

Notices Continued:

Christmas Wreaths: After careful discussion we have decided not to have wreaths that we hang from the pillars this Christmas because they are becoming very expensive. However we do know that some people like to give flowers to the Church at this season in memory of a loved one. If you would like to give some money to buy flowers instead of a wreath this year, please let Wendy Phelan know. Names of people remembered will be listed in the Space for Grace. This way you are able to give what you like.

A plea from Knitters and Stitchers: Can you make knitted hats and teddies? In January 2017 our daughter who is a Consultant Anaesthetist, will be going to India as part of a medical team to provide corrective surgery for children born with a cleft lip and a cleft palate. She will be in India for 10 days. During a similar trip in 2016, over 100 operations were carried out. More information can be found at:- www.northerncleftfoundation.co.uk/how-we-change-lives/. Our daughter tells us that knitted hats for children aged 2-4 years are very useful. Small knitted teddies would also be helpful to comfort children who are frightened or distressed. If you can help, please let Geraldine, Mary Lamb or Sue have hats/teddies before Christmas. Thanks from Chris and Sue Norrington.

In search of sanctuary: Driven by conflict and humanitarian crises in Syria, Iraq, South Sudan, Yemen, Afghanistan and Somalia, millions of refugees are on the move. The Macedonia and Croatia borders have now closed, sealing Serbia's borders and leaving hundreds of people stranded. For many, humanitarian aid provided by organisations such as Philanthropy, a Christian Aid partner in the ACT Alliance, is vital.

'By the time they get to Serbia they are already very exhausted. A lot of them claim they have lost everything that they had. A lot of them ask for food. They say they have been starving for days and have been very cold for days.' Marija Vranesevic, Programme Manager at Philanthropy. On Saturday 3rd December 2016, from 10 am to 12 noon, Marija will be at Dove Cottage (next to St Mary's Church, Debenham) with Simon Snell, Christian Aid's Suffolk Coordinator. Come along, have a cup of coffee and talk to them. This is a rare opportunity to hear matters first hand. More information from Chris Wilkes, (01728-860633) crwilkes@btinternet.com

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.

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.

The
Church of Saint Michael
Framlingham
with All Saints Saxtead



The First Sunday of Advent November 27th 2016

Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent:

The Patriarchs and Matriarchs
O God of Abraham and Sarai,
we thank you for your faithfulness throughout all time.
As today we begin our Advent journey
may the light of your love
surround your church across the world,
as we watch and wait for your kingdom.

Processional Hymn: 535 O come, O come, Emmanuel

Gradual Hymn: 140 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Offertory Hymn: 288 Hark, the glad sound!

Final Hymn: 449 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

Collect: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 2.1–5

1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
2 In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. 3 Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out

of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. 5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

For the word of the Lord.

Response (ALL) Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn: 140 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Kyries in Advent - Michael Booker.

Response (ALL): Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Alleluia: For Advent – Alan Rees

Response (ALL) Alleluia x 3

GOSPEL: Matthew 24.36–44

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 36 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, 39 and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. 40 Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. 41 Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. 42 Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. 43 But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Post Communion: O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; 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.

Notices:

Switching on the town Christmas tree lights: On Market Hill this afternoon at 3.30pm. There will be carols and turning on the town Christmas tree lights. Followed by.....

St Elizabeth Hospice 'Light up a life' Service: This afternoon at 4pm in St Michael's Church. The Pop Chorus will be singing and refreshments will be served afterwards. All welcome to come along.

Monthly newsletter: Please pick up a copy of our monthly newsletter from the back of church and take it home with you, unless you have had it delivered with your Parish Magazine. Thank you.

Christmas Tree Festival: Next Saturday 3rd December at 10am will be the grand opening. See December Newsletter for more details. The **Fairtrade Stall** will be there, so stock up on your Christmas favourites as it will not be in church after the service the next day!

The Silent Prayer Group: You are welcome to join the Silent Prayer Group on Monday 5th December at Framlingham College Chapel. A simple breakfast will be served from 8.45am prayers are from 9.15 – 10.00am. Any enquiries to Rayleen Finn 01728 723322, rayleenf@aol.com

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

Wednesday 30th November, 10.30am Holy Communion. In the Rectory. **Next Sunday:** Sunday 4th December: 8am Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer.) 9.30am Family Communion (Common Worship). Saxtead: 11.15am Holy Communion (Common Worship.)