

## Events This week

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** Christingle Service 10.30 am Weyhill

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** Christingle Service 3.30 pm Charlton

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** Christingle Service 4 pm Penton

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** Encounters with Joseph 6.30 pm Charlton

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** Holy Communion 10 am Tangley

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>** Compline 9.15 pm Charlton

Issue No 49 Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017

## In your Prayers please pray for.....

All our clergy, lay ministers and churchwardens as they work tirelessly at this busy time of year.

Our world leaders, may the discontent around the world be resolved as quickly as possible.

Those who are known to us who have lost love ones or helping those cope with debilitating illness.

## Notices from around the Benefice....

All quite at the moment, but don't forget all the special services. Your Good News at Christmas has all the details or visit our website at

<http://www.pastrowbenefice.org.uk/index.html>

to find details of everything across the benefice.

If you would like a prayer said for you, family or friends by the benefice prayer group please email [prayer@pastrowbenefice.org.uk](mailto:prayer@pastrowbenefice.org.uk)

## Community Diary Dates

**Military Wives Choir** 6 pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> at St Marys Church in aid of the Enham Trust Tickets £10

**James Place Nativity** – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> 6 pm Penton Park. All welcome to this free event.

## Readings This Week

Isa 40 1 – 11                      Ps 85 1 – 2, 8 – end  
2 Pet 3 8 – 15a                      Mark 1 1 - 8

## Next Week

Isa 61 1 – 4 8 – end                      Ps 126  
1 Thess 5 16 – 24                      John 1 6 – 8 19 - 28

## Words of Encouragement By Oluyinka Esan

“Are You the Coming One?”

That was the question John sent from his jail to Jesus. As onlookers to that drama what's our reaction? Mine is indignation mixed with sympathy for John, and for all of us who can't see the end from the beginning.

“Really John? You ask that? Did you not just announce, even herald and celebrate Him? Come on, pull yourself together. Don't doubt the Voice that you were trained to hear. Don't allow distractions of current circumstances to shake your faith.”

But Jesus is Lord alright. His works attest to who He is. He delivers and He saves. Even for those bound up, deliverance is assured. Wait! Stand firm in faith.

We may faint for the distance between our expectations and our reality. Yet we must take heart and carry on in faith. What has God promised? He will deliver in His own way and in His own time. He does make all things beautiful.

Oh dear heavenly Father, thank you for your enabling grace. As you gave to John in those dark moments, grant to us too. Visit us promptly in your mercy, and let your joy be our strength. When we falter, uphold us in the power of your Love.

Hope deferred makes the heart sick. Visit with your healing balm, those who must wait on you. Having done all things, may we remain steadfast and strong as the billows roll. Amen.

## Notes from Pastrow Admin

I'm here for your baptism and wedding bookings, plus all your events for next year, call me on 07999 352585 or email [admin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk](mailto:admin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk) or write to Admin c/o The Rectory, Chalkcroft Lane, Penton Mewsey SP11 0RD