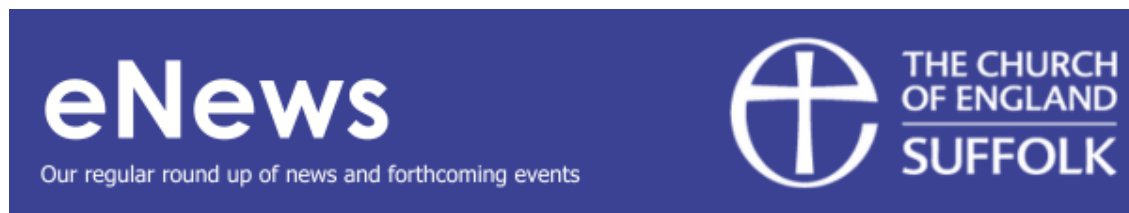


Thursday 11 July 2024



Communities in Suffolk and Tanzania are sharing knowledge to help improve lives



The Rt Revd Darlington Bendankeha, Bishop of Kagera, and his wife Penina, have been visiting the county from our link diocese in Tanzania, accompanied by Thomas Shavu, Coordinator of the Church and Community Mobilization Process.

During their visit from Saturday 22 June to Monday 1 July they visited a top-up shop in Felixstowe to learn how a church community initiative can benefit those struggling to pay for food and daily necessities. Their visits also included those to West Suffolk Hospital, Ringsfield Primary School in Beccles, St Margaret's Primary School in Ipswich, Ipswich School, an after-school club in Grundisburgh, various farms and churches.

Bishop Martin, who visited Kagera last year, was delighted to welcome the delegation. *"They have been visiting projects which will help them in the work they're already doing in Kagera to raise their people to 'life in its fullness', both spiritually and practically. They have been seeing what can be adapted and used in their context to improve lives in Kagera. These visits are always mutual – we learn as much from their reflections on our life here as they do from the visits they make. Our Lent appeals for Kagera to our churches in Suffolk have enabled the Church and Community Mobilization Process in Kagera to teach new farming methods, supply seeds and tree saplings and train villagers to build rainwater tanks with local materials. Money from previous appeals has also helped Kagera Diocese to buy motorbikes for priests to cut their travel time between communities in Kagera,"*

Read the full story on our [website here](#).

Love Latitude: On the weekend of 25-28 July 2024, the fields of Henham Park near Blythburgh become the site of the annual Latitude Festival. A colourful festival of music, comedy, theatre, art, dance, creativity, fun and relaxation for all ages. The Town Pastor family will assemble once again, represented by volunteers from several Town Pastor schemes, working under the banner of 'Festival Pastors'. This team will once again joyfully gather to serve, care, listen, patrol and pray for the 40,000 attendees and staff throughout

the weekend.

At the heart of Town Pastors and Festival Pastors is prayer. If you would like some more information or would like to be added to the list of people praying for the ministry of the Festival Pastor team, please contact Clare, Festival Pastors Coordinator, at felixstowetownpastorscoordinator@outlook.com.

Growing in God Growth Fund: This fund can provide money to help your church engage creatively in sharing faith in word and deed, and as a result grow the church in number and younger. You can apply for up to £1,500 to support an outward-facing initiative to develop your church's mission to the wider community. Applying is easy and the application form can be completed in moments. All the information, eligibility and the application form are on our website [here](#). Apply now as our next meeting to review applications is Tuesday 3 September.

Develop a daily connection with God - new app launched: Connect with God with the new Everyday Faith app launched by Church of England and Church House Publishing. The app responds to overwhelming demand for an app that delivers inspirational reflections year-round rather than focussed on seasonal content for example during Lent and Advent. The app will provide you with carefully curated daily reflections, including selected Bible readings, a simple prayer to prepare you for the day ahead, and thoughts based on that week's theme. Everyday Faith is now available to download for iOS: download [here](#) and Android: download [here](#).

Note: For Android users, please download the Watch & Pray app, you will automatically get the update.

Vacancy in See

Please pray for the discernment process currently underway to find the next Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. **Prayer for a New Bishop of St Edmundsbury**

*Heavenly Father,
send us a bishop
grounded in your love,
a shepherd after your own heart,
a follower of your Way
and a teacher of your Word.*

*Through the wisdom and direction
of your Holy Spirit
enable us so to recognise them,
that we appoint
not the one we think we want,
but the one you are calling.
Through your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
Amen.*

Vacancy in See - Public Meeting

By Zoom, Wednesday 17 July, 7.00pm to 9.00pm

This online public meeting will be chaired by Bishop Mike. The Appointment Secretaries of both the Prime Minister and the Archbishop of Canterbury will be present to provide a short introduction, outline the process and give details of the appointment timetable. This will be followed by a period of listening, during which attendees are invited to comment on the needs of the Diocese and the characteristics and qualities needed in the next Bishop. This is a great opportunity to be part of the discernment process. The meeting is open to all, please share this link with others in the diocese and encourage them to get involved. To register, click [HERE](#).

Events

'Care into Action': How to live out our faith by protecting God's Creation

Saturday 20 July, 9.30am

Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE



This is part of the Bishops' Teaching Mornings series and will start with an opening address and worship led by Bishop Mike, then a lively programme of speakers:

'Care into Action': The Revd Alison Alder, Diocesan Environment Officer, on our environment vision and the exciting projects already happening, including partnerships with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and local parish and town councils.

'Threads Through Creation' The Revd Judy Miller, Associate Priest and member of Waveney and Blyth Environment Group, will focus on worship and reflection, including an opportunity to exchange ideas and good practice.

'Climate Justice and our Christian faith' The Revd Richard Stainer, Net Zero Carbon and World Development Adviser, will look at why tackling the negative impacts of Climate Change and working for Climate Justice are fundamental to living out our Christian faith.

'Why the Church of England's Net Zero Carbon targets matter' James Rolls, Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Officer, discussing the Church of England's commitment to achieving ambitious Net Zero Carbon targets.

Workshops and group discussions about Eco Church and the award areas: Worship and Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community and Global Engagement, and Lifestyle - the practicalities, available support and Q&A session.

The morning is open to all, particularly environmental advocates and deanery champions, people interested in sustainable, fair living and anyone looking to deepen their

faith through action. To book your place, please [click here](#).

Lark Rise Retreats



Saturday 13 July, 10.00am - 4.00pm
St Nicholas' Church, Felixstowe IP11 9RZ

Exploring Celtic Christian Spirituality through presence, poetry and pilgrimage. The event costs £25 per person to include a fish and chips lunch. Led by the Revd Jane Pearse. To book please email on larkriseretreats@gmail.com or phone on 01394 284213.

Come and Sing Evensong for Sea Sunday

Sunday 14 July, registration from 2.30pm
St Mary's Church, Woodbridge IP12 1DS

Join us in the beautiful setting of St Mary's Church in the riverside town of Woodbridge for this service of Evensong with St Mary's choir under the direction of James Davy. You are also very welcome to lend your voice as a member of the congregation.

Westleton Wildflower Festival and Craft Fair

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July, 12 noon to 5.30pm
St Peter's Church, Westleton IP17 3BD

This year the spectacular wildflower arrangements in the Church will depict the effects of Climate Change. There will also be craft and plant stalls with refreshments in the Village Hall. Entry is free with donations welcome to support the Church and the Village Hall.

Flower & Beer Festival

Friday 2 August - Sunday 4 August, starting from 2.00pm
St Peter & St Paul's Church, Kedington CB9 7NN

Come along to a fantastic Flower and Beer Festival in St Peter & St Paul's church. Taking inspiration from the cathedral, the church will have a lovely selection of flowers and beers to peruse. The church will be welcoming the floristry students from West Suffolk College as they are using the church to display their end of term arrangements.

"Churches Under the Sea" Flower Festival and Service

Flower Festival takes place from Saturday 3 August - Monday 5 August,
Festival Service, Sunday 4 August at 10.00am,
St James' Church, Dunwich IP17 3DX

Come and enjoy a wonderful display of flowers in church, visit the cake, plant and book stalls, and relax over tea and cake. There will also be a Festival Service on the Sunday at 10.00am. All are welcome, do come along!

Awake Sleeping Hearts

Tuesday 6 August, 7.30pm
Hitcham Church, Ipswich IP7 7NR

Hitcham's Lewis Hammond and his professional singing friends are giving an evening of a cappella music ranging from Renaissance madrigals and French chansons to English folksongs. A summer programme to soothe the soul. Tickets cost £10 or £5 for students and can be [booked here](#). For more information call 07988 948227.

On Voice: Speech, Song, Silence: Human and Divine

Thursday 12 September 2024 beginning with Mass at 11.00am
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

A joint meeting of the Society of Catholic Priests and Affirming Catholicism, beginning in the Cathedral with Mass. Mass will be followed by a talk in the Edmund Room, by Victoria Johnson, on her recent book *On Voice*, published by Darton, Longman and Todd. Copies will be available for sale. Lunch will be served in the Edmund Room at 12.30pm, followed by departure. Price: £10 for two courses, wine and coffee. If you would like to attend, please email cormack246@gmail.com or call Michael Wilde on 01284 767415.

Living Hope

13 - 15 September

St Augustine's Church, Ipswich IP3 8TH

Three days focused on sharing God's living hope with our local community. You are invited to this missional weekend including a Youth night, Men's breakfast, Women's brunch, Mission on the Streets, Saturday Night Live and Festival of Celebration Service. Join us to hear Simon Guillebaud, previously a missionary in Burundi, and listen to his daring stories of faith, risk and sacrifice that have inspired people all over the world. Please click [here](#) for more information.

World Mission Conference Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Saturday 12 October, 9.00am - 1.00pm

Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE.

As Christians we are called to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (Hebrews 13.2). How can we best do this? Our speakers will offer an insight into the refugee and asylum seeker issue on a global scale and in our own county, with practical suggestions as to how your church can become involved in welcoming and supporting those from overseas. More information and booking [here](#).

Save the date:

Chaplains' Gathering: Advance notice of a day conference for all involved in chaplaincy from all sectors across Suffolk. Tuesday 26 November 10.00am-3.00pm. Details of venue, programme and booking will be shared in September.

Notices

Church Theft: In view of a recent theft from St Michael's Church in Framlingham, please read the advice sheet for all parishes issued by Suffolk Police. Please download your copy

[here](#). Achieving a balance between offering a welcoming environment and protecting the valuable assets within places of worship can be a challenge. Please take the opportunity to review security at your place of worship. Thank you.

Return of Parish Finance: Many thanks to all parishes who have already submitted their form. Completing your Return of Parish Finance provides your benefice and our Diocese with valuable information and data. The results of your efforts are collated by the National Church and used to report key trends and features of parish financial activity. Returns are to be submitted on the Online Parish Returns System, if you require login details or any other assistance regarding the online portal, please contact statistics@cofesuffolk.org by email. **The online deadline has been extended to 31 July 2024.** There will be no further extension. Further information is available on our [website here](#).

Give to Go Green: Last chance to apply for match funding from the national church. Deadline 28 July 2024. All application details available [here](#).

Energy Footprint Tool: the deadline is 31 July 2024 - make sure you complete yours. Find out more information on our website [here](#).

Vacancies

[Children's and Families' Worker](#) | Stanton Benefice | Closing date: 12 July

[Inspiring Ipswich Pioneer - Holy Trinity/St Helen's](#) | Closing date: 15 July

[Giving Advisor](#) | Parish Resources Team | Closing date: 15 July

[Historic Church Building Support Officer \(HCBSO\)](#) | Closing date: 24 July

[Associate Minister for Mission with Children, Families and Young People](#) | Closing date: 9 August

[River Church Opportunities](#) | Kids Pastor (full-time), Debt Centre Manager (part-time) and internships | Ipswich

[House for Duty Priest in Charge](#) | The Wrentham Benefice

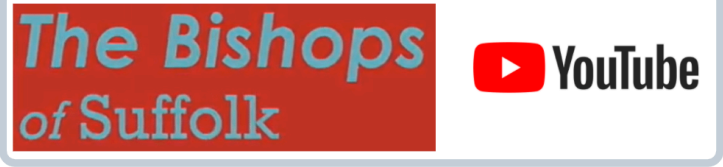
[Gap Year opportunities](#) | St Mary's, Haverhill

[Associate Priest with responsibility for Chaplaincy](#) | Debenham High School

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

Click here to view our new film:
Let's hear from young
voices in Suffolk





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