



Thursday 5 May 2022

Responding to the crisis in Ukraine

As part of the UK Government's 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme, over 850 people have already registered to come to Suffolk and the number seems to be steadily rising.

Ipswich is working ecumenically to support Ukrainians through the newly-formed ['Together for Ipswich'](#). It has a wider brief but this year is focusing on supporting Ukrainians. Last week over 300 attended a Prayer Vigil and a Ukrainian hub was launched at nearby All Saints, Kesgrave with 35 Ukrainians coming along on Saturday. Yesterday, some 50 people attended a Cultural Briefing session and more and more hosts are being matched with families coming over. Sign up and follow 'Together for Ipswich' on their Facebook page [here](#).

Meanwhile, other hubs are quickly forming across the county, some run by churches, and activities to support Ukrainian guests and hosts are popping up in places like Felixstowe, Woodbridge, Bury St Edmunds, Beccles and Laxfield, each supporting people in their areas. Here in the Diocese we are in the process of furnishing a vacant Ipswich Rectory and we are expecting two Ukrainian families to move in soon.

Archdeacon Rhiannon is producing a resource pack which will be available on our website soon. If you would like to be part of a Suffolk-wide response team or if churches would like ideas as to what to do next, please email Archdeacon Rhiannon (archdeacon.rhiannon@cofesuffolk.org) or visit our webpage [here](#) for up to date information.

A light green banner. On the left is a stylized green leaf logo with the text '#Suffolk Blessing' in a cursive font. On the right, it says 'Bishop Martin invites everyone in our parishes to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee together.' Below that, it says 'Click here for all resources.'

Our nation will come together over a four-day Bank Holiday weekend to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, starting on Thursday 2 June. Bishop Martin invites everyone in our parishes to celebrate together. *"As the Church of England in Suffolk, we are ready to play*

our part in bringing communities together for these national celebrations, joining in with #suffolkblessing and the Festival of Suffolk, initiatives to celebrate our Queen and our County". All the resources you need are on our website [here](#) including links to:

- National Liturgical resources: special prayers and an outline Service of Thanksgiving
- The Suffolk Jubilee prayer
- #suffolkblessing
- 'Rise up and serve, thanking God for Her Majesty...' details of a new anthem commissioned by HOPE Together
- How to apply for Jubilee grants
- Jubilee prayer spaces
- Ecumenical activities
- Jubilee Torch Relay

Suffolk Show - 31 May and 1 June

The Suffolk Show is back!!! We are excited to be hosting a stand at the show. After two years of cancellations this show should be the best yet, with the added benefit of being the two days before the Jubilee weekend which is sure to increase its profile. Our stand will feature the Jubilee as we launch #suffolkblessing as our key theme alongside our Jubilee prayer. The marquee will be focused around café church offering:

- Complimentary tea, coffee and cakes
- Seating, cushions and sofas!
- Puppet shows
- Face painting
- Singing at 2.30pm each day
- Creative activities for children of all ages

Do come along to see us and join in.

Churches Count on Nature



Last year, hundreds of parishes got their local community searching for insects and plants in their open spaces. This year's count is taking place 4-12 June 2022 and registration is now open.

This is a joint initiative promoted by Caring for God's Acre, A Rocha UK, the Church of England and the Church in Wales. It brings local people together to discover the wildlife in their local church yard, recording the species they find, combining their results with others which will be collated on the [Beautiful Burial Ground portal](#) within

the National Biodiversity Network (NBN), a nationwide database of wildlife in the UK. Find out more here: [Churches Count on Nature](#) where you will find webinars and videos to help you carry out your count.

East of England Cathedrals Eco Churches conference

18 June 2022 10.00am until 1.00pm (online)

Six cathedrals, including St Edmundsbury Cathedral, are joining forces to host an online conference to help churches to play their part in achieving the Church of England's goal of 'net carbon zero by 2030'. Keynote speakers and workshop leaders include representatives from A Rocha Eco Church, Caring for God's Acre, Christian Aid, Climate Stewards, a conservation architect and others involved in aspects of the church's environmental engagement. Attendance at the conference is free of charge but registration in advance is essential. Full details and registration links are available on the Sustainable Living Conference website here: www.sustaininggodscreation.org. Download this [poster](#) to advertise this event in your church.

Events

Vocations Sunday and Vocations Fair

Sunday 8 May 2022, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

The Cloisters, St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Our common vocation is to grow in our relationship with God, to love and serve God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. We have drawn together some helpful resources on a Padlet (an electronic noticeboard) to support you for Vocations Sunday, available [here](#).

Come and visit the Vocations Fair at the Cathedral where the Revd Stuart Batten is preaching at the 10.30am service on 8 May, and will then be available for informal chats. Afterwards visit the many stalls representing our ministries for an informal chat to find the right ministry for you, for example: Licensed Youth Ministers, Anna Chaplaincy, Children's and Families Ministers, Church Army, Elders, Pioneers, Evangelists, Lightwave Leaders, Ordained Ministers, PCC Officers, Readers, School Foundation Governors and Spiritual Directors.

If there is anything else that we can do to support and encourage vocations in your parish, please do email the Revd Stuart Batten, Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Vocations, at stuart.batten@cofesuffolk.org or tel: 07468 474065.

Get started with legacies

Wednesday 11 May 12.00pm to 1.00pm (online)

Join Julie Podd (Parish Resources Manager) and Helen Simpkins (Deputy National Giving Advisor) to learn more about how to get started with setting up and promoting a legacy policy in your parish including how to qualify for free wills. Book [here](#).

Abiding Wisdom

Saturday 14 May 2.00pm – 9.30pm and 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>. Please note you can book both or either days.

Felixstowe Town Pastor Information Evening - 'The Mental Health Toolkit' run by Suffolk Mind.

16 May 2022 7.30pm-9.00pm

Christ Church, Felixstowe, Grange Farm Avenue, IP11 2XD



As the Town Pastors go out on the street, they encounter a wide range of people from various walks of life, some of whom are affected by mental health issues. This session led by Jon Neal from Suffolk Mind, is an introduction to 'The Mental Health Toolkit' resources helping you to look after yourself and those around you. This session will introduce the approach the charity takes to mental health, enabling a wider understanding of how stress and mental ill health can occur. The session will include practical tips and tools to enable you to communicate with people who might be in distress, and to calm tense situations. This evening is open to anyone and is free of charge, please register

your place by emailing Clare at coordinator@felixstowetownpastors.org.uk

Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) - Who, What, Why?

Tuesday 17 May 11.00am to 12.00pm (online)

Julie Podd (Diocesan Parish Resources Manager) invites you to hear from Catia Oldrey (PGS Regional Advisor) and Grant Forrest (PGS CEO). This session will outline everything you need to know to help you make an informed decision about using the PGS. Book [here](#).

Taking photographs at your Jubilee events

Tuesday 17 May 2.00pm to 3.00pm (online)

Join Becky Luetchford, Lightwave Comms Story Telling and Leonie Ryle, Diocesan Communications Manager as we look at the basics in taking good photographs, using them for PR and permissions/safeguarding issues. Book [here](#).

Using the Parish Giving Scheme as a catalyst for generosity

Tuesday 17 May 2.00pm to 3.00pm (online)

Join Julie Podd (Diocesan Parish Resources Manager), Catia Oldrey (PGS Regional Advisor) and Grant Forrest (PGS CEO) to share ideas about how you can incorporate a generosity campaign with the launch of PGS in your parish and see how the two combined can be a catalyst for generosity. Book [here](#).

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>

Church Army Discovery Evening

Wednesday 6 July 7.00pm – 9.30pm (online)

Do you have a passion for sharing your faith or know someone who does? Are you exploring vocations, but are not sure where you fit, or know somebody like this? Then how about considering Church Army and join this online seminar to find out more. To book a place click [here](#) or for more information, please email [Andrew Payne](mailto:Andrew.Payne@churcharmy.org), in the Community & Vocations Team.

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

Christian Aid Week: Christian Aid Week is almost here! (15-21 May). It is the largest street collection in the country and raises money to help some of the world's disadvantaged people to become self-supporting. For further information, visit the [Christian Aid website](#).

Vacancies

[Mission Project Officer \(Mission & Ministry Team\)](#) | Closing date 9 May
[Team Vicar](#) | Wilford Benefice | Closing date: 10 May
[Vicar](#) | St Mary with St Peter, Bury St Edmunds | Closing date: 17 May
[Lead Evangelist](#) | Centre of Mission, Ipswich

[Click here to print and share with others](#)





Copyright © 2022 Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, All rights reserved.

This email is generated from the Communications Office at the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

Our mailing address is:

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

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)