

"Growing together in worship reaching out with Christian love"

IN Luke's gospel we are told of Jesus, after his baptism by John, retreating in to the desert for 40 days where he was unsuccessfully tempted by Satan. Lent, the period of the church year we are now in. allows Christians to remember Jesus's fasting in the desert. It is a time of giving things up and a test of self-discipline.

We all know that sometimes we need to take our foot off the pedal, step back and just have a break. We can then come back refreshed and ready to get back to our normal routine with

renewed energy and vigour. We are told by Luke that "Jesus returned to Galilee and the power of the Holy Spirit was with Him". Jesus declared that he had a mission to bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord shall save His people.



Quite an agenda.

During Lent, we reflect on that mission and particularly, we prepare to celebrate Easter - there will be Easter services in all of our churches and also outdoor services in both Elton and Stilton on Good Friday. In Stilton, we will be giving out free coffee and hot cross buns as usual and there will be a short service at the pump at 10.30.

You are all welcome to come along to either of these events. We should not forget that it is through the Easter story that Jesus ultimately achieved all of the things he had set out in his mission statement.

As we welcome Rev Diane to our churches in preparation for her taking up post from early April, I invite all of us to use this Lent period to reflect on where we are as churches and where we want to be and work with Rev Diane to articulate our mission for the coming years. As Paul wrote to the Ephesians may our minds " be opened to see his light, so we will know the hope to which he has called us "





Don't eat too many Easter Eggs!





We are delighted to introduce Rev Diane Kutar.

Rev Diane will shortly be moving to Stilton and taking up her post as Rector to The Stilton group of Churches in early April.



She is married to Phil who is a Senior Human Resources Business Partner working in several of the large hospitals in London, they have a fourteen year old son, Christian, and a rather mad cat called Shadow. Christian is interested in cars, aeroplanes, trainers and Tottenham Hotspur. He enjoys karate and is heavily involved with his Scouts group.

Diane and Phil are both northerners really, originally hailing from the North West and their family are mainly there. The family moved into the Diocese from Sussex three years ago and Diane has recently completed her three year curacy in the Sawtry group of parishes nearby.



Before her ordination, Diane had successful careers working at a senior level in commercial financing and teaching. As a family they love to watch a film together and Diane is an avid Formula One fan, she plays the cello (badly) and has far too many books (in Phil's opinion!).

We are really looking forward to Diane joining us, she is looking forward to getting to you know you all and discovering what exciting things God has planned for us all, together. Annual Parochial Church Meeting

<u>APCM</u> - Every year, our churches have an annual meeting to which anyone can come. This is a time when we talk about what the church has been doing in the past calendar year, we review our finances and elect the council for the coming year. **If you are on the electoral**

roll then you can vote, but anyone can come along and offer suggestions as to how the church can improve the way it thinks and acts. <u>Why not give it a go?</u> The details of each churches APCM are:

> Elton All Saints <u>Monday 25th March 7pm</u> Stilton Wednesday <u>13th March 7.30pm</u> Morborne Sunday <u>17th March 4pm</u> Folksworth Sunday <u>24th March 11.15am</u>



Good Friday <u>29th March Service</u> at **The Pump at 10.30am.** With coffee and Hot Cross Buns during and after the service. Come and join us for an exciting **Easter Egg hunt at Stilton Church** on Easter Saturday <u>30th</u> <u>March 10.30am</u>. Fun for all the family.



St Mary Magdalene Church, Stilton





<u>Saturday, March 16th 7pm for a 7.30pm start at Stilton School Hall</u>. Teams of up to 8 Tickets £10 per person which includes a ploughman's supper and dessert. Bring your own drinks and glasses

> To book for a team or individuals contact Pat Maltman: pat_maltman@hotmail.com or 01733 242229

Contacts

Church Wardens <u>Stilton</u>: Marion Hodson 01733 241875 marionhodson@hotmail.co.uk <u>Haddon</u>: Angelique Wisse 01733 229000 angeliquewisse@hotmail.com Chrissie RobertsLewis 01733 247703 yimhyims@gmail.com <u>Folksworth</u>: John Blackman 07880 717968 <u>Elton</u>: Mark Holman 01832 280720 mark@matherholman.co.uk <u>Morborne</u>: Pam Dow 01733 242227 pameladow@btinternet.com Nikki Blythe 07967 334474 nblythe76@hotmail.co.uk <u>Stilton</u> <u>Church Meeting Room Bookings</u>: Joy Wilson 07854062482 email: justjoy293@gmail.com <u>Group Administrator</u>: Lauren Boughton 01733 662342 stiltongroupofchurches@gmail.com <u>Web: stiltonchurches.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/Stilton-group-of-churches-</u> 267029453693471/

Services in March~ All Welcome

ELTON

Overend PE8 6RU



3rd March
9.30am Holy Communion
10th March Mothering Sunday
9.30am Morning Service
17th March
9.30am Holy Communion
24th March
9.30am Morning Praise
31st March Easter Sunday
9.30am Holy Communion

STILTON Church St. PE7 3RF

3rd March
<u>11.15am</u> Morning Praise
10th March Mothering Sunday
<u>11.15am</u> Holy Communion
17th March
<u>11.15am</u> Inspire Style
24th March
<u>11.15am</u> Morning Service
31st March Easter Sunday
<u>11.15am</u> Holy Communion

MORBORNE The Green PE7 3TG

17th March 31st March <u>3pm</u> Evening Praise <u>3pm</u> Easter Sunday



HADDON

Haddon PE7 3TR



3rd March
<u>6pm</u> Evening Praise
10th March Mothering Sunday
<u>11.15am</u> Family Praise
17th March
<u>11.15am</u> Messy Praise
24th March
<u>11.15am</u> Holy Communion
31st March Easter Sunday
<u>11.15am</u> Easter Service

3rd March
9.45am Family Praise
10th March Mothering Sunday
9.45am Morning Praise
17th March
9.45am Holy Communion
24th March
9.45am Morning Praise
31st March Easter Sunday
9.45am Holy Communion

FOLKSWORTH

Morborne Road PE7 355



MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION



1st Wednesday of the month (7th March)@ **Stilton** <u>12.30pm</u> with *soup lunch* 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (14th and 28th March) @ **Elton** <u>10am</u> Holy Communion *followed by coffee*