

Next Week's Services

SUNDAY 4	2ND BEFRE LENT
Iping 9.30am	Communion
<i>Readings</i>	<i>Proverbs 8:1,22-31; Colossians 1:15-20; John 1:1-14</i>
Linch 9.30am	Matins
<i>Readings</i>	<i>Proverbs 8:1,22-31; John 1:1-14;</i>
Milland 11am	Eucharist
<i>Lessons</i>	<i>Proverbs 8:1,22-31; Colossians 1:15-20;</i>

Linch with Iping Marsh

Milland & Rake

Stedham with Iping

Website: www.stlukesbenefice.co.uk

TODAY'S SERVICES

Sunday 28 Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Linch 9.30am Communion with Junior Church

Stedham 9.30am Communion

Milland 11am Matins

No Service at Iping

COLLECT

Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented
in the Temple, in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you
with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Malachi 3:1-5

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

Hebrews 2:14-end

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself

was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Intercessions

World Church: PRAY for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil,

Diocese:PRAY for the work of the Cathedral Church of The Holy Trinity

Benefice:Stedham W.I.

Prayers for those in Long Term Care:

Martin Beale and Pam Way

Prayers for the Sick:

Fiona Johnson, Diane McCarthy, Gregor Rushin, David Stobart and John Gorse.

In Memoriam: Shirley Mayfield, Steven Smith, James Clue, Kathleen Turner

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever

Thought for the Week

I would know your gift by its graciousness. (*Gaelic proverb*)

Benefice Notices.

Lent Course: Inspiring Vision

The course considers how the visual arts provide inspiration and pathways to prayer.

Six people have chosen their favourite painting, picture, or work of art.

In the course they explain what their choice says about prayer.

The course will run on Monday evenings through Lent, starting on 19th Feb.

We will meet at 7pm in the Bettsworth Room and plan to finish at 8.30pm

For more information talk to Rev Trish.

Wednesday Eucharist: This takes place on Wednesdays at of **9.00am** in the **Bettsworth Room.**