



[www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org](http://www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org)

comprising the parishes of  
Fressingfield, Metfield,  
Mendham, Stradbroke,  
Weybread, Withersdale

## March 2021 news

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



<b>Week 1 7<sup>th</sup> March P</b> <b>Lent 3</b> Psalm 19 John 2:13-22	9.30am 10.30am	Online Fressingfield	Worship for all Holy Communion
<b>Week 2 14<sup>th</sup> March P</b> <b>Mothering Sunday</b> Psalm 34:11-20 John 19:25b-27	9.30am 10.30am	Online Mendham	Worship for all Holy Communion
<b>Week 3 21<sup>st</sup> March R</b> <b>Lent 5</b> Psalm 119:9-16 John 12:20-33	9.30am 10.30am	Online Stradbroke	Worship for all Holy Communion
<b>Week 4 28<sup>th</sup> March R</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> Psalm 118:19-end Mark 11:1-11	10.30am 10.30am	Metfield Fressingfield	Holy Communion family@church

<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	6pm	Online	Compline
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>	6pm	Online	Compline
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	6pm	Online	Compline
<b>Maundy Thurs, 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	11am	Online from cathedral	
<b>Good Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	10.30am	Online	Stations of the cross

### Easter Day 4<sup>th</sup> April

8am	Stradbroke	Holy Communion BCP
8.30am	Withersdale	Holy Communion BCP
9.30am	Online	Family Worship
10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
10.30am	Mendham	Holy Communion
10.30am	Metfield	Holy Communion
10.30am	Weybread	Holy Communion/Village Service

### Church contacts

Fressingfield	Anne Pickstock on 01379 586493, Philip Eastgate on 01379 586196
Mendham	Erika Clarke on 01379 853014
Metfield	Revd Susan on 01379 388493
Stradbroke	Peter Chetwynd on 01379 384069
Weybread	Paula Robinson on 01379 852110, Mike Nott on 01379 853889
Withersdale	Revd Susan on 01379 388493

### From the rector.....

#### We need you!

Our annual meeting (APCM) is on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and there are various roles to fill to help keep our parishes working. We need more PCC members, church wardens, PCC secretaries and safeguarding officers (which is mainly an administrative role). If you would like to know more about any of these roles, please speak to Revd Susan.

#### Gift Day

As you probably realise, all our churches are struggling financially, as we have not been in church to collect offerings. So, we have decided to make Easter Day a gift day when we can bring an offering of money in thanksgiving for all God's blessings.

#### If you would like to speak to someone, please contact:

Revd Susan Loxton (Rector), 01379 388493, [revloxtton@gmail.com](mailto:revloxtton@gmail.com)  
Revd Peter Schwier (Assistant Priest), 07903 215889  
Revd Gini Williams (Curate), 01379 586414, [rev.giniwilliams@godsearth.co.uk](mailto:rev.giniwilliams@godsearth.co.uk)

## Returning to church services

In March, we are returning to church for one service per week in the benefice – see the rota on the back page. It has been decided that all our main services (not BCP) should be at 10.30am to be consistent and so it is easily remembered. We will be having a service in each of our churches on Easter Day.

There is a lot to do and see online. The cathedral at Bury St Edmunds has a wonderfully full programme of lectures and services throughout Lent. See below.

## Bury St Edmunds Cathedral

<https://www.facebook.com/stedscathedral>

For those who haven't yet seen it, the Ash Wednesday service from the cathedral is well worth a look. See it on facebook. (details above). The cathedral also has some excellent Lent, Holy Week and Easter events coming up e.g. lectures, complines, music.

**Lunchtime lectures**, 1pm every Friday, with the curates.

**Wednesday evening lectures**, from 7pm, Radical Faith: Inspirational Christian lives for challenging times.

**Maudy Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> April**, 11am, Diocesan Chrism Mass, with renewal of baptismal vows and ministry promises. Bishop Martin will preach and there will be Communion Mass by Harold Darke.

## Good Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April

12 noon, Good Friday reflection and music, 12noon - 2pm, led by the Reverend John Summers, Chaplain of Trinity College, Cambridge. 2pm, Good Friday Liturgy with Proclamation and Veneration of the Cross litany and passion narrative.

## Lent Course Wednesdays during Lent

6-7pm, Revd Gini is leading a Lent course (hourly sessions) with discussions based on the psalms (from the previous Sunday). 'Jesus died with Psalm 22 on his lips' (Malcolm Guite, 2021). What can the psalms teach us this Lent? No previous knowledge required! Email [rev.qiniwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:rev.qiniwilliams@gmail.com)

## Mothers' Union

We will be holding an MU Zoom meeting on 4th March at 2.30pm but we are also aware that others find Zooming difficult and would rather not join in. If anyone wants any help with accessing a Zoom meeting, do give Anna a call on 01379 588389.

Whether or not you can join us on 4th via a screen, it does look as though we may be able to think about starting to get back together for meetings, with care, as the year progresses. Anna Vessey



## Bishops' Lent appeal - Kagera '21

Many here are suffering hardship because of the pandemic yet continue to support their communities with love and care. Can we extend that spirit of compassion to our partners on the other side of the world? Churches in Suffolk are linked to the churches in Kagera, in Tanzania. There's a new challenge booklet this year with lots of new ideas and information. To find out more about the appeal or get your copy of the booklet, visit [www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal](http://www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal) or contact the Kagera link co-ordinators on [kagera@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:kagera@cofesuffolk.org) or send donations to Revd Susan at The Rectory, Stradbroke.

**Book Club** with Revd Susan continues online on Thursday afternoons, 2pm, 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March. You don't have to buy the book as it will be on the screen and we will read it together – *The Great Divorce* by CS Lewis. Employing his talent for fable and allegory, the author finds himself in hell, boarding a bus bound for heaven. He comes across a host of supernatural beings who demonstrate the consequences of everyday behaviour and show us that the gates of hell are locked from the inside. This journey is an extraordinary meditation on good and evil, grace and judgement. Contact Susan if you would like to take part.



**Thank you for your continued donations of food and money to the Waveney Foodbank.** The phone number for rural deliveries in the Stradbroke area has changed to 07749 179446. If you know of anyone who could benefit from the Foodbank's help, please pass this on.

## Please don't forget our regular

facebook Morning Prayers and Evening Prayers; live on facebook but you can watch whenever you want on Sancroft Benefice Churches.

Monday at 6pm, Evening Prayer  
Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10am, Morning Prayer

## Palm Sunday

If you haven't a palm cross from last year and you would like one, call Revd Susan.

## Doing your shopping online.....

can benefit Sancroft Benefice with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to you! Simply sign up and use it whenever you shop online. (There is a short cut activate donation button to help). Donations mount up, **£127.00** already, so please support us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sancroftbeneficechurches>

## Keep in touch with what's on.....

[www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org](http://www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org)

## Benefice news

Paper copies in the churches or by email – Contact the benefice administrator, Virginia Skoyles, [sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

## Benefice facebook pages:

\***Sancroft benefice churches.**

\***Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich.**

**Please reach out if you or someone you know needs help of any kind. Some contact details of people to talk to.....**

**Samaritans**

**- It's alright to ask for help**

**Tel: 116123**

**Refuge, against domestic violence**

**Tel: 0808 2000 247**

**ChildLine**

**Tel: 0800 1111**

**Waveney Foodbank**

**Tel: 07749 179446**