

Next Week's Services

SUNDAY 15 EPIPHANY 2

Stedham	9.30am	Family Communion <i>Readings</i> Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Cor. 1:1-9; John 1:29-42
Linch	9.30am	Communion with Junior Church <i>Readings</i> Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Cor. 1:1-9; John 1:29-42 Sidesman Joe and Mary Gallagher
Iping	11am	Matins <i>Readings</i> Isaiah 49:1-7; John 1:29-42
Milland	11am	Holy Communion <i>Lessons</i> Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Cor. 1:1-9; John 1:29-42 Sidesman Bob Ireland Readers Brian Porter and Maureen Keel

Linch with Iping Marsh

Milland & Rake

Stedham with Iping

Website: www.stlukesbenefice.co.uk

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

SUNDAY 8	EPIPHANY	
Linch	8.30am	Said Eucharist
Linch	10.30am	BENEFICE EPIPHANY SERVICE

No Service at Iping, Stedham or Milland

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,
one God, now and for ever

READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6

60:1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
60:2 For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
60:3 Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
60:4 Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
60:5 Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
60:6 A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Ephesians 3:1-12

3:1 This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--
3:2 for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you,
3:3 and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words,
3:4 a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.
3:5 In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:
3:6 that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus

through the gospel.

3:7 Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power.

3:8 Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,

3:9 and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;

3:10 so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

3:11 This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

3:12 in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2:1-12

2:1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,

2:2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

2:3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;

2:4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

2:5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

2:6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

2:7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.

2:8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

2:9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

2:10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

2:11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

2:12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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.

Thought for the Week

Human life would be perfect if: Anger had a stop button, Mistakes had a rewind, Hard times a fast forward, Good times a Pause, and God had control of All the buttons.

(Anon)

Intercessions:

World Church: Kuching - (South East Asia)

Diocese: Pray for the Diocesan Board of Finance

Benefice: The church choirs in the benefice

Prayers for those in Long Term Care:

Jill Maslen-Jones, Martin Beale and Pam Way

Prayers for the Sick:

Dave Dyke.

Prayers for the Departed:

John Dunham

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**.