

Linch with Iping Marsh

Milland & Rake

Stedham with Iping

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES

SUNDAY 18 December 4th Sunday of Advent

Linch	9.30 am	Holy Communion and Junior Church
	Readings	Isaiah 7:10 – 16; Romans 1:1 – 7; Matthew 1:18 - end
	Sidesmen	Olive Fleming and Gina van Dyke
Iping	11.00 am	Matins
	Readings	Isaiah 7: 10 – 16; Matthew 1: 18 – end
Milland	11.00am	Carol Service
	Lessons	Various
	Readers	Various
	Sidesman	Harry Scott
Stedham	4.00 pm	Carol Service
	Readings	Various

Website: www.stlukesbenefice.co.uk

SUNDAY 11 December 3rd Sunday of Advent

Stedham	9.30 am	Holy Communion
Milland	11.00am	Matins
Linch	6.00 pm	Carol Service
Iping		No service

COLLECT FOR TODAY

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of
the just, that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

TODAYS READINGS

Isaiah 35:1-10

35:1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus
35:2 it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.
35:3 Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.
35:4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."
35:5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
35:6 then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
35:7 the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
35:8 A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
35:9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.
35:10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and

come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

James 5:7-10

5:7 Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains.

5:8 You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

5:9 Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors!

5:10 As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 11:2-11

11:2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples

11:3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

11:4 Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see:

11:5 the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.

11:6 And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

11:7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

11:8 What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces.

11:9 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 11:10 This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

11:11 Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Thought for the Week

"Noble deeds and hot baths" (*Dodie Smith*) is a reminder that there is a time for striving and a time for relaxing.

Intercessions:

World Church: Kericho - (Kenya)

Diocese: Pray for the Diocesan Board of Finance

Deanery: Parish Workers

Benefice: Linch Junior Church and Helpers

Prayers for those in Long Term Care:

Jill Maslen-Jones and Martin Beale

Prayers for the Sick:

David Godfrey and Dave Dyke.

In Memoriam

Sylvia Pownall, Pat Symonds, Lois Crocker, Larry Tynan, Keith Farwell, Francis Luff

Post Communion Prayer:

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever

Notices

Benefice Notices

Lent Course: Rev Trish is thinking about the Lent Course in early 2017. Please let her know if you would like the course to take place during the daytime or the evening

Wednesday Eucharist: This takes place on Wednesdays at **8.45am** in the **Bettesworth Room**.

Milland Notices:

The beech hedge has now been planted between Tuxlith green and the new graves, many thanks to Sam for organising the felling and planting. We have received some pledges for donations towards the cost of the hedge, if you still wish to make a donation please speak to Churchwarden Lynne on Sunday or phone her on 01730 815075. Many thanks.

Linch Notices

PARKING AT LINCH: *Could EVERYONE make sure that they DO NOT park in a place on the road that could endanger others. **There will be bollards keeping people from parking near the bend. The field will be open for additional parking.***