



News from Saxtead

Due to the courgette glut I thought I would share my courgette bonanza with you. We have made courgette, ginger and lemon jam; courgette tempura; cold courgette & mint soup; courgette oven roasted in garlic; and today we spiralsed it instead of spaghetti- apparently it is called courgetti! Topping it with all the things brought back from the fridge in Aldeburgh - roast aubergines, mushrooms & red onions.

Our first joint St Michaels and All Saints PCC meeting since the lockdown was led by Mary Lamb, safely distanced in St Michael's Rooms. Arrangements were made to open both churches every Sunday, St Michael's at 8.00 am. and All Saints at 6.30 pm which has made life seem more normal, even if we are all wearing masks and every other pew is roped off. We are now obliged to note the name and telephone number of the members of the congregation for track and trace purposes. And everyone will be happy to note that our wonderful village nursing home, Foxearth, has miraculously continued to be Covid-19 free.

The Loo Committee has been forging ahead, John Speight and Bill Roberts digging test

drainage holes in the churchyard. James Halsall of the DAC is booked to visit the site in October when we hope to present a workable plan for a narrow herbal border delineating the Memorial Garden. We would very much like this to be a Saxtead Village wide initiative and are hoping that our green fingered gardeners can make Rosemary, Sage and Lavender cuttings. We will need quite a few. Later we can add miniature maintenance free bulbs like lily of the valley and grape hyacinths. We intend that it should be a low cost and low maintenance border which also attracts the bees and butterflies and are also hoping to plant a few butterfly loving shrubs on the edges of the churchyard, like Buddleia, as part of our initiative to earn Eco Church points.

The first Saxtead Coffee Morning since lockdown, was held on Wednesday 12th on benches outside The Old Mill House pub. Sadly Barbara Dring who started the coffee morning so many years ago is still in hospital but we are hoping to send her a card from us all.

Please note: The date for the start of the Saxtead Alpha Course has been changed to Monday 21st September.. We hope this won't cause any inconvenience. Please contact me, Christina, if you would like to join, or would like more information *Christina* tel: 01728 724162 or email cdb1946@icloud.com.

Prayer Corner

Lord of peace, so fill us with your love that our lives will speak of your generosity, forgiveness and big-heartedness. May we share with all our neighbours throughout the world the peace that passes understanding. Amen



St Michael's Church Framlingham with All Saints Saxtead

Parish Newsletter: September 2020

Our new priest, Revd Chris Davey, will join us on 23rd September; meanwhile, please contact the Parish Office in the first instance if you have any pastoral needs.

Contact details for Parish Office:

Tel: 01728 638512

Email framparish@gmail.com

Visit our website for more information:

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

Stepping into someone's shoes?

I can remember an Archdeacon of Norfolk saying to me some years ago that he never referred to the period between the departure of a parish priest and the arrival of his successor as an 'interregnum'. He used the word 'vacancy', and had good reason.

"There is only one King who reigns over His Church," he said, "and that is the Lord Jesus Christ, and He is with us always."

But even the word 'vacancy' is suspect because it gives the impression that the departure of an incumbent leaves a church in a kind of ecclesiastical and spiritual vacuum or limbo.

A large number of very committed members of the congregations of St. Michael's and All Saints have devoted themselves to ensuring that the worship and witness of the Churches have been sustained in the weeks between the departure of Mark Sanders and the arrival of Chris Davey. 'Well done, good and faithful servants!'

The past months have been particularly challenging because of the impact of Covid-19. We have had to adapt to a very different way of gathering for worship and fellowship. This has been particularly distressing for those who are unable to use the technology or who find Zoomed worship deeply unsatisfying. But there have been some positive gains. We are very grateful to Anne Lawrence and others who have used their skills in the use of the media to make the Sunday services available to such a large number. And it has been a particular delight to welcome children into various aspects of leadership. You have blessed us.

But now, from looking back, we look forward to welcoming Chris Davey and his partner Jochen. The idea of stepping into someone

else's shoes is very unhelpful. Chris comes with his own experience of parish ministry to draw upon; his own personality and spirituality to offer as gifts. He has expressed his desire to work in a team with others; to encourage and develop their gifts.

It is a cause of great sadness to him and to us all that attendance at his licensing in St. Michael's Church on the evening of Wednesday September 23rd will by invitation in order to limit the numbers. He also faces, right from the start, the additional difficulty of leading Sunday worship by Zoom. Please uphold him in your prayers and let us welcome him warmly with our love.

Hopefully there will be an opportunity to meet face to face, and for a proper celebration when this virus is finally defeated by an effective vaccine.

Michael Stedman

News of Saxtead Church's Proposed Memorial Wildlife Garden

Since long before The Rev Mark Sanders left we have been discussing cheering up the Memorial Plot, and since lockdown we have forged ahead with plans. I attach a photograph of the present state of the plot (invisible) and the proposed herbal planting.

At our last meeting of the PCC in 2019 it was again remarked upon that people were finding it difficult to find the plot, and then bleak when they did. Magnificent proposals were considered from a professional garden planning company but the cost would have been prohibitive until we have completed the works for a water supply, toilet and kitchenette, at present with the DAC for approval. So we have come up with this plan as a cheap and attractive alternative, which would not preclude

doing something more ambitious later. Moreover we have plans to designate our graveyard as an ECO friendly area and the plants chosen will attract butterflies. We also have plans for bird boxes.

Best wishes, *Christina*



✘ Church Services ✘

Some church services are now permitted; please see the details below:

Sundays:

8.00am Said Holy Communion according to The Book of Common Prayer, at St Michael's

9.30am A range of worship on Zoom with music; no service in Church

6.30pm Said Holy Communion or Evening Prayer at **All Saints Saxtead**

Wednesdays:

Said Holy Communion, **10.30am, at St Michael's**

Please note that you will need to wear a face covering inside St Michael's Framlingham or All Saints' Saxtead.