



Thursday 17 March 2022

Responding to the crisis in Ukraine



Bishop Martin with his family are offering their home to Ukrainian refugees fleeing their war torn country - and urging others in the county to do all they can to help too.

As refugees from Ukraine poured over the border into Poland, homeowners in European Union countries where visa restrictions have been waived are throwing open their doors preparing to receive them. More than 4.5 million people have been displaced since the invasion of Ukraine on February 24, with 2.5 million refugees fleeing the country, according to the United Nations refugee agency UNHCR.

Bishop Martin said: *"We have taken a decision as a family to open our home like others have, to refugees fleeing the Ukraine and look forward to welcoming them as soon as possible into our house. Not everyone will be able to offer rooms in their homes, but there are many ways to help. We need a community-wide response of welcome and support and I urge everyone to do all they possibly can amid this humanitarian crisis."*

Homeowners can, from this week, [register their interest](#) to host a refugee, even ones without ties to the UK. The Church of England has also produced a toolkit bringing together advice on how individuals, churches and communities can offer practical support to the people of Ukraine. The initiative has been produced in response to the overwhelming number of enquiries from churches concerned about the Ukraine situation and asking what they can do to help them.

[Parish Toolkit](#) | PDF

[Safeguarding Toolkit for Clergy](#) | Weblink

[Safeguarding Toolkit for all](#) | Weblink

Bishop Martin continues *" Still one of the best ways we can help is by donating to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). The diocese has partnered with World Vision, a member of the DEC. We must keep supporting those living in Ukraine too".*

To donate please click [HERE](#) and download the donations poster [here](#)

For up-to-date information please visit our website [here](#).

Growing in God

St Mary's Church, Flowton becomes vital community hub to the

village: Following a £91,000 renovation, the church now has kitchen and toilet facilities, meaning it can be used far more often by the local community. The funding included a £30,000 grant from Viridor Credits who offer funding for community, heritage and biodiversity projects. Read the full story [here](#).

Holy Trinity Church, Bungay is part of the town's 'Warm Room' Scheme As fuel, energy and food prices soar, Holy Trinity Church has teamed up with Together with Bungay Community Support to come up with the 'Warm Room' scheme, providing people with a place to be, five days a week, to save money on their heating bills. The Warm Room rotates between different venues in the town. "[Taking part in the scheme] is just the church being what the Church has always been. It's Jesus' welcome for those who need help. The thing that was interesting about this was it arose from the community" said the Revd Josh Bailey. Read the full story [here](#).

Celebrating the Queen's Jubilee



Bishop Martin invites everyone in our parishes to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee together and to bless those around us, whether as part of services of thanks for those who have supported our communities, sharing the Suffolk Jubilee prayer at services, during school assemblies or whilst joining in community Jubilee celebrations.

We are delighted that church events are already appearing on the Festival of Suffolk's events calendar - don't forget to publicise yours [here](#). All other resources and materials are available on our website [here](#).

Growing in God Growth Fund grants for Spring 2022



The Growing in God Growth Fund offers grants to help your church reach out to encourage sharing of the Christian faith and to grow our church family.

If you have plans for Easter, the Queen's Jubilee or other ideas and just need a bit of money to finance them, we make grants of up to £500. For inspiration, visit our website [here](#) to see some examples of what we have funded so far, an overview of how the fund

has been invested over the last three years and how to apply.

"Once we knew what we wanted to do and what extra money we needed - filling out the grant request form was dead easy – it was done in 20 mins!" The Revd Toby Tate. For help with the application form do get in touch with Matt Levett matt.levett@cofesuffolk.org.

Safe Car Wash app helps Suffolk put an end to modern slavery at hand car washes

Illegal car washes are operating in this area

Is your car wash:

- ✓ Looking after its staff?
- ✓ Trading legally?
- ✓ Protecting the environment?



Know the signs:

Download the safe car wash app



Responsible
CAR WASH SCHEME

Preventing exploitation, ending car washes

Gangmasters &
Labour Abuse Authority

RCWS in partnership with the Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority and the Police



The Responsible Car Wash Scheme is organising a big push in Suffolk to eradicate illegal practices at hand car washes. It is displaying adverts on billboards and at bus stops across Suffolk from 7 March to 10 April about the risk of modern

slavery in hand car washes.

The people working at these car washes may be victims of modern slavery and exploitation. The scheme is encouraging everyone to download The Clewer Initiative's Safe Car Wash app to help identify whether exploitation is present in a hand car wash and if necessary, report it to the Modern Slavery Helpline. To help support this campaign, please download the [Safe Car Wash app](#) today!

By downloading the Safe Car Wash app, visiting a hand car wash, and submitting a report, you can help charities and law enforcement agencies free victims of modern slavery and exploitation.

Events

Hargrave fun run fundraiser

Saturday 19 March 2.30pm

Hargrave Village Hall IP29 5HP

The Hargrave village fun run is a 5k or 10k run around the village over the gently undulating Suffolk countryside using bridleways and footpaths. It finishes with a delicious village tea (free to participants). This fun run is in aid of St Edmund's, Hargrave Church which nearly collapsed two years ago (see [Hargrave's historic St Edmund's Church \(suffolknews.co.uk\)](http://suffolknews.co.uk)). Over the pandemic, the church has stayed open to all, organising free Catch Up Cafes and Pop Up Pubs to help the village during and after lockdown and get people back together. The money raised will help complete a redecoration of the church and fit new eco lights.

To join the fun run please see more information on <https://hargravecrosscountry2022.eventbrite.co.uk>. You can now enter on the day (card or cash) £20 for the 10k or £17 to run/walk 5k.

Choral Evensong

Sunday 20 March 6.00pm

St Peter and St Paul Church, Lavenham CO10 9SA

The Rector and Churchwardens of Lavenham and Preston St Mary wish to express sincerest thanks to the Dean, Director of Music and Choir of our patron college, Gonville & Caius Cambridge, for this special Lententide Choral Evensong. The guest preacher is the Revd Dr Cally Hammond, Dean of Gonville and Caius College. Wine and nibbles afterwards.

An evening in Lent

Tuesday 22 March 7.00pm

St Mary's Church, Bures CO8 5AA

The Revd Gerald Osborne spent three years memorising the whole of St Mark's Gospel as a spiritual discipline, he and the Revd Colin Heber-Percy now present a dramatized version. They have performed all over the country including Salisbury Cathedral, Bath Abbey and the Edinburgh Festival. This is their first performance in East Anglia. Do come and bring people with you, it will be an evening to remember. There is no charge but there will be a retiring collection. Please email Office@parishchurch.co.uk to confirm your attendance to manage numbers.

Faith in Older People and Anna Chaplaincy

Wednesday 6 April from 4.30–6.00pm

Free online seminar

Anna Chaplaincy has seen a rise in the number of people wanting to help those in the older age category. Anna Chaplains – named after the faithful widow Anna who appears in Luke's gospel – are community-based. The Anna Chaplaincy network is now more than 200-strong. Anna Chaplains pursue a vocation to work in their own communities on reaching retirement-age themselves, finding renewed meaning and purpose in local ministry. If you'd like to find out more, then we invite you to a joint webinar with Faith in Older People and the Anna Chaplaincy team, led by pioneer of the movement and former broadcaster, Debbie Thrower. To book and find out more please click [here](#).

The Warmth of Silence - Quiet Morning

Wednesday 13 April 9.30am to 12.00pm

All Saints Church, Kesgrave (next to the Bell pub)

The morning offers a chance to pray, reflect or do one or two (optional!) craft activities in silence, using both the church and the church grounds, weather permitting. Please arrive any time after 9.00am so that we can start at 9.30am. For further details please contact Sally Wainman on 07807 984589 or email: mail@sallywainman.plus.com.

Abiding Wisdom

Saturday 14 May 2.00pm – 9.30pm

Sunday 15 May 10.00am – 5.00pm
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Ecumenical Benedictine Celebration hosted by Bishop Martin Seeley (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) and Bishop Alan Hopes (East Anglia). Monastics, lay Benedictines and others will explore the wisdom of Benedict for 21st century life, including how we should live now following the pandemic. Further information is [here](#), book your ticket here <https://abiding-wisdom-2022.eventbrite.co.uk>

God Calling

18 June 2022 10.00am to 12.00pm
Assington Hall, 75 Further Street CO10 5LE

Sometimes life can seem so full on and fast paced that we don't feel that there is any time to stop and listen to God. **God Calling?** is an opportunity to press the pause button in our busy lives for a couple of hours and tune into God's still small voice. Join us at the beautiful surroundings of Assington Hall for a morning of quiet reflection on theme of God's call on our lives.

To book your place please visit: <https://2022-god-calling.eventbrite.co.uk> To find out more please email the Revd [Stuart Batton](#), Diocesan Director of Ordinands.

Notices

Covid-19: Please visit the recently updated Church of England page [here](#) and the Diocesan guidance page [here](#) for the most up to date information and guidance for churches.

Vacancies

[Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Officer](#) | Closing date: 28 March

[Human Resources Manager](#) | Norwich/Ipswich (hybrid working) | Closing date: 28 March

[Diocesan Secretary](#) | Closing date: 7 April

[Team Vicar](#) | Wilford Benefice | Closing date: 10 May

[Rector 0.5](#) | St Mary Stoke, Ipswich

[Children and Families' Worker](#) | Bridge Church, Ipswich

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Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich
St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich
Suffolk, England IP1 1UQ
United Kingdom

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