Church calendars for May

Each Sunday at 8.00am, BCP Eucharist, and every Wednesday at 10.30am, Holy Communion, both in St Michael's Church.

May Services at St Michael's			
1 st	9.30am	Family Communion	
8 th	9.30am	Parish Communion	
15 th	9.30am	Parish Communion	
22 nd	9.30am	Parish Communion	
29 th	9.30am	Parish Communion	

May Services at All Saints Saxtead			
	111104111	Holy Communion (CW)	
	11.15am	Holy Communion (CW)	
	11.15am	Morning Prayer	
	^d 11.15am	Holy Communion (CW)	
29 th	11.15am	Holy Communion (CW)	

News from Saxtead

There were quantities of Easter Eggs much appreciated by the teenage children who came with their grandparents! The Secret Garden visit to Fromus Valley was a small one as people dropped out with illness and accidents. It was a fascinating place, full of history. The land had not been under the plough possibly since Baron Bigod owned it, and archaeological digs had discovered where the hunting catch had been butchered, cooked and consumed.

Our Saxtead Summer Seminars series starts this month with our first speakers:

May 22nd 7-8pm The Rev Geoff Price and his wife Hope who were missionaries in Rwanda, and helped with the reconciliation process following the terrible genocide. It is a beautiful country and they can possibly tell us how appropriate it is to take economic migrants there to start a new life.

Our second talk is on May 23rd 7-8 by Bishop Sandy Millar who started his career as a

barrister before becoming a clergyman in London where he started the Alpha movement, now worldwide.

Our third talk is on the 29th May, 7-8, by
Deborah Spencer who had a highly successful
career as a nurse at Addenbrookes before
becoming a district nurse, then getting involved in
the roll out of the Covid vaccines in
Cambridgeshire.



Prayer Corner

Christ our friend, you ask for our love in spite of our betrayal. Give us the courage to embrace forgiveness, know you again, and trust ourselves in you; Amen.



St Michael's Church Framlingham with All Saints Saxtead

Monthly Newsletter
May 2022

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St Michael's Framlingham



@FramlinghamSt

Reflection from the Rectory

Now that Easter is past and we have been able to focus on the love of God revealed in and through the events of Holy Week we now begin to



hear the readings from the Acts of the Apostles Sunday by Sunday and those readings challenge us to think about what a life based on and reflecting the love of God looks like in action.

The life of the early church was no less revolutionary than the life of Jesus and that should continue to be reflected in the life of the church. How do we express that love in a way which refuses to accede to the values of the world and has the courage to speak out in love's name for everyone but especially the weak and the vulnerable? The Archbishop of Canterbury and other senior faith leaders did this recently about the plan to process asylum seekers in Rwanda. There was immediate criticism from those who feel the church should not have a political voice or agenda. The truth is that the care of the marginalised, vulnerable and displaced is at the heart of the Gospel of Jesus and we must speak out for the voice of love to be heard. Some may not like it, may criticise and lambast us but we must be true to our calling and speak out in the passion of our faith.

It is exciting to read the Acts of the Apostles once again and see just how different the early Church was from the culture all around it in caring for the sick and poor, in the sharing of resources and in refusing to be silenced but to

speak the truth that we have come to know in Jesus and live in the power of the Spirit. Our life in Framlingham and Saxtead must have the traits of that early church in our own context. That will sometimes bring us into conflict. It will sometimes mean people use the values of the world to judge the actions of the church, that is frustrating but should not deter us. Nor does it mean that we give up what we are seeking to do, it means we become more intentional in the outworking of that desire.

The service of our community remains the heart of our mission in Framlingham and Saxtead. Whenever we baptise new Christians, marry them in church, officiate at funerals, visit the sick, work with children and young people, serve as school governors in our schools, welcome people and offer refreshment on a Saturday morning, offer our church building for community groups to use etc we are being faithful to Jesus who calls us to service.

We won't always get it right, we are human. We won't always be appreciated but that is not our aim. We do it because it is the outworking of a life of faith based on a transformative belief in the love of God. One of the most profound moments of Holy Week for me is where Jesus takes a bowl and washes the disciples feet and instructs them to do the same. That service must be at the heart of our vision and purpose as the outworking of love in the communities God has called us to serve in each place. *Chris*

News from the Diocese

Tickets are now on sale for St Edmundsbury Cathedral's 'Secrets of the Abbey: History

Returns' exhibition which runs from 2nd May to 8th June 2022.

For the first time in almost 500 years, seven

ancient manuscripts from the Abbey Scriptorium will return to where they were written, and this free-of-charge



exhibition will give people the rare chance to view these amazing artefacts up close. The Abbey's library had about 3,000 books by the time it was closed by Henry VIII in 1539. Of these only 270 survive: 154 are in

Cambridge libraries, with 121 in Pembroke College who has generously loaned these manuscripts for the celebration.

Accompanying the display of these manuscripts is an exhibition detailing life at the Abbey, how manuscripts were written in the Abbey Scriptorium and more about life in the town during abbey times.

This exhibition has been made possible by a Heritage Grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Abbey 1000 celebrations are being coordinated by the Abbey 1000 C.I.C. (which includes St Edmundsbury Cathedral), alongside The Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership. The Revd Canon Matthew Vernon, said, "We are delighted to welcome back these ancient works to the site of the Abbey. The monks showed their religious commitment by creating objects of great artistic skill and beauty. These manuscripts help us understand the life of the Abbey and its monks' faith in God."

Tickets are now on sale via:

stedscathedral.org/abbey-1000-events and are free. However, **booking is essential** as entrance into the exhibition is timed.