



St Nicholas Church Linton May 2021

Benefice Services in May

Online services at 10.30am every Sunday

On Computer, Tablet or Smartphone:

<http://bit.ly/UnitedBenefice>

Or by phone

Dial 0203 051 2874 Enter 185124308 #,# Enter#

Password 316

Sunday 2nd May Easter 5

9.30am Holy Communion at Hunton

Sunday 9th May Easter 6

8am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Prayer at West Farleigh, followed by Holy Communion

Sunday 16th May Easter 7

8am Holy Communion at East Farleigh

9.30am Family service at Hunton

Sunday 23rd May Pentecost

8am Holy Communion at East Farleigh

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Prayer at Hunton

Sunday 30th May Trinity Sunday

10.30am Online Service only

Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Coxheath. Also online at

<http://bit.ly/ThursdayCommunion>

Thursday 13th May Ascension Day

7.30pm Service at Hunton

Thursday 20th May

7.30pm – APCM at Linton

Linton Park Open Gardens

Sunday 23rd May - 1030am to 4pm

Linton Park are, for the first time ever, opening their beautiful gardens to the public as part of the National Open Garden Scheme. Pre- booking is essential so go to this site:

<https://ngs.org.uk/view-garden/3278> then scroll down to book. Numbers are limited to 50 every half hour and unfortunately because of current restrictions they are unable to serve refreshments.

Visitors to the Park will also be invited to visit Linton Church which will be open during the day. (There will be a service from 9.30 to 10.30).

Linton Park have requested a few volunteers to assist with stewarding at the Park. If you would like to do this please contact Kath on 01622 741494 or cooperkath2@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, we are unable to serve refreshments in church, but there will be photographs of Linton on display. We will also need some volunteers to guide people and ensure social distancing etc etc is adhered to. Contact Kath if you would like to take a turn.

Online Study Groups Following the Easter break the groups are resuming on Zoom on Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm and Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. Please let Peter Callway know if you would like to attend or would like more information. Even if you've never done anything like this before do please consider it.

Make a difference in Maidstone MADM

This is a Christian Charity with an active outreach centre, food bank, two charity shops and storage areas. At the moment there are paid and volunteer positions available. For more information phone 01622 687414 or email on madmstone@gmail.com

Thy Kingdom Come is heading our way this year between the 13th and 23rd May. This global prayer movement initiated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, invites people to join a wave of prayer between the Christian festivals of Ascension and Pentecost. There are lots of resources available to help you and get involved. Follow the link

www.cpo.org.uk/thykingdomcome

Linton Church Spring Clean

The church has been closed for so long that there are quite a few cobwebs! Margaret has been valiantly cleaning this year but it would be nice to give her a hand! Would you be able to join a working group on **Saturday 15th May** to dust, polish, sweep, etc etc, so that the church will be looking its best for any visitors who come in on the 23rd. There will be jobs for all abilities! 11am – 1pm. Please let Kath know. **The spring clean will only take place if the rules about gatherings at the time allow.**

Pastoral Letter from Rev David Jones

I started writing this letter on the morning of Friday April 10th with thoughts of focusing on the forthcoming local elections on May 6th. I wasn't doing too well, mainly I thought because I was writing long hand, my computer having broken down the week before. I was awaiting the arrival of a replacement part which should arrive on the following Monday and then all would be well! My solution when making little progress with a letter was to go and do something physical. So off I went to find a spade for a little digging! Suitably renewed and full of ideas I returned to the letter to find that the news was breaking about the death of the Duke of Edinburgh. Oh blow! Should I start again or try to twist my thoughts to fit in with the latest news? The answer was no, I'd try the other distraction, have a cup of coffee!!!!

Continued.....

Then out of the blue came a phone call. My computer was ready to collect. It had been repaired and was working again. Things were looking up. With a computer I could change anything I wrote in a moment and thoughts could flow and could be instantly discarded or amended. So off to collect the repaired computer and back for lunch. A short rest as I reflected on the morning and the news. Then through the letter box arrived the latest copy of the Hunton Herald with the obituary of Councillor Gary Thomas on the front. By now my mind was in a blur. Perhaps another excuse to put off the moment and to look for another activity to help focus my thoughts? But no, we were still in the season of Easter and an idea grew.

The connection with all these events, the thoughts for the day could be summed up in three words - Service, Dedication and Commitment.

We owe a great deal to people who serve us in so many ways. People who give up their time and energy and dedicate their lives to make life better for others. Those who by their commitment to ideas and ideals strive to bring light into our world that can appear so dark at times.

So much of life is supported by the many millions of people who volunteer. Our hospitals, schools, local and national government and many in the emergency services depend on the service, energy and dedication of people. For Christians, the life of Christ whose death and resurrection at Easter gives us all the prime example for how life should be lived.

So, go out on May 6th and vote and show your support for a group of people who offer their service, dedicate and who are committed to serving others.

David Jones
Hon Associate Rector



The United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh,
Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh

Rev. Peter Callway, Rector 01622 747570

- not available Fridays email: peter@callways.co.uk

Revd. Lorna Faulkner Assistant Curate 01622 439304

Revd. David Jones - Hon. Associate Rector 741474

For more information about our Benefice and 5

Benefice Churches go to www.unitedbenefice.church

or <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9958/>