posies
 Sunday 25th March 9.30am Holy Communion

Mothering Sunday Weekend - Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th March

Saturday 17th from 2.30 to 5.00pm St Nicholas Church will be
 open for Cream Teas. Bring your Mum (or anyone else special) and
 treat them to a fabulous and famous *LINTON CREAM TEA*,
Sunday 18th 10.30am - Mothering Sunday Family Service with
 distribution of flowers

St Nicholas Linton Parish Church- Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the church on
 Thursday 26th April at 7.30pm
 This is your opportunity to hear what your Church has been doing in
 your community and to express your views. We look forward to
 welcoming you to this important meeting.
 John McKenzie, Churchwarden, on behalf of St Nicholas PCC.

York Course for Lent 2012 'Handing on the Torch'

Sacred words for a secular world Led by Rev^d Cilla McKenzie
 Join us for tea, cake and course at 'Forge Cottage', Linton Hill
 Tuesdays 2.30 - 4.30pm March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th & April 3rd

Breaking Bread and Drinking Soup! Once a month, on the last
 Wednesday, there is a short informal service of Holy Communion in
 St Nicholas Church at midday. In January those who came stayed
 on for a light lunch of home made soup and rolls, and to enjoy each
 other's company. The service is open to all and, if you would like to
 stay for lunch, please give Kath a call on 741494, so that we can
 cater for everyone. Next date is Wednesday 28th March.

Centre Pages: Eileen's Letter; Lent, Quiet Day; M.S.O; Tearfund;
 Children Workers' Conference.

Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; Freighter Service; Alter Clocks.

Dear friends,

Are you a time traveller?

No. I'm not expecting anyone reading this to be the next Doctor Who, but maybe like me you are the kind of person who has a photograph or trinket that, once you look at it or touch it you are whisked back in time to relive the memory that it holds. When I recall past events it is almost as if I am reliving them and somehow the past becomes the present. Now that is what I call time travelling.

Our own special object may be associated with a particular person. On special occasions, birthdays or an anniversary, the precious object is more likely to be taken out, gazed at, touched and reflected on. Whether the special day is joyful or sad our memories will probably be quite vivid.

Many of our churches are full of objects that, when gazed upon or touched, can lead us on a journey. Their symbolism can remind us of past events that can become real for us today.

In times of worship and prayer that is what certain objects can do for us. If we focus on the Cross, a candle, the chalice (communion cup), or some other object we may find that they may help us to focus on God; on who Jesus Christ is; and what He did for us, especially during the time of His Passion.

The candle may remind us of the bible passages where it talks about Jesus as the light of the world, the chalice may remind us of the last supper. Of one thing I am sure and that is objects (symbols) in worship cannot be irrelevant if they aid us to unlock the doors of our minds and our hearts to God.

The same is true about the objects we associate with Good Friday. If we are able to hold a nail, gaze at the cross, or find something, like a stone, that represent the burdens we carry and the sins that lock us in the tomb, God will often use these as channels to touch the deepest parts of us. God invites us to go deeper into our faith and experience afresh and powerfully His saving and sacrificial death on the Cross that leads us into freedom and joy. Yes, time travelling is about taking the death of Christ and His resurrection, just over 2000 years ago, and bringing it into the present reality through Faith.

As we move with Jesus through Lent towards the passion, why not hold on to the helpful objects around us and let them lead our hearts and minds to the God who wants nothing more than for us to know His power and saving love.

Will you journey with me and become a time traveller this Lent?

Eileen Doyle

On Saturday 17th March 10.30am - 4pm The Diocesan Spirituality Network is hosting a Lent Quiet Day led by Bishop James Langstaff at The Bromley and Sheppard Colleges (London Road, Bromley, BR1 1PE). The theme will be 'Home thoughts from Abroad'. Also on; Thursday 1st March at Pembury St Peter (Upper Church) Monday 5th March at Chelsfield (St Martin's) Monday 12th March at Meopham (St John's Church) Friday 23rd March at Hildenborough (St John's Church) Bring your own picnic, drinks will be provided. You can book either through Susanne Carlsson, Diocesan Coordinator of Spirituality 01342 850388 susannecarlsson@rochester.anglican.org or Jenny Churcher at Bishops court 01634 842721 bishops.secretary@rochester.anglican.org

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra - Conductor Brian Wright. Saturday 24th March 7,30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park (Pre-concert talk at 6.45pm). Weber - Overture Euranthe; Delius - On hearing the first cuckoo in Spring; Mendelssohn - Violin Concerto, Soloist Tamsin Waley-Cohen; Schumann - Symphony No.1 'Spring'. Tickets £10, £19, £23. Students £5, 18s and under free. Tel 735830 cheques, 0845 1552277 credit cards or: www.mso.org.uk

Tearfund Wednesday 21st March at 7.45pm in Loose Baptist Church. Steve Collins, Tearfund representative for Nepal, will talk on 'Which Project to Support? - The decision making process'. The Church meets on the school site in Boughton Lane (not Loose Village). Information - Karen Mackley 01732 870625

Rebecca Parnham, 'Seekers' Leader (see schedule on back page) in January attended a weekend meeting of a small group of volunteer children's workers from both Canterbury and Rochester Diocese at The Oasts, Northiam, East Sussex. The Oasts is a Christian Retreat and Conference Centre in a peaceful and relaxing setting.

The main focus of the weekend was to meet with others who work with children and young people within their churches, to worship together, to share good practice and to re-energise members of the group for the coming year, She found the meeting enjoyable and helpful. A copy of her detailed report on the weekend can be had from Harold Pounds 01622 745303.