

Sancroft Benefice Churches

comprising the parishes of
Fressingfield, Metfield,
Mendham, Stradbroke,
Weybread, Withersdale

April and May 2026



Sunday 3rd May 5th Sunday of Easter <i>Acts 7: 55-60 (must be used)</i> <i>John 14:1-14</i>	9.30am	Metfield	Gathering
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Village service - Rogation
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Holy Communion
Sunday 10th May 6th Sunday of Easter <i>Acts 17:22-31 (must be used)</i> <i>John 14:15-21</i>	9.00am	Withersdale	Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am	Weybread	Family service
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Informal worship - Rogation
	10.30am	Metfield	Village service
Thurs 14th May *TKC begins Ascension Day	10.00am	Mendham	Prayers
Sunday 17th May *TKC Sunday after Ascension Day <i>Acts 1:6-14 (must be used)</i> <i>John 17:1-11</i>	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Informal
	6.30pm	Fressingfield	Celebration
Sunday 24th May *TKC ends Pentecost <i>Acts 2:1-21 (must be used)</i> <i>John 20: 19-23</i>	10.30am	Fressingfield	Informal all age service
	10.30am	Metfield	Holy Communion
Sunday 31st May Trinity Sunday <i>2 Corinthians 13:11-13</i> <i>Matthew 28:16-20</i>	10.30am	Weybread	Benefice Holy Communion
	*TKC Thy Kingdom Come call to prayer		

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

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

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

To receive a weekly email with news from the diocese,
email communications@cofesuffolk.org

Parish church contacts

Fressingfield	Malcolm Wood	01379 388981,	Revd Peter	07903 215889
Mendham	Toby Hart	01379 854980,	Revd Diane	01986 788750
Metfield	Judy Game	01379 588017,	Revd Peter	07903 215889
Stradbroke	Revd Maria	07759 298824,	revmariaprice@gmail.com	
Weybread	Mike Nott	01986 511155,	Revd Maria	07759 298824
Withersdale	Marj Hudson	01379 586408,	Revd Diane	01986 788750

As I write this, spring is coming! It may not feel like it but the birds are singing, the daffodils and snowdrops are out in all their glory and the oilseed rape is coming onto flower.

It is easy in life to be stuck in our own small world and not to notice the beauty of creation all around us.

Our heavenly Father has actually spoilt us with all the wonderful things and people around us - the flowering hedges and trees in bud and wonderful skies, a variety of weather and yet we complain about things because they are not necessarily what we hoped for at that time.

Psalm 89 v 1 says 'O Lord, I will always sing of your constant love and I will proclaim your faithfulness forever.'

Is that true of us? Yes, we have a loving heavenly Father, so let's remember to thank him and tell others by our words and deeds what a wonderful God he is and that he loves them too.

Revd Peter

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

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

Revd Maria Price (Curate), 07759 298824, revmariaprice@gmail.com

Benefice administrator, Virginia Skoyles, sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com

April and May

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. Contact Lynette on 07776 432910 or nettie@blackmatrix.net

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

Tues 31st March

Compline at Withersdale, 5.30pm.

Weds 1st Benefice prayers for the vacancy 2.30pm at Stradbroke.

Thurs 2nd Benefice Prayers for Lent, 9.30am, Fressingfield church vestry.

Also **Thurs 2nd April / 7th May Mothers' Union**, 2.30pm, Sancroft Hall.
April: Gemma from The Green Cupboard.
May: Richard Bussien, Guide Dogs.

Also **Thursday 2nd Maundy Thursday service** at 7pm, a reflective deanery service with Holy Communion.

Good Friday / Easter services - see rota

Sat 4th April / 2nd May Metfield Community Café, 10am to 12 noon. Metfield Village Hall. Stalls, raffle. April featuring/celebrating Metfield Stores.

Easter Day 6am, **Sunrise service** at Weybread Lake. All churches together. Coffee and tea following the service.

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. However, we are still looking for an editor/compiler. If 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 19th April / 17th May

Fressingfield Celebration, 6.30pm.

Uplifting worship with the band.

April speaker: Steve Fenning.

May speaker: Stuart Murton

Thurs 23rd Benefice Annual

Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 7pm at Sancroft Hall. All parishes. Please come and support your PCCs. Looking for new church-wardens, PCC Secretary at Fress and PCC members throughout the parishes.

Sat 25th Metfield Church Spring Fayre, 11.30am to 2pm, Village Hall. Soup served from 12 noon. Cakes, plants, cards, crafts and much more. All proceeds to the church.

Weds 29th Vacancy Section 12 meeting for PCCs, 7.30pm, Sancroft Hall.

May

Sun 10th Cook@church meets Eco church. Service 10.30am, Metfield church-yard survey and art 11.30am to 12.30pm, followed by lunch in Metfield Village Hall. Contact carolynflitcroftpage@gmail.com or see [cook@church](https://www.facebook.com/cook@church) facebook page.

Sat 16th Fressingfield Produce Market 10am to 12 noon, Fox and Goose Green. Fresh produce, plants, cards, crafts, music, refreshments. Always room for more stalls. fressproduce@btinternet.com

Tues Holy Week 31st Mar	5.30pm	Withersdale	Compline
Wed Holy Week 1st April	2.30pm	Stradbroke	Vacancy prayers
Maundy Thursday 2nd April	7.00pm	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
Good Friday 3rd April	10.00am	Mendham	Hot Cross Bun Service
	11.00am	Fressingfield	Good Friday service
	11.00am	Weybread	Good Friday service
	2.00pm	Metfield	Last hour
	2.00pm	Stradbroke	Last hour
Sunday 5th April Easter Sunday <i>Colossians 3: 1-4</i> <i>Matthew 28:1-10</i>	6.00am	Weybread Lake	Sunrise service all churches
	9.00am	Withersdale	BCP Holy Communion
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Family Service+Holy Comm
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Metfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Weybread	Holy Communion
Sunday 12th April Easter 2 <i>Acts 2:14a, 22-32 (must be used)</i> <i>John 20:19-31</i>	9.00am	Withersdale	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30am	Metfield	Gathering
	10.30am	Weybread	Family Service
	10.30am	Fressingfield	Informal Worship
Sunday 19th April Easter 3 <i>Acts 2:14a, 36-41 (must be used)</i> <i>Luke 24:13-35</i>	10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Mendham	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Stradbroke	Informal
	6.30pm	Fressingfield	Celebration
Sunday 26th April Easter 4 <i>Acts 2:42-47 (must be used)</i> <i>John 10:1-10</i>	10.30am	Fressingfield	Informal all age service
	10.30am	Metfield	Holy Communion

Also **Sat 16th Withersdale Church guide book launch** 12 noon to 3pm. Formal launch in the church in support of the programme of building maintenance. Glass of fizz and the author's introduction 12 noon and 2pm. Please park in the layby or the greensward along the road.

Tues 19th Gravetalk 3pm, Sancroft Hall, Fressingfield. Do you find it difficult to even think about death, dying and funerals – let alone talk about it? GraveTalk is a gentle and comfortable start to these conversations – and also, for some, fun too. A café space, where people can talk about these big events in our lives.

And tea/coffee, cake and goodies help it all along! Please RSVP (to ensure enough cake!) to Revd Maria: message 07759 298824 or revmariaprice@gmail.com

Sat 30th Plant Fair/Mendham Church 10am to 3pm. Bedding and border plants for sale. Garden bring and buy stall, silent auction and raffle, light refreshments. Free admission.

Thurs 21st to Mon 25th Stradbroke Art Exhibition. Private view Thurs 7.30pm, £5. Open daily Friday to Monday, 10am to 5pm. Free entry, programme £1. Proceeds to All Saints' Stradbroke.