

Next Week's Services

SUNDAY 6		EPIPHANY
Linch	9.30am	Epiphany Songs of Praise
Milland	11am	<i>Communion with Epiphany Carols</i>
	Readings	Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12
Linch	4pm	Christingle

Wednesday Eucharist *in the Bettsworth Room 9am*

Linch with Iping Marsh

Milland & Rake

Stedham with Iping

Website: www.stlukesbenefice.co.uk

TODAY'S SERVICES

SUNDAY 30		FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
IPING	10.30am	BENEFICE NEW YEAR EUCHARIST SERVICE

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

TODAY'S READINGS

1 Samuel 2:18-20,26;

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD'; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the LORD and with the people.

Colossians 3:12-17;

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Luke 2:41-end

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the

boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessions

World Church: Kyushu - (Japan)

Diocese: Pray for the Chancellor of the Diocese

Benefice: the choirs in all the churches in the Benefice

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, Barry Edwards, Trudi Archer, Richard Werner. Stephen Lisle, Dawn Houston, Fiona Johnson and Dr Lionel Cartwright.

In Memoriam: Phyllis Fleming, David McKechnie, Ethel Glazier

Thought for the Week

Grace, like quantum waves, is in the air all around us.

(Michael Harding)

Benefice Notices

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!