

<b>Sunday 1st March</b> <b>Lent 2</b> Romans 4:1-5,13-17 John 3:1-17	9.30am	Metfield	The Gathering
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Village service
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 8th March</b> <b>Lent 3</b> Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42	9.00am	Withersdale	Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am	Weybread	Family Service
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Informal worship
	10.30am	Metfield	Village worship
<b>Sunday 15th March</b> <b>Lent 4</b> Mothering Sunday Colossians 3:12-17 John 19:25b-27	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Informal
	6.30am	Fressingfield	Celebration
<b>Sunday 22nd March</b> <b>Lent 5</b> Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	10.30am	Fressingfield	Informal all age service
	10.30am	Metfield	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 29th March</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> Matthew 21:1-11 Matthew 27:11-54	10.30am	Weybread	Benefice Holy Communion with Archdeacon Rich

**Prayers around the benefice** Mondays, 10am at Stradbroke Church (with heating)  
Wednesdays, 10am at the Alfred Munnings. (Hot drinks provided)

**Advance notice:** Thurs 23rd April **Benefice APCM**, all parishes, 7pm, Sancroft Hall.

**Keep in touch with what's on.....** Benefice news. For your email copy, email [sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

**facebook pages:** \*Sancroft benefice churches \*Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich.

To receive a weekly email with news from the diocese,  
[emailcommunications@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:emailcommunications@cofesuffolk.org)

#### Parish church contacts

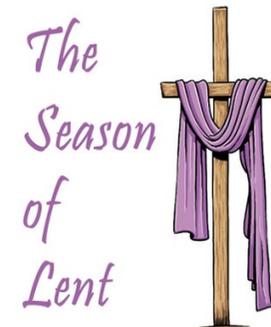
Fressingfield	Malcolm Wood	01379 388981
Mendham	Toby Hart	01379 854980, Revd Diane 01986 788750
Metfield	Judy Game	01379 588017
Stradbroke	Revd Maria Price	07759 298824, <a href="mailto:revmariaprice@gmail.com">revmariaprice@gmail.com</a>
Weybread	Mike Nott	01986 511155
Withersdale	Marj Hudson	01379 586408

# Sancroft Benefice Churches

comprising the parishes of

Fressingfield, Metfield,  
Mendham, Stradbroke,  
Weybread, Withersdale

## February and March '26



**We are about to move from Epiphany to ordinary time and very quickly into Lent with a new bishop enthroned and our benefice in vacancy.**

The world seems in turmoil. What sustains and is important now? Our God – Faithful one, so unchanging, ...my rock. Jesus the Light of the World celebrated at Candlemas. The purpose to which we are all called, to shine as lights for others, with each and every one of us created for a different and needed role in the strength of the Holy Spirit.

Yes, the benefice profile needs to be prepared to include in the advertisement for a new priest. Meanwhile there are people in our communities (not just our congregations) needing help, seeking hope despite any vacancy. We are challenged to think not just of our parish but the faith that unites us as Christians and as a benefice. As Lent comes, I am very aware that despite all the planning for vacancy, gaps may emerge, times when team working is not so smooth, we are all human (and part-time) so please forgive this. The ministry team continues in all we always offered to you in our vocations. I hope you can use Lent to focus again on God, on how to walk the way of Jesus, serving those most ignored and what part you can play within our benefice.

With my love *Revd Diane*

#### Ministry leadership team:

**Revd Peter, Revd Diane, Revd Tony, Revd Maria and Nick Stolls**

**If you would like to speak to someone, please contact:**

Revd Peter Schwier (Assistant Priest), 07903 215889

Revd Diane Ekins-Powell (Associate Priest), 01986 788750,

[diane1961erica@gmail.com](mailto:diane1961erica@gmail.com)

Revd Dr Tony Rich (Assistant Priest), [m-t-rich@msn.com](mailto:m-t-rich@msn.com)

Revd Maria Price (Curate), 07759 298824, [revmariaprice@gmail.com](mailto:revmariaprice@gmail.com)

**Benefice administrator, Virginia Skoyles, [sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)**

## February and March

**Every Tuesday Coffee Break**, 10.30am Sancroft Hall. All welcome. Bring friends.

**Every Thursday Little Dragonflies**, baby and toddler group, meets termtime in Fressingfield School from 8.45am. Contact Lynette on 07776 432910 or nettie@blackmatrix.net

**Every Thursday My Choir Rocks**, children's singing group, 7 to 8pm. Free entry, free refreshments. **Singalong Thursdays**, adult group, 8 to 9pm. Both at All Saints' Mendham. Just turn up!

**Tues 3rd Feb Benefice Vacancy Profile Meeting**. All comments to parish reps/PCC secretaries, please.

**Weds 4th Feb / 4th March Benefice prayers for the vacancy**. Feb - 2.30pm, Mendham Church. March - 7.30pm, Metfield Church.

**Thurs 5th Feb / 5th March Mothers' Union**, 2.30pm, Sancroft Hall. February - AGM and singalong with our favourite hymns. March - Lent Lunch and service of reflection with Revd Eleanor.

**Sat 7th Feb / 7th March Metfield Community Café**, 10am to 12 noon. Metfield Village Hall. Stalls, raffle.

**Sun 8th Feb ECO CHURCH Eco-Church Service**, Fressingfield, 10.30am. Celebrating the movement towards increased biodiversity and stewardship of the environment in our village. Church and village together. Refreshments, Fairtrade stall, literature.

### Editor/Compiler still urgently required for Six Sense

We are very pleased to have found a nearly complete team to carry on producing the Six Sense magazine - Treasurer, Advert Manager and Content Editor. However, we are still looking for an Editor/Compiler. The magazine is set up in two formats, Indesign and Publisher, so if you can manage either of these and you are interested in joining us, with LOTS of support, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Virginia at sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com

**Sun 15th Feb / 15th March Fressingfield Celebration**, 6.30pm. Uplifting worship with the band. Feb speaker: Chris Watts from Through Faith Missions. March speaker tbc.

**Tues 17th Feb Pancake Lunch**, Sancroft Hall, 11.45am to 2pm, a choice of sweet and savoury. Voluntary donations of the Waveney Foodbank and St Martin's Trust for homeless.

**Weds 18th Feb Ash Wednesday service**, 10am, ashing, followed by Holy Communion. Refreshments afterwards in The Alfred Munnings.

**Thurs 19th Feb Away morning for all PCC members** with Archdeacon Rich. 9.30am to 12 noon, Syleham/Wingfield Village Hall followed by Ministry Leadership meeting.

**Sun 22nd Feb Evening Prayers for Lent**, 5pm, Mendham Church.

#### PCC Meetings

Weybread	4th Feb at 11am
Mendham,	4th Feb at 7.30pm
Fressingfield	12th Feb at 7pm
Withersdale	16th Feb at 3pm
Metfield	24th Feb at 2.30pm
Weybread	4th Mar at 11am

<b>Sunday 1st February Presentation of Christ Candlemas</b> Malachi 3:1-5, Luke 2: 22-40	9.30am	Metfield	The Gathering
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Village service
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 8th February 2nd Sunday before Lent</b> Genesis 1:1-2.3 Matthew 6:25-34	9.00am	Withersdale	Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am	Weybread	Family service
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Eco-church service
	10.30am	Metfield	Village service
<b>Sunday 15th February Sunday next before Lent</b> Exodus 24:12-18 Matthew 17:1-9	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Informal
	6.30pm	Fressingfield	Celebration
<b>Ash Wednesday 18th Feb</b> 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21	10.00am	Mendham	Ashing Service followed by HC. Refreshments in The Munnings
<b>Sunday 22nd February Lent 1</b> Romans 5:12-19, Matt 4:1-11	10.30am	Fressingfield	Informal all age service
	10.30am	Metfield	Holy Communion

**Mon 23rd Feb, 9th, 23rd March Lent Study**, back of Mendham Church, with heaters. 7 to 8.15pm. All welcome.

**Thurs 26th Feb, 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March 9.30am, Benefice Lent Prayer Group**. Fress Church vestry.

**Fri 6th March World Day of Prayer** 10.30am, Hoxne Church. Refreshments from 10am. Service prepared by the women of Nigeria. Takes place on this day in over 170 countries.

**Weds 11th March** Benefice Communications Group meet.

**Thurs 12th March Benefice choir practice** for Palm Sunday, 10am. **Also, Mission Support meeting** for ministry team, 9 to 11.30am.

**Weds 18th March Deanery Synod**, 7pm, Burgate Church Hall. Speaker Revd Clive Mobbs, chaplain at Sizewell B. All welcome.

**Fri 20th March Lenten Eco-Lunch**, 12.30pm, Sancroft Hall, Speaker Revd Alison Alder, diocesan environment officer. All welcome. More details soon.

**Weds 25th March Section 11 vacancy meeting**, 7.30pm, Sancroft Hall. For all PCC members.

**Sun 29th March Special Benefice Palm Sunday Holy Communion** with Archdeacon Rich, 10.30am, Weybread Church. Followed by lovely refreshments.

**Tues 31st March Compline for Holy Week**, 5.30pm, Withersdale Church.