

Notices:

A thank you from the Knitters and Stitchers:

Thank you to all those who have already made hats or teddies to go out to India for the children who will have corrective surgery on cleft lips or palates in January. Any that are not quite finished need to be with Geraldine, Mary Lamb or Sue Norrington by Christmas Eve so Sue can take them to her daughter who is going out to India as part of the medical team.

Children's activities during the 9.30am service: Deborah, Edith or Victoria would be very pleased if any children here today would like to come and join in some Sunday school activities in the Tower Room just before the sermon starts.

Christmas card recycling:

When Christmas is over and you wonder what to do with all those cards, please could you save them up for Mary Lamb who has a project in mind!! She will put a box at the back of church for them to be placed in. Thank you very much in anticipation.

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. It is done in complete confidence.

A BIG THANK YOU to those of you who have continued to contribute donations of food to the church food bank. As you know everything from St Michaels goes to the Woodbridge branch of the Salvation Army. Quite a lot of the people they help are homeless and don't have access to cookers, so could you bear that in mind as well when you are buying. Tinned meat or fish and other basics are the most urgently needed (all within the sell by date please). Once again many thanks and keep them coming. Sandy Rowles.

Printer paper:

If you would like to buy a ream of printer paper (500 sheets) at the very reasonable cost of £3, please speak to Margaret, our treasurer or Victoria, our parish administrator. The paper is available here in church or from the church office.

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 Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18th 2016

Today's Service:

Processional Hymn: 666 Sing we of a blessed Mother

Gradual Hymn: 451 Long ago – prophets knew

Offertory Hymn: 194 For Mary, mother of our Lord

Final Hymn: 692 Tell out, my soul

Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Mary

Lord Jesus, your mother Mary
carried you with tender determination
on the dangerous road to Bethlehem.
May the same flame of love
fill your global church to bring courage
and hope to all who carry and nurture children today.

Kyries in Advent 4 - Michael Booker.

Collect: God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: Grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 7.10–16

10 The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, 11 'Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.' 12 But Ahaz

said, 'I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.' 13 Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.'

For the word of the Lord.

Response (ALL) Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: 451 Long ago – prophets knew

Alleluia: For Advent – Dom Alan Rees

Response (ALL) Alleluia x 3

GOSPEL: Matthew 1.18–25

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

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

18 The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' 22 All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 23 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,' which means, 'God is with us.' 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep,

he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Post Communion: Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised Saviour; fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Please also pray for: Our wedding couple Glenn and Amelia who are getting married in St Michael's on Friday 23rd December.

Give thanks for the life of Janet Courtice, on the first anniversary of her death.

Wednesday 21st December, 10.30am Holy Communion. In the Rectory.

Christmas Eve: 24th 3.30pm Crib Service. 11.30pm Midnight Communion.

Next Sunday: Christmas Day - Sunday 25th December: 9am Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer.) 10.15am Family service - followed by communion for those who wish to stay on.

Saxtead: Christmas Eve: 6.00pm Carol Service.

Christmas Day - 9.00am Holy Communion (BCP)