Church calendars for Jan/Feb:

\* Every Wednesday at 10.30am, Holy Communion in St Michael's Church

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| February Services at St Michael’s |
| 3rd 9.30am First Sunday:  Family Christingle Service for Candlemas |
| 10th 9.30am Parish Communion |
| 17th 9.30am Parish Communion  4.00pm Alive@4 in St Michael’s Rooms |
| 24th 9.30am Parish Communion |
| March Services at St Michael’s |
| 3rd 9.30am Family Communion |
| 10th 9.30am Parish Communion |
| 17th 9.30am Parish Communion  4.00pm Alive@4 in St Michael’s Rooms |
| 24th 9.30am Parish Communion |
| 27th 10.30am Holy Communion   ‘The Annunciation’ |

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| February Services at All Saints Saxtead |
| 3rd 11.15am Holy Communion (CW) |
| 10th 11.15am Holy Communion (BCP) |
| 17th 11.15am Holy Communion (CW) |
| 24th 11.15am Morning Prayer |
| March Services at All Saints Saxtead |
| 3rd 11.15am Holy Communion (CW) |
| 10th 11.15am Holy Communion (BCP) |
| 17th 11.15am Holy Communion (CW) |
| 24th 11.15am Morning Prayer |

News from the Diocese:

**We have a new Archdeacon**

****Bishop Martin is delighted to appoint the Revd Canon Sally Gaze to be the new Archdeacon for Rural Mission.   
Sally has been working with the Diocese to strengthen and develop church life in our rural communities and she will now take on expanded responsibilities, including being the director for ‘Growing in God in the Countryside’ project’ with the support of national church funding”Sally said: “It means an immense amount to be chosen for this new post. My passion has been rural mission for many years, so this new and innovative role feels like the fulfilment of a dream.  The role is simply about helping people to experience God’s love in rural Suffolk in all sorts of ways from creative worship to combatting isolation.  
Her appointment has been welcomed by Bishop Mike, who said: “Sally has a proven track record of rural community engagement and of growing various kinds of worshipping communities which reach people who want to explore the spiritual side of their lives and Christian faith.”

News from Framlingham College

Framlingham College hosts Soul Food on a Friday morning. It involves continental breakfast and refreshing conversation and prayer on contemporary topics. A chance to recharge the Soul with a warm croissant and filter coffee. Open to all friends of the College. Further information from the Chaplain – Rev Brynn Bayman: [bbayman@framcollege.co.uk](mailto:bbayman@framcollege.co.uk)

Timings are:

* Soul Food – Every Friday in term time from 8:40 – 9:40. Paul’s Court and Chapel – Framlingham College
* Silent Prayers/ Mindfulness – First Monday of every Month from 9:00 – 10:00 in Paul’s Court and Chapel –

Prayer Corner:  
All-powerful Father,  
Christ your Son became man for us and was presented in the temple.  
May he free our hearts from sin and bring us into your presence.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you   
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever. Amen

**St Michael’s Church Framlingham with All Saints Saxtead**

**Parish Newsletter: January 2019  
Please take this home with you.**

**Everyone is welcome to join us at all our Services, see inside for all the details.**

**Rector: The Rev Canon Mark Sanders  
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Email:** [**revmarksanders@tiscali.co.uk**](mailto:revmarksanders@tiscali.co.uk) **Parish Office: Telephone 01728 621255  
Email** [**framparish@gmail.com**](mailto:framparish@gmail.com)

**Visit our website for lots more information:**

<http://www.stmichaelsframlingham.org.uk/>

A Letter from our Rector, Mark

Inch by inch – or rather minute by minute – the days draw out and light returns. The cold intensifies, and I think February is meant to be the coldest month of the year so stay warm. We are hoping the Church will be warm on Sundays still.

The turning of the year and the drawing out of the light is used as a symbol of the hope given to us in Jesus, constantly renewed, never absence but sometimes obscured. Having the Christingle in early February when we remember the story of Jesus being recognised as a baby in the Temple is another way of placing Christmas light and hope into the heart of the winter cold and dark. A symbol of the hope and presence St Michael’s is here to offer along with the other churches in Framlingham. We can be agents of that light through caring for one another and out neighbours. Through welcoming people as they arrive in town – as increasing numbers are doing – and if you can help let me know. This is a task for all of us. This year our new project with Sir Robert Hitcham’s School , Sing Praise! is busy preparing a musical and our first session shared the Christian story, and in dance, drama and singing, explored the talents God gives us. More of that next month when the musical will be performed.

Our nation, government and parliament needs Christ’s light and guidance as well. As this is being written the Prime Minister is sharing meetings with different politicians. I’m sure she needs our prayers whatever political position we take up. But so does our country at this time. Hold the light of Christ in prayer and mention the politicians you agree with and those you do not and all of them that they may make good decisions for the country as a whole. Mark

**St Michael’s Church News:**.  
**The Prayer Group** : The next meeting will be on Monday 18th February; for more details please phone Joyce on 01728 724495 or   
Alison on 724145.

FOSM Lunch: Because the Conservative Club is closing, the lunches will now be held on the **third Friday of the month in St Michael’s Rooms.**  All are welcome to this delicious lunch. The next lunch will on Friday 15th February**.** There will be a booking sheet at the back of the church for you to sign up if you would like to join us.

**Christingle Service**

We shall be holding our Christingle Service at St Michael’s on Candlemas Day, Sunday 3rd February at 9.30am. (not a communion service)

Now in its 50th year, Christingle is a special, memorable celebration that takes place in thousands of churches and schools across the country. The celebration is named after the Christingles that are made and lit during the service. They are made from an orange decorated with red tape, sweets and a candle, which have a special symbolism that is explained during the service.

With your help, Christingle raises vital funds to help vulnerable children, though the work of the **Children’s Society**.

**St Michael’s Knitters and Stitchers.**

The next meeting will be in church on **Tuesday 14th February, at 2.00pm**. We are preparing to knit items for the Mission to Seafarers and then take the completed items to the centre in the Spring. A pattern is available on their website: <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/felixstowe-and-haven-ports> Any other knitters who cannot come to meetings are welcome to add to what I hope will be a decent number. More details from Geraldine 727489

**Jubilate Choir Sing Evensong**

There will be a special service of Sung Evensong at St Peter & St Paul, Wangford on Sunday 17 February at 6pm. The renowned Jubilate Choir, conducted by Martyn Bagnall will be leading our worship.   
Please tell as many people as possible about this wonderful opportunity to hear the choir, who are widely known throughout Suffolk. The Service is free to attend and there will be a retiring collection.   
Tel: 01502 453624  
Email: [adperry64@gmail.com](mailto:adperry64@gmail.com)

**All Saints’ Church News:**Saxtead has certainly started the New Year on a positive note! A terrific response from the village to the idea of a community festival next September. So many people braved the elements to attend the initial volunteer meeting on January 10th at the Old Mill House. Excellent suggestions were made by people ranging in age from eight to eighty alongside pledges of support for the many activities. Who would have believed there were so many hidden talents here! And a special thank you to those new to Saxtead for joining in.

If you could not attend the last meeting, please contact us and we will include you in information to be sent out about the next round of meetings which will take place in the near future. Meanwhile any relevant bits of news can be found on the village website <http://saxtead.suffolk.cloud>

Looking forward to seeing you all! Sue.

<mailto:saxtead_sue@hotmail.com>