

**The Melisma Group:** meets again on 16th May at 3pm at Black Lake House Milland for a time of reflection and meditation.

**Please save the date!** To follow their quiet wedding at the beginning of May, Bob Farwell and Margaret Young warmly invite the church family to an informal celebration at Black Lake House, Milland, on Sunday 13th May from 11.30am onwards. Might you be so kind nearer the time to add your names to a list so that the caterer has a rough idea of numbers?

### Milland Notices

The planned major tree surgery has had to be delayed from 26/27th April to the 14/15th May. Please be aware that there may be restrictions to the churchyard at that time.

### Next Week's Services

SUNDAY 6	EASTER 6
<b>Iping</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Communion <i>Readings Acts10: 44-end; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17</i>
<b>Linch</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Matins <i>Readings Acts10: 44-end; John 15:9-17</i>
<b>Milland</b>	<b>11am</b> Eucharist <i>Lessons Acts10: 44-end; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17</i>
<b>THURSDAY 10</b>	<b>ASCENSION DAY</b>
<b>Linch</b>	<b>7pm</b> Benefice Communion <i>Lessons Isaiah 25:6-9; Acts 10:34-43; Mark 16:1-8</i>

**Midweek Eucharist** takes place on **Wednesdays** at **9.00am** in the **Bettesworth Room**.

## Linch with Iping Marsh Milland & Rake Stedham with Iping

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

### TODAY'S SERVICES

SUNDAY 29	EASTER 5
<b>Linch</b>	<b>10.30am</b> BENEFICE SERVICE <i>Readings Acts 8: 26-end; 1 John 4:7-end; John 15:1-8</i>
<b>Linch</b>	<b>4pm</b> APCM

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of  
everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our  
minds good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen 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

#### Acts 8:26-end

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about

Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

### **1 John 4:7-end**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

### **John 15:1-8**

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in

me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

### **Intercessions**

**World Church:** PRAY for The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

**Diocese:** PRAY for Children & Youth Workers and the Children & Family Work Adviser;

**Benefice:** Liss Crossover Project

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

Martin Beale, Betty Horlock, Margaret Green and Pam Way

#### **Prayers for the Sick:**

Fiona Johnson, Diane McCarthy, Gregor Rushin, John Gorse, Leslie Lloyd, Stuart Law, Ren Ladd, Mary and Barry Edwards, Trudi Archer and Penny Burge.

**In Memoriam:** Ruth Davies, Sydney Bridger, Emmie Lawrence, Lucie Sandham, Dorothy Wilson

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

Merciful Father,

you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **Thought for the Week**

Be the change that you wish to see in the world.

*(Gandhi)*

#### **Benefice Notices.**

**Annual Parish Church Meeting: Linch with Iping Marsh TODAY 4pm** at St Luke's Church Linch.

**Talents:** On Monday **14th May**, Linch Church will be a venue for showing our God given talents, these talents will in turn be used to inform our prayers. If you have a piece of art or wish to do a piece of art which we can use as one of the prayer stations please let Rev Trish know. These pieces of art can be paintings, craft or flowers. We will invite the Deanery to come and spend some quite prayer time in the church that day. This is part of the Church of England's initiative "**Thy Kingdom Come**". There will be other services etc going on around the deanery that week. So watch this space.

#### **Confirmations**

The confirmations this year will be held on 14th June at Milland Church, 7.30pm, Bishop Martin will preside. Confirmation preparation will start on Thursday 17th of May for 4 weeks at the Rectory 6.30pm. Though time and day can be changed to suit. Those wishing to be confirmed please speak to Rev Trish. I'm very pleased that we have 6 candidates already.