

Next Week's Services

MONDAY 10

Stedham 2pm Stedham School Nativity

SUNDAY 16

Linch 9.30am
Readings
Communion
Zephaniah 3:14-end;
Philippians 4:4-7;
Luke 3:7-18

Milland 11am
Service of Carols and
Readings

Stedham 4pm
Stedham Carol Service

Linch with Iping Marsh

Milland & Rake

Stedham with Iping

Website: www.stlukesbenefice.co.uk

TODAY'S SERVICES

SUNDAY 9 ADVENT 2

Linch 9.30am Communion

Milland 11am Matins

Stedham 11am Family Communion

COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us,

and with great might succour us;

that whereas, through our sins and wickedness

we are grievously hindered

in running the race that is set before us,

your bountiful grace and mercy

may speedily help and deliver us;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,

be honour and glory, now and for ever.

TODAY'S READINGS

Malachi 3:1-4

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.

Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to

Wednesday Eucharist in the Bettesworth Room 9am

determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the world

and will send him again to be our judge:

give us grace so to imitate him

in the humility and purity of his first coming

that, when he comes again,

we may be ready to greet him

with joyful love and firm faith;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessions

World Church: PRAY for Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury)

Diocese: PRAY for the Archdeaconry Warden of Readers

Benefice: All those organising Christmas events in the Benefice

Prayers for the Departed: Richard Bannister

Prayers for those in Long Term Care:

Martin Beale, Betty Horlock, Margaret Green, Pam Way and Mary Edwards.

Prayers for the Sick:

Diane McCarthy, Stuart Law, Ren Ladd, Barry Edwards, Trudi Archer, Richard Werner. Stephen Lisle, Dawn Houston, Fiona Johnson.

In Memoriam: Sylvia Pownall, Lois Crocker, Pat Symonds, Keith Farwell, Larry Tynan

Thought for the Week

We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty." (*Maya Angelou*)

Benefice Notices

Milland Notices

PLEASE NOTE: The **black bins** provided behind the church at St Luke's Milland are for **compostable rubbish only**. All *other waste material* must be removed to the **green bin or taken home**. Thank you.

Linch Notices

Sunday 6th January: Jan will once again be leading a Songs of Praise service, this time specifically for Epiphany. Please do let us know your favourite hymn and/or reading for this particular season of the year and sign up on the sheet at the back of the church. We look forward to as many ideas as possible!