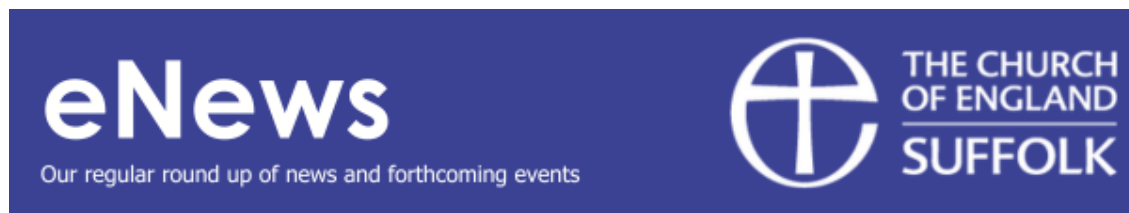


Thursday 17 October 2024



New intake of clergy benefits communities in Suffolk



Two new deacons have been ordained by the Church of England in Suffolk. They were ordained by Bishop Martin, at a service on 16 October in St Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich. The Revd Gregor Purdie will be a deacon at St Mary-le-Tower while the Revd Dr Antony Rich carries out deacon duties in the Sancroft benefice which covers Fressingfield, Mendham, Metfield, Stradbroke, Weybread, and Withersdale.

Bishop Martin said: *"We are delighted to welcome them as deacons and guide them as they set out on a new stage of their journey in Christian life in Suffolk. These devoted clergy will be at the heart of their communities, guiding, supporting and inspiring people in every day life."* Read more [here](#).

Lay Elders Celebration

Last weekend saw the celebration of Lay Elder ministry at St Edmundsbury Cathedral with a service led by Bishop Martin. Lay Elders have been in existence in our Diocese since the late 1960s, they help either with pastoral care in their local congregation and community or lead worship and support the ministry team in their parish or benefice (and some do both!). Elders do amazing work and this service recognised the variety of the ministry that they do from visiting people in their homes or in hospital, following up baptisms and funerals, welcoming newcomers, supporting young families and elderly people, to working in schools.

"We're on a journey, together." said Bishop Martin. He recalled his pilgrimages around the county with Bishop Mike, and stressed how much easier it had been made by the numerous people who had assisted them on their journey, providing refreshment and encouragement and giving helpful directions. "This is your role in the Church," he said, "To help people as they journey through life, offering them direction and encouragement along the way." It was a fitting and thought-provoking message, both for us Lay Elders and for the musicians and choristers who enhanced our worship wonderfully and guided us, expertly, through a couple of unfamiliar hymns, to the very welcome tea and cake at the end. Thank you, to all those who made it such a good afternoon!" Isy Ruffles, Lay Elder

from the Claydon Benefice.

The service also combined the Diocesan Choral Festival with music from singers and choirs across the diocese, under the direction of Claudia Grinnell, the new Director of Music at St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

Give to Go Green

GIVE TO GO GREEN

'Give To Go Green' is a national church match-funding campaign to help you double your locally raised donations. Funding is available for churches and church halls/rooms that want to carry out small to medium-sized projects that will reduce their carbon footprint. Match funding is available up to £10,000, or 50% of your project costs, whichever is lower.

The first phase of Give to Go Green fundraising started on Sunday 1 September and will finish on Sunday 15 December 2024. A number of our churches took part including St Mary's Church in East Bergholt, who are raising funds to reduce the draughts coming from the two main church doors by fixing rails and hanging heavy, fire-retardant curtains in the porch and in the West End meeting room. St Peter & St Paul Church in Pettistree is also fundraising (see advert below!) to support their project to create a dry, warm and welcoming space for the use of the whole village.

We are now entering phase two of Give to Go Green, and the application pack and how to apply details for Phase Two will be released on 21 October 2024. The key dates are:

- Applications Close: 16 March 2025
- Application Assessment: 31 March 2025
- Churches Notified: 7 April 2025
- Fundraising Period: 17 May - 28 September 2025

All the details will be on our website [here](#) from Monday 21 October. The campaign team are holding two Introduction and information webinars, please click the relevant date to register: [Tuesday 12 November](#) at 7.00pm or [Wednesday 13 November](#) at 12.30pm. If you need further support please email our Net Zero Carbon Officer James Rolls at james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org.

Apply now for a grant to help you kickstart a Net Zero project in your church



Churches in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich looking to reduce their carbon emissions can now apply for a 'Quick Wins' grant to help launch a small project. Grants of up to £5,000 can be applied for to help fund small scale decarbonisation projects such as new LED lighting, pew heaters, insulation or updating electricity supplies. Contact our Net Zero Carbon Officer James Rolls at james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org for more

details. Apply on our [website here](#).

Minor Repairs Grants: The Church of England has a Buildings for Mission initiative and recently provided funds to our Diocese. The funds will focus on small-scale but urgent works and 'stitch in time' projects that could save larger sums in the long-term. The fund will also be able to help cover the cost of essential improvements for the mission and

ministry of a church. Full information on the grants programme, key dates, eligibility, how to apply and the application form are all available on our website [here](#).

Growth Fund: The Diocesan Growth Fund is also still open for applications in 2024. We are keen to support missional projects that focus on Growing Younger or Growing in Number, projects that would not happen without the support of this grant. Our next meeting is Tuesday 5 November and the application deadline is Tuesday 29 October. All details for the fund are on our website [here](#).

Events

Healing and Wholeness – Developing and Deepening Ministry where you are

Saturday 19 October, 9.30am

Salvation Army Hall, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

A workshop for lay and ordained ministers to develop or deepen the ministry of healing and wholeness in their parishes (organised by the Diocesan Healing and Wholeness Group). Featuring keynote speaker Mr Steve Coles, Chair of the Guild of Healing & St Raphael. Admission is by donation of a minimum of £5 at the door, please do [register here](#).

Autumn Art Exhibition

Saturday 19 October - Sunday 20 October 10.00am-4.00pm

St Mary's Church, Brettenham IP7 7QR

Come along to an art exhibition, featuring paintings, photographs and pottery from local artists. Entry costs £2 and will include a cuppa. Funds raised will go to the church's Raise the Roof appeal.

Diamonds – how they are formed and how they are graded

Saturday 19 October, 7.30pm

All Saints' Church, Hitcham IP7 7NR

Join a presentation by Joseph Blackmore which will take you through the diamond story from their creation in the earth's crust, to how the rough diamond is cut and then graded. The event is being held in aid of Hitcham Church Funds. Tickets cost £7.50 and can be purchased on the door (card or cash) or in advance at Hitcham village shop (cash). For more information please contact RNFCurrie@gmail.com

Prisons Week Service | Sunday 20 October, 10.30am

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

This year the address will be given by the Revd Wendy Norris, Managing Chaplain at HMP Highpoint. After the service, there will be an opportunity for discussion and reflection with refreshments provided. After the discussion, there will be a light lunch for which you are warmly invited to stay. If you would like to attend, please RSVP using the [form here](#).

PCC Workshops



You are invited to join us for a series of topic-based Zoom meetings by Diocesan staff and parish experts. Suitable for Treasurers, Churchwardens, PCC members and administrators, as well as clergy and LLMs. Each session will involve sharing information and knowledge with a short presentation and will include plenty of time for you to ask questions. If you have any questions, please

contact [Julie Podd](#).

- How can a church get to Net Zero? Led by James Rolls, Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Officer | Tuesday 22 October at 7.30pm | [Book here](#)
- Parochial Visitations led by Archdeacon David | Tuesday, 12 November 2024 at 7.30pm | [Book here](#)
- Maintenance work and the importance of engaging appropriate contractors led by Pat Forero, The Architect Studio | Wednesday 20 November at 7.30pm | [Book here](#)
- Church boundary disputes, faculty jurisdiction and uses of churches and churchyards for commercial purposes led by Kevin Wilson, Diocesan Registrar | Wednesday 27 November at 7.30pm | [Book here](#)

Banana Blush | Friday 25 October at 7.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

A very special performance of Sir John Betjemen's Banana Blush! Broadcaster and writer Zeb Soanes will bring the much-loved verse to life alongside the dazzling virtuosity of the Chris Warner Ensemble. Set to the delightful toe-tapping score by Jim Parker, four times winner of the BAFTA for Best Original Television Music, this event is not to be missed! Get tickets now [here](#).

Give to Go Green events

St Peter & St Paul Church, Pettistree, IP13 0HR

Pettistree Church has a separate building in its grounds, built as a Church Room in 1891 and used as the Sunday School. It had some restoration work done in 1982 and in 2023 the roof was re-felted and laid. The Give to Go Green project is to create a dry, warm and welcoming space for the use of the whole village as a meeting and social space. The building requires floor, wall and ceiling insulation, the windows repaired, efficient heating, a new kitchen and improved disabled access. The church and village community welcome you to attend these fundraising events

The Delightful Companions | Sunday 27 October 4.00pm: Listen to four highly accomplished musicians who will perform music from the 17th and 18th centuries on recorder, harpsichord and Baroque cello.

Life, Glamour and Art | Sunday 10 November 4.00pm: An illustrated talk on the life of Doris and Anna Zinkeisen. These talented, vivacious, stylish and sassy women were the toast of London's society during the 1920s and 30s.

Wildlife Talk | Wednesday 13 November 7.30pm: A talk on wildlife by Darren Tansley from Essex Wildlife Trust - to be held in Pettistree Village Hall IP13 0FA

Vice-Consul, Customs, Cannabis and Cocaine | Saturday 16 November 4.00pm: a humorous talk titled 'Vice-Consul, Customs, Cannabis and Cocaine' with Mr Jim Jarvie OBE, retired Head of Operations of the Central UK Border Force, also to be held

at Pettistree Village Hall IP13 0FA.

Big Issues: The Edmund Lectures 2024 | Wednesday 30 October and 20 November, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

A series of lectures by internationally-renowned experts on big issues that challenge our lives as we continue to navigate the 21st century. Lectures are free to attend; all information and booking is available [here](#).

All Souls' Day Requiem Mass

Saturday 2 November 11.00am
St John the Evangelist, St John's Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1SP

Join the Revd Rob Parker-McGee and the Revd Dr Andrew Miller for this Solemn Requiem Mass. To add names to the list of those to be remembered at the mass, please contact 07771 593403 or email adrian.mann@btinternet.com. All are welcome, and the service will be followed by refreshments.

Stats for Mission: How and why to complete the form

Wednesday 6 November 12.00pm by Zoom

Are you responsible for filling out your church's annual Stats for Mission form? Have you ever wondered why you need to do this, or how to answer some of the questions? Join Dr Ken Eames, Senior Statistical Research Officer, and Emma Buchan, Head of Churches and Networks Support, for insights on the following:

- Recommendations on the best way to approach the questions.
- Who uses the data collected?
- What is data used for?
- Why is it important to both the national Church and churches across the country?

This webinar will include a Q&A session. [Register by clicking on this link](#). If you can't attend live you can submit your question in advance using this form [here](#).

Clergy, lay ministers, ministers in training day

Saturday 9 November, 9.00am, sessions begin at 9.30am
Framlingham College, Framlingham IP13 9EY

An invitation from Bishop Martin: "*This day is for Clergy, all lay ministers and ministers in training, and is an opportunity for us all to be together to celebrate the ministry in which we share before I retire!*". A lunch will be provided. Instructions for parking will be sent to those registered nearer the time but we have been asked to reduce the number of cars by sharing lifts! Could you get a group together from your church? Enquiries to Sarah Brown on 01473 252829 or sarah.brown@cofesuffolk.org. To book this event you will need to be registered on Insight. Once registered you will be able to see the event booking [here](#), to book please click on register button on the left hand side and follow the booking instructions. If you have any problems using Insight please email lesley.steed@cofesuffolk.org for more help.

Flooded! | Friday 15 November, 6.00pm and repeated on Saturday 15 November 1.00pm and 6.00pm.

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Flooded! is a theatre, opera and song extravaganza combining The Fools' Flood by Neil Clayton, a new play about an historic flood in Bury St Edmunds, and Benjamin Britten's family opera, Noye's Fludde. Supported by Arts Council England and partnering St Edmundsbury Cathedral, 15 local schools, Britten Pears Arts, Suffolk Music Service, and multiple community groups. Flooded! will allow us to reflect on our world today with the climate emergency and migration so often making headlines. Tickets and more information are available [here](#).

Chaplaincy Gathering

Tuesday 26 November, 10.00am - 3.30pm

St Nicholas Centre, Ipswich IP1 1UQ

This day is for chaplains across all sectors and is an opportunity to network with others. There will be input from Ceri Bryant, Occupational Health and Wellbeing manager for Sizewell C, and some of our diocesan team. A sandwich lunch will be included. No parking at St Nicholas Centre - please use local car parks. To register, please [click here](#).

Eco Church Support

Tuesday 26 November 6.00pm - 7.00pm by Zoom

Join Robert Skelton (Ely Cathedral - Eco Church Gold Award), and Polly Eaton (A Rocha Eco Church - Eco Diocese Officer) for an informal session for people to chat about Eco Church Awards. Share success, obstacles and challenges you may be experiencing, seek support and support others. Please register [here](#) to receive a Zoom link (this will be emailed out prior to the session).

Theological Refreshment in Ministry: Spirituality and Art

High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Herts

25 – 26 November

Join this short residential retreat, open to lay, commissioned and ordained ministers: priests, local pastors, preachers, Elders, Readers and LLMs from the Eastern region. This year the Revd Canon Sharron Coburn and the Revd Mother Ali Miller will lead on the theme of Spirituality and Art: *Connecting with our Creator God and our creative selves*. These couple of days will be a chance to reflect theologically on how art – in all the ways we understand that term - helps us connect with God; to explore our reactions to various artistic media and the notion of what art is; and perhaps to have a go ourselves at some form of creative endeavour. The cost of the conference is £120 per person, which will cover all conference costs, including a single en-suite room and all meals. To register for a place, [please click on this link](#). For more information, please contact Lesley Steed at lesley.steed@cofesuffolk.org or telephone 01473 298510.

Connect Family Ministry Course

The Woolpit Institute, Woolpit IP30 9QH

Saturday 18 January, 22 February, 29 March, 24 May, 21 June, 19 July

In this course, over six Saturdays, we look at what families look like in the Bible and how the early church ministered to families. We then look at child development, learning and spiritual styles, discipleship, intergenerational worship, schools ministry and how we walk with families through life's key transitions. This course is perfect for anyone already doing some children or family ministry who wishes to consolidate their learning, access new resources and join a network of like-minded people who share their enthusiasm for this ministry. Please sign up [here](#).

Enhancing Pastoral Ministry

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 5HJ

Wednesday 22 January, 29 January, 5 February, 12 February, 26 February, 5 March 2025. Registration and coffee at 7.00pm, sessions 7.30 – 9.30pm

Enhancing Pastoral Ministry is a six-session course for people who are involved in anyway in pastoral care (for example, Readers, Lay Elders, clergy, pastoral visitors) as well as those interested in a deeper understanding of this ministry. The course is open to all and is free of charge. For more information on the course, please contact Lesley Steed at lesley.steed@cofesuffolk.org, and to book onto the course please [click here](#).

Exploring the Old Testament

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 5HJ

Starting Wednesday 22 January, 22 January, 29 January, 5 February, 12 February, 26 February, 5 March, 12 March 2025. Registration and coffee at 7.00pm, sessions 7.30 – 9.30pm

This module is commended to those who are seeking Permission to Preach and required for those on Auxiliary Ordination Pathway, unless exempted through prior learning, and all others are welcome. Each session is free of charge, lasts for two hours and includes input, group work and discussion. The course handbook provides essential background reading, as well as suggestions of additional resources. To book your place on this course please [click here](#).

Notices

The Meal for Life: We are delighted to offer you this new resource written by the Revd Christopher Gonin to describe the Eucharist. It aims to:

- introduce its simplicity and profundity
- support early discipleship to Christ
- make all parts of your life reflect your discipleship and most of all, know and live in Christ.

"The booklet stems from your devotion to Christ and from your love of the Eucharist, which in itself is beautiful. Bless you for writing this and caring enough to share it so widely." Rhiannon King, Bishop of Southampton.

The booklet is available at £2 a copy + 75p for postage. Please order from the Revd Chris

Gonin, 24 Booth Court, Handford Road, Ipswich IP1 2GD with a cheque made payable to The Revd C. W. Gonin. Download the leaflet [here](#). Or email communications@cofesuffolk.org for more information.



Follow the Star: Calm and Bright: The Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2024, **Follow the Star: Calm and Bright**, draws on the world-famous carol, Silent Night: "*Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright...*" Resources include: booklets, prayer cards, family resources, logos and design guidelines, regular webinars, blogs, how-to videos, and a digital planner to help you create and organise your church's digital content. Find out all you need [here](#).

Vacancies

[Children's and Youth Leader | Lightwave](#) | Closing date: 20 October

[Rector](#) | South Hartismere Benefice | Closing date: 23 October

[Management Assistant to Diocesan Secretary](#) | Closing date: 23 October

[Rector](#) | Bungay Benefice | Closing date: 6 November

[Children's and Families' Worker](#) | Sudbury | Closing date: 8 November

[Associate Leader of the Lightwave Community](#) | Closing date: 17 November

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

[Liturgy and Music Administrator](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral | Closing date: 4 November 2024

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

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



The Bishops
of Suffolk



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