



Thursday 24 March 2022

Responding to the crisis in Ukraine

Bishop Martin said in his Synod Presidential address *"I am so grateful for the numbers of people across this diocese who have signed up to the scheme (offering a home to Ukrainian refugees), the number of clergy that have signed up and the number of parishes that have offered help. As of last Friday, our donations to the disaster (Crisis in Ukraine) through World Vision had reached a wonderful £29,000"*.

If you would like to support Ukrainian refugees, homeowners can [register their interest](#) and the Church of England toolkit is available [here](#).

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

Growing in God

Diocesan Synod March 2022

Held on 19 March 2022 this was the first in-person Synod in two years and it was delightful to see over 100 members gathered together in Stowmarket to worship and catch up with each other. The key theme of Synod was Living in Love and Faith, and we heard updates from schools and Inspiring Ipswich. Full details will be on our website [here](#).

Living in Love and Faith



The Revd Canon Sharon Potter, our Diocesan Advocate for Living in Love and Faith (LLF) encouraged Synod members to take part in the programme for LLF.

The hope is for people in Church of England churches across the country to use the LLF resources to study and pray together. The new resource offers church-

wide learning together, listening to one another, and listening to God as part of discerning a way forward for the Church of England in relation to matters of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

If you would like to take part please:

1. **Register** on the [Living in Love and Faith Learning Hub](#) to access all the resources.
2. **Explore** the full range of resources available and if you are a leader in a church, you may like to consider running a group, or using the materials as part of a Lent course. There is also material available designed specifically with young people in mind.
3. **Respond** Once you've explored the materials or been part of an LLF group, complete the [online questionnaire](#) or consider [responding creatively](#) to make your contribution to discerning what God is saying to the Church.

The survey responses must be in by **30 April 2022** but you can send in a written or creative response after this date. To view Sharon's presentation watch her on YouTube [here](#). Any queries please email: The Revd Canon [Sharon](#) Potter or telephone 01284 828599 or 07825 086063.

Disability and Inclusion working group

The Diocesan Synod agreed to move forward with a diocesan-wide disability and inclusion working group to raise awareness and support our churches and worshipping communities in improving access and inclusion for all.

We are looking for people who might like to be considered for membership. We want a wide range of people who are willing to commit to the group initially for two years – lay and ordained, those who have disabilities or experience of living or working with people with a disability, related, for example, to sight or hearing loss, mobility difficulties, learning disability, neuro-diversity, dementia or mental ill-health. If you are interested, please email Archdeacon [Jeanette Gosney](#) by 8 April explaining your interest.

Guy McGregor announced as Diocesan Political Engagement Enabler

At Synod in March 2021 we agreed to listen to God and discern his call on how and when to engage in political issues and in seeking God's Kingdom, to improve our engagement with local issues for the common good. Bishop Martin was delighted to announce that Guy McGregor has been appointed as our volunteer Political Engagement Enabler for the next 12 months. Guy has many years' experiences in this area of ministry and knows the landscape well. He is an active church member and serves St Peter and St Paul Hoxne as churchwarden, and has a passion to bring about tangible change to the lives of the people we serve.

For further information about 'Be Political' please visit our website or download these leaflets:

[Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich | Be political \(cofesuffolk.org\)](#)

[How to Engage Politically | PDF](#)

De-mystifying the issues around Mental Health

Please do have a look at this Zoom session with Bishop Mike and Russ Parker (formerly of Acorn Healing Trust and a writer on the healing ministry) as they discuss the rise in issues

around mental health and a Christian response. To view the video please visit YouTube [here](#).



Suffolk church tackles youth crime through community hub - Diane Grano, leader of the Lightwave Rural Resource Church in Red Lodge, is on a mission to provide children of all ages a place to socialise.

Starting with children at a young age at the Lightwave Hub, Diane and her team of volunteers provide safe spaces for youths to make new friends, play sports and engage in community projects. The drive to support children in the area comes as part of the village's expansion, with Diane keen to ensure there are enough opportunities available to combat loneliness and crime.

She said: "It is really important to offer young people a safe place to come and relax, make new friends and play games or sports. We have a lot of new housing here in Red Lodge, but we aren't seeing affordable facilities available to young people here."

Read the full story [here](#).

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Celebrating the Queen's Jubilee



In Suffolk we would like to take the opportunity to get involved and bless those around us. #suffolkblessing is part of our services of thanks in our churches for those who have supported our communities. It could be sharing the Suffolk prayer at your services, during school assemblies and while joining communities' Jubilee-themed activities.

We have produced a series of graphics to help you engage in the #suffolkblessing available to download on our website [here](#).

We would also like to hear from you... if you are interested in having some printed #suffolkblessing prayer cards, please email: communications@cofesuffolk.org

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT) are delighted to announce they are awarding Jubilee Grants totalling £70,000, in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and seek to benefit as many communities in Suffolk as possible. For full details please visit our website [here](#).

Events

Diocesan Confirmation on Easter Eve with Bishop Martin at the Cathedral

Saturday 16 April 5.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS



A reminder that you are warmly invited to bring candidates to the Confirmation Service with Bishop Martin at the Cathedral on Easter Eve. The service is in the context of the powerful Easter Vigil - lighting the Easter Fire outside, blessing of Paschal Candle and singing of the Easter proclamation ('Exsultet'). It can be a wonderful experience for candidates and their supporters to experience a Confirmation with a large number of others at an Easter Vigil, and in the beauty of the Cathedral. If you plan to bring candidates on that day, please get in touch with Canon Philip Banks in

good time to make arrangements: philip.banks@cofesuffolk.org

Music from the Fairest Isle II

Sunday 24 April 2022, 5.00pm

St Andrew's Church, Wingfield, Diss IP21 5RA

Please do come along to hear music from 1600 to 1750, including John Dowland, Orlando Gibbons, Henry Purcell, George Frideric Handel and others. Featuring Melanie Mehta - soprano, Peter Demetriadi - harpsichord/organ, Caroline Abbott - mezzo soprano, and the Wingfield Choir

This concert is donations only and there is no need to book. For further information please contact Peter Demetriadi on 01379 586231.

Hidden gardens of Hadleigh

Saturday 11 June 2022 11.00am – 5.00pm

Come to Hadleigh and see a wide range of beautiful and interesting gardens. Ploughman's lunches, cake, tea and coffee will be available.

For more information visit: www.hadleighgardens.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 Batten](#), Diocesan Director of Ordinands.

Descent of the Dove: Knowing and Loving in Spirit and Truth 2022 Pusey House Theological Conference

Monday 4 to Wednesday 6 July 2022

Pusey House, St Giles, Oxford.

This conference will consider the person and work of the Holy Spirit, and the transformations which arise from knowledge in, faith in, and encounter with him. A wide variety of academic theologians and students, Christian clergy and laypeople, along with interested members of the public, will gather together. Alongside the academic programme of the conference, there will be opportunities to share in worship in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England. To registration please visit Eventbrite [here](#).

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.

Notices

Warm Home scheme: a Suffolk-wide scheme set up to help those who are struggling with heating their homes. Funding is available. Please visit www.warmhomessuffolk.org for details.

Cathedral Shop and Tourist Information Point: the shop has been reopened following a refurbishment. The refit has updated and modernised the building and its fixtures and fittings. The new look shop is airy, light and spacious, creating a better shopping experience. Do pop by to find new ranges in the shop, including an array of Easter items and cards.

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

Youth & Young Adults Pastor | Beccles Parish | Closing date: 1 May please contact richhenderson@btinternet.com

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

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

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

[Organist – Choirmaster / Director of Music](#) | Dickleburgh, Diocese of Norwich.

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