

Notices continued: Women's World Day of Prayer: Friday March 2nd at 2pm in the United Free Church (opposite Solar car park). Suriname, in South America, a very beautiful country, has chosen as the theme 'God's Creation' and our responsibility to look after it. Although it is named WWDP it is a service for everyone regardless of gender! . All are welcome and there are refreshments afterwards
The Healing Team: Two members of the Healing Group will be in our Space For Grace after the 9.30 service today for anyone to share their concerns, doubts, fears or worries or to say thank you. It is done in complete confidence.

The next meeting of Knit and Stitch will be on Thursday 1st March at 2.30pm. We can count up our chicks ready for Easter Day. We also have a pattern for bunnies made from a knitted square; these can also have eggs in their backs. I can pass on the pattern or I believe Jan Noble has one. Mary Lamb is suggesting we have a day (with lunch) making cards with a fabric design, maybe even painting the fabric first. These could be for general use or even Christmas. Geraldine or Mary 638897

Pilgrimage, choral evensong and tea at Bury St Edmunds cathedral. Sunday 13th May 2018; 2pm arrive and welcome; 2.15 Reflective pilgrimage tour of the cathedral; 3.15 Break; 3.30 Choral evensong; 4.15 Tea in the cathedral centre; 5pm depart. If you would be interested in going on this adventure please speak to Mary Lamb, we have booked the date and are fortunate to be invited, there is no cost. I am sure we can organise lifts between us, there is a maximum number of 30 so get booked in quickly...It should be a wonderful experience. Mary – 01728638897 marylamb1952@googlemail.com

Wednesday 21st February – 10.30am Holy Communion in church.

Next Sunday: Sunday 25th February 2018: 8am Eucharist (BCP.) 9.30am Parish Communion (CW).
Saxtead: 11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Rector: The Rev Canon Mark Sanders Tel: 01728 768875 Email: revmarksanders@tiscali.co.uk Associate Priest: Revd. Mary Lamb. Email: marylamb1952@googlemail.com Parish Office: Telephone 01728 621255 Email framparish@gmail.com

The
Church of Saint Michael
Framlingham
with All Saints Saxtead



The First Sunday of Lent. February 18th 2018.

Today's Service:

Processional Hymn: 202 Forty day and forty nights

Gradual Hymn: 589 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Offertory Hymn: 156 Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you

Final Hymn: 52 At the name of Jesus

Collect:

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness and grew closer to you in the desert; help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 9.8–17

8 God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, 10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. 11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' 12 God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13 I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' 17 God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of

the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

For the word of the Lord.

Response (ALL): **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation: Merbecke

Response (ALL): Praise to you, O Christ. King of eternal glory!

GOSPEL: Mark 1.9–15

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Response (ALL): **Glory to you, O Lord.**

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11 And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' 12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. 14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15 and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Response (ALL): **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Post Communion: Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love; teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Please pray for: Patrick Lowin, Olwin Bridges, Desmond and Renee Clifton, Trevor Newton, Joyce Davis and any who are unwell at this time.

Notices: Alive @ 4: This service is happening today at 4pm, in St Michael's Rooms. There will be fun, fellowship, bible stories, activities, crafts and high tea. For more details ring Mary Lamb on 01728 638897 or Wendy Phelan on 01728 720125.

Monthly Prayer Group: The Prayer Group will be meeting tomorrow, Monday 19th February, 7 – 8 pm in the Rectory. New members are warmly invited to come along and join us. For more information talk to Betty Mockford.

Amended Lent Study Group dates: Please note the change of dates and times of our Lent Study Groups: **Wednesday Afternoon** starting 21st February in the Rectory 2pm. **Thursday evenings** starting 22nd February at 48 The Mowbrays; 7pm for 7.30pm. All are welcome, come to one or both. Please add your name to the new sign-up sheet at back of church.

Wednesday Holy Communion: Holy Communion will be in church as usual in February, **not in the Rectory** as previously advertised!

Lent Prayers: A booklet with readings and thoughts for each day until Easter, recommended by Archbishops, is on sale for £3 at back of Church, it is nicely produced and easy to read but we have a limited number of copies.

'Let's Clean the Church For Janis' - Saturday 24th February.

Graham is taking over the baton from Jan in organising our bi-annual spring clean of this beautiful building. He would very much welcome any one who is able, to keep an hour or two free on Saturday 24th February to come and join in to keep the church up to Janis' standards. Details of the programme for the day and who can do what and when are available at the back of the church. Let's keep Jan smiling!

Christian Aid Soup and Pud lunch - Saturday 24th February, at the United Free Church Hall. Come for coffee and to browse the Fair Trade stall from 11am. Soup and Pud lunches served from 12 noon 2pm. Delicious homemade soups and desserts. A warm welcome for all! Suggested donation £4.50. Thanks Fram Christian Aid Group.