

## NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES

<b>Friday</b>	<b>23 December</b>	
<b>Iping</b>	6.00 pm	Carol Service (and Wassail!)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24 December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
<b>Linch</b>	<b>3.00 pm</b>	Crib Service <i>Sidesman</i> Olive Fleming
<b>Stedham</b>	<b>4.00 pm</b>	Christingle
	11.30 pm	Midnight Communion
	<i>Readings</i>	Isaiah 52: 7 – 10; Hebrews 1:1 – 12; John 1:1 – 14
<b>Linch</b>	<b>11.30 pm</b>	Midnight Communion
	<i>Readings</i>	Isaiah 52: 7 – 10; Hebrews 1: 1 – 12; John 1: 1 - 14
	<i>Sidesman</i>	Mu Bullingham & David Alderman
<b>Milland</b>	<b>11.30 pm</b>	Midnight Communion
	<i>Lessons</i>	Isaiah 52: 7 – 10; Hebrews 1:1 – 12; John 1: 1 – 14
	<i>Readers</i>	Leslie Lloyd & Michael Cartwright
	<i>Sidesman</i>	Michael Cartwright
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>
<b>Linch</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Family Communion
	<i>Readings</i>	Isaiah 9: 2 – 7; Titus 2: 11 – 14; Luke 2: 1 - 14
	<i>Sidesmen</i>	Greg Carter and Steve Bancroft
<b>Stedham</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Holy Communion
	<i>Readings</i>	Isaiah 9: 2 – 7; Titus 2: 11 – 14; Luke 2: 1 – 14
<b>Milland</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	Holy Communion
	<i>Lessons</i>	Isaiah 9: 2 – 7; Titus 2: 11 – 14; Luke 2: 1 - 14
	<i>Readers</i>	Harry Scott and Jean Mallows
	<i>Sidesman</i>	Harry Scott
<b>Iping</b>	<b>No service</b>	

## Linch with Iping Marsh

### Milland & Rake

### Stedham with Iping

Website: [www.stlukesbenefice.co.uk](http://www.stlukesbenefice.co.uk)

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>18 December</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
<b>Linch</b>	9.30 am	Holy Communion and Junior Church
<b>Iping</b>	11.00 am	Matins
<b>Milland</b>	11.00am	Carol Service
<b>Stedham</b>	4.00 pm	Carol Service

## COLLECT FOR TODAY

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## TODAYS READINGS

### Isaiah 7:10-16

7:10 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying,  
7:11 Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.  
7:12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.  
7:13 Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also?  
7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.  
7:15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.  
7:16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

### Romans 1:1-7

1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,  
1:2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures,  
1:3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh  
1:4 and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
1:5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name,  
1:6 including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,  
1:7 To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Matthew 1:18-25**

1:18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

1:19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

1:20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

1:21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

1:22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

1:23 "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

1:24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife,

1:25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

## **Thought for the Week**

"May you have a fire to warm you by, and a light to guide you" (*Celtic benediction*)

## **Intercessions:**

**World Church:** Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh - (Armagh, Ireland)

## **Deanery:**

**Benefice:** All those travelling to spend Christmas with family

## **Prayers for those in Long Term Care:**

Jill Maslen-Jones and Martin Beale

## **Prayers for the Sick:**

David Godfrey and Dave Dyke.

## **In Memoriam**

Alan Neal, Margaret Wearne, Patricia Williams

## **Post Communion Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Notices**

### **Benefice Notices**

**Please see the back page for a full list of next week's services on Friday, Saturday and Sunday**

**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:**

Very many thanks to all those kind people who have given a donation towards the beech hedge and a special thanks to Sam who has been responsible for organising the felling of the trees and the new planting. We hope the new saplings will be happy in their new home

*A big thank you to all the team who provided us with a wonderful evening of food and entertainment at the Linch Xmas Party. From the participants at Milland Church*

## **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.**

**Linch Christmas Party:** Many thanks once again to the team for the fabulous party they threw for us all last Saturday. It was most enjoyable and the food was delicious. Hopefully, they felt that all their hard work was worth it!

**Carol Service:** Thanks also to the participants at the Carol Service on Sunday which was another lovely and joyful evening.