



Thursday 12 November

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Growing in God

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

Honorary Canons at the Cathedral

On Sunday 15 November, eight members of clergy will be recognised at a special service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds, which sees them licenced as Canons of the Cathedral. The service takes place at 3.30pm and will be livestreamed via the Cathedral's Facebook page www.facebook.com/stedscathedral

At the service, due to the restrictions, the new Canons will be formally licenced in the [online](#) presence of Bishop Martin, the Very Revd Joe Hawes the Dean of St Edmundsbury and James Hall the Diocesan Registrar. The new Canons will be installed at a later date, after the current Coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

"It is a joy to welcome these colleagues into the College of Canons of the Cathedral as part of their ongoing service to the Diocese and its people," comments the Very Revd Joe Hawes, Dean of St Edmundsbury.

The people receiving this honour are:

Brynn Bayman to be installed in the stall of St Fursa, Abbot.
 Jutta Brueck to be installed in the stall of St Benedict, Abbot
 Sharron Coburn to be installed in the stall of Stephen Langton, Archbishop
 Sharon Connell to be installed in the stall of St Mary of Beodricsworth
 Rich Henderson to be installed in the stall of Theodred, Abbot and Bishop
 Max Osborne to be installed in the stall of St Boniface
 Sharon Potter to be installed in the stall of Aylwin Bishop of Elmham
 Andrew Dotchin, to be installed in the stall of John Reeve, Abbot of St Edmund

Further details and biographies are available on our website [here](#).

A - Z of Online Church

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Thursday 26 November (to be repeated Monday 30 November 7.30pm)

Zoom

The first of a series of three webinars as we discern God's leading when we engage online with existing and new congregations.

Lockdown 2.0 means we need to reassess the importance of our online presence. This webinar will offer an opportunity to share good practice from across the Diocese and beyond via a facilitated conversation following short introductions that will stimulate our thinking.

- Growing Disciples online (Dave Gardner)
- Developing online giving (Lee Jukes)
- Use of all aspects of social media (Lauren Bridgewater)
- Practical set up for streaming services (Leonie Ryle)
- Thinking Younger – how can we engage with Children and Young People (Matt Levett)

The meeting will stay open for 30 minutes after the session end for informal chat.

This session will be useful for leaders both ordained & licensed and others keen to develop online church services. Please book your place at:

Thursday 26 November <https://a-z-of-online-church-1-day.eventbrite.co.uk>

Monday 30 November <https://a-z-of-online-church-1-eve.eventbrite.co.uk>

Numbers will be limited to encourage effective engagement so please sign up early.

Love Singing? Be a chorister for an afternoon

Saturday 21 November at 2.00pm.

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is looking for enthusiastic young people who love singing and who are looking for a new challenge to join a 'Be A Chorister for an afternoon' online event. This taster session is free of charge, which includes singing activities and games, the chance to chat with current choristers and a virtual tour exploring the cathedral and finding out about the organ. The Cathedral has produced a video, with some famous faces, who explain more <https://youtu.be/-nCT-v6xVHQ>

To register interest or to find out more, contact liturgy.admin@stedscathedral.org or find further details <https://stedscathedral.org/events/be-a-chorister-for-an-afternoon>

From pebble painting to pebble prayers



Pebble painting took the country by storm at the height of the coronavirus pandemic. St Mary's Church in Kersey has come up with an innovative way to spread cheer to the community.

The shrine at the church has provided people with the opportunity to write their own prayer or message of hope on a pebble and leave it in the Shrine. The pebble prayers have proved to be a popular way of expressing hope and promoting good mental health.

The Revd Jackson Crompton-Battersby said: "The COVID-19 pandemic has had a massive impact on everyone, and we wanted to do our bit to spread love and hope during what has been a really difficult time for all. Pebble prayers not only allow individuals

to express their own thoughts through prayer, but they allow others to draw strength from those who have also left their prayers. Leaving a pebble prayer is simple and can spread a huge sense of connection and community spirit to others who also visit the church."

Full story available [here](#).

Books for Kagera

Great news! A donation of over 200 books from the Cathedral library has at last started its journey to Kagera Christian Theological College (KCTC). Transport has been delayed by the pandemic, but the four boxes of books are now on their way.

A big thank you to the Cathedral for the books, and to Ross Lunney, of Spray Shipping, Felixstowe for generously arranging to ship them to Tanzania free of charge. He says "I'm delighted to transport these books to help support the college and our link with Kagera Diocese."



News from St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Mothers' Union

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

2020 has been a

difficult year for us all, but the Mothers' Union theme for next year is Rebuilding Hope and Confidence.

Branch Leaders across the diocese report that local members have been keeping in touch via Zoom meetings, 'Bubbles', small groups in

gardens, limited church services and prayer cells, duos and triplets and by producing newsletters with up-to-date information. At grass roots level many have contributed to Covid-19 efforts in their parishes – making face coverings, scrub bags, as well as the usual craft projects; also helping with the distribution of food parcels and 'MU Bags of Love' to the lonely and isolated; making Christmas cards for prisoners; and arranging short holiday breaks/hampers for local key workers and the disadvantaged, when possible.

MU has engaged with Modern Day Slavery in conjunction with the Clewer Initiative, Freedom Week, the Women's Refuge, prisons and also gained training via webinars and MU resources. Fundraising has included the I-Chameleon pop-up shop raising £1,300, MU e-cards (£500 from one branch alone), gifts, sales and more.

"The Book of Comfort" has been published, and "Prayers from the Heart – talking with God" is being followed up with a second publication of Bible Verses. Visits and phone calls, articles and reflections have all continued to unite and hold our membership together across the diocese – here, the Mothers' Union is alive and thriving in spite of everything!

To find out more about MU projects please visit www.musuffolk.org.uk

Blue Christmas Service - this is a quiet and reflective service for those for whom Christmas 2020 is not going to be a happy and joyous time. Mothers' Union members in Suffolk have recorded their 'Blue Christmas Service' so that it might be shared with those who would otherwise not be <http://www.musuffolk.org.uk>/able or feel safe to come to church this Christmas. The service can be viewed from their website above from 5.00pm Monday 21 December, which is the longest night of the year. The service will remain on the website until the end of the year.

Christmas videos and music

Are you looking for music resources to support your 'Comfort and Joy' Christmas events?



The first videos in St Edmundsbury Cathedral's **InHarmony Christmas 2020** project are now available at <https://stedscathedral.org/music/inharmony/christmas-2020/>

The project aims to provide over 50 music videos for churches to use in creating their own online services during the Advent and Christmas season.

As well as traditional carols and anthems performed by the Buriensi Consort, InHarmony has been working with Cantus Firmus Choir to produce virtual choir videos of a range of alternative Christmas music, including music from the Iona Community, contemporary worship songs, and a new anthem from Suffolk composer Alan Bullard. A number of individual churches are also contributing their own items to the project - such as Ipswich St Augustines' upbeat arrangements of four popular carols, and the Lightwave project has recorded some carols in folk/rock style with help from Burlington Baptist Church.

Other videos are being released as they become available, and can be seen on the InHarmony YouTube channel. The complete list is on the InHarmony website, and churches that need a copy of the actual video file to use in their own services can request it by emailing Richard Hubbard at music.development@stedscathedral.org, stating the name of the church and the items from the list that are required. Churches will be responsible for ensuring that they have the appropriate licenses in places, and there is some information about this on the website.

In addition, buriensconsort.co.uk can provide bespoke video editing and service booklet production.

Notices

Home, But Not Alone



The Home, But Not Alone phonenumber, which supports vulnerable people in our communities who may be struggling with the impact of Coronavirus, is now live again. The service was paused in August because of low call demand and the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions. However, the service is now up and running again.

The telephone number is freephone **0800 876 6926** and will be staffed from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday. The success of the

service relied on the amazing local networks that sprung up across towns and villages in Suffolk and looked after those most in need.

Helmingham Hall is raffling two tickets to their Illuminated Garden Trail for entry at 7.30pm on Saturday 19 December in aid of St Mary's Church in Helmingham. The raffle is online and tickets are £2 each - you can purchase them by clicking the [here](#). The raffle closes on 14 December. And further information about the garden trail can be found [here](#).

Vacancies

[St Matthew's Mission Enabler](#) | Inspiring Ipswich | Closing Date 2 December
[Priest in Charge of the Bungay Benefice and Pioneer Leader of the Lightwave Hub](#) | Lightwave | Closing Date 30 November

Communications and Bookings Co-ordinator -15 hours per week based at All Saints' Church, Bury St Edmunds. Please apply to Astreas013@gmail.com for a full job description and application form. Closing date: Monday 30 November.



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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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