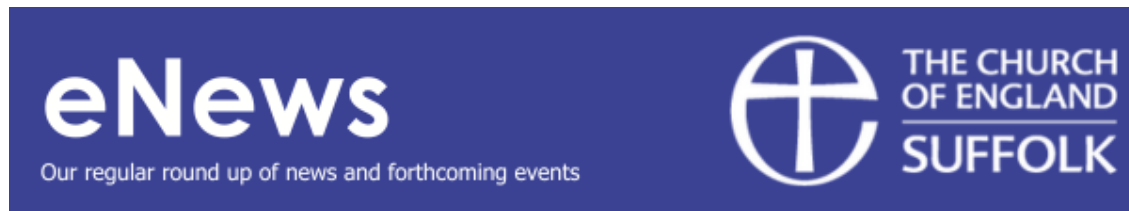


Thursday 3 October 2024



Bishop's farewell is marked by a packed Cathedral



Hundreds of people from across Suffolk attended a packed farewell service as Bishop Mike is due to become the next Diocesan Bishop of Exeter. The service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds was led by Bishop Martin.

Bishop Mike said: *"While I am delighted and excited to be the next Bishop of Exeter it will be with considerable sadness that I leave the people and county of Suffolk after eight years as the Bishop of Dunwich. I was not familiar with Suffolk before arriving in February 2016 but the hospitality, creativity and good humour of so many in*

my time here means I will leave with deep gratitude and affection for the diocese and county."

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

Suffolk church community celebrates roof restoration after two-year fundraising



St Mary's Church in Bucklesham underwent an inspection in 2022, where it was found the roof was in dire need of repair. Following a £100,000 fundraising campaign, the church is celebrating the restoration of the village church's roof. Churchwarden and project leader Janet Ball said: *"The north roof was degrading, the clay tiles were breaking and there was a chance water would start coming in. St Mary's is one of those rural churches*

which is loved by everyone in the village – we have a large team of volunteers who look after the church and the churchyard all year round. The church is an important focal point for the village, bringing people together, creating friendships and giving people a sense of belonging."

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

Chapel Royal Choir visits Ipswich

The Chapel Royal of Hampton Court Palace is visiting Ipswich on the weekend of 12 and 13 October. The Royal choir, based in the former home of Ipswich's most famous son, Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, will be singing with the St Mary le Tower choir. The first chance to see the Chapel Royal in action will be at Jubilee Hall in Aldeburgh. The concert on Saturday 12 October begins at 7.00pm and will include music by Byrd, Tallis, Vivaldi, and Suffolk composer Ben Parry. The concert will be conducted by the Director of Music of St Mary le Tower, Christopher Borrett, and world-renowned conductor of the Chapel Royal, Carl Jackson MVO. Tickets are £20 and can be purchased at [here](#).

On Sunday 13 October the Chapel Royal will be singing two services at St Mary le Tower, to be designated Ipswich Minster in January, alongside their choir. The highlight will be the Mayor of Ipswich's Civic Service at 3.30pm which will also see the official close of the Wolsey550 celebrations that have featured across the town this last year. Both services are open to the public and are free to attend.

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..."*

Throughout Advent, there will be a focus primarily on how to find **Calm** during this busy period, with reflections offering people a chance to pause during the busy season and tips on how to prepare for a calm Christmas. Then through Christmas, the focus will be on **Bright**, with a series of daily reflections from Christmas Day to the Eve of Epiphany (5 January) by Sammi Tooze, Discipleship Adviser for the Diocese of York, both in digital form and as a full-colour booklet to share locally. Resources include:

- Booklets, prayer cards and family resources
- Logos and design guidelines
- Regular webinars tailored for Advent and Christmas, blogs, how-to videos, and a Digital Planner to help you create and organise your church's digital content.
- Christmas episodes from the Cheeky Pandas
- Get downloadable resources including digital Christmas card templates, social media covers and templates, poster templates, and PowerPoint templates from [AChurchNearYou.com](https://www.AChurchNearYou.com) (login required).
- A directory of resources for use at home, church and school

Find out all you need [here](#).

2025 Dogs in the Cathedral Calendar

St Edmundsbury Cathedral is celebrating being a dog-friendly Cathedral with a new 2025 calendar featuring dogs in the Cathedral. Twelve local pups were photographed around the building for the calendar, which will be on sale from Tuesday 1 October in the Cathedral Shop and via the Cathedral reception. Cost £10.00.

Events

Clergy, Lay Ministers, Ordinands, AOP and Lay 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 licensed 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!*". There is ample parking at the college. A lunch will be provided. Enquiries to Sarah Brown on 01473 252829 or sarah.brown@cofesuffolk.org

To book this event please first register on Insight - see information below. 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.

Give to Go Green Events

St Mary's Church in East Bergholt is taking part in the Give to Go Green programme as they seek to raise funds specifically to help save money on heating costs, which last year totalled over £2,000. The church is organising a series of events to fundraise, and any donations raised during the six week-campaign will be match-funded by the Church of England, come and join us:

Saturday 5 October at 7.00pm Brass and Ivories, tickets £10. Join Tia Eagle and Joel Cooper who have played at and for St Mary's on a number of previous occasions.

Saturday 12 October at 5.00pm Sublime to the Ridiculous - pieces from Mozart to the singular humour of Flanders and Swann and Tom Lehrer performed by Martin Huggett and Oli King. Admission free with a retiring collection. Cream tea available from 4.00pm.

To reserve your tickets please email: stmarysebfundraising@gmail.com. Payment will be taken on the door. If you would like to financially support the initiative but are unable to attend the events, please contact Jackie Reeves 01206 299973 or Fiona Trott 01206 298205.

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](#).

- Net Zero Carbon and the Environment led by James Rolls, Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Officer | Tuesday 22 October at 7.30pm | [Book here](#)
- Parochial Visitations led by Archdeacon David on 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](#)
- Find out more about church boundary disputes, faculty jurisdiction and more led by Kevin Wilson, Diocesan Registrar | Wednesday 27 November at 7.30pm | [Book here](#)

County Harvest Festival

Sunday 6 October, 11.30am, service starts 2.00pm
Trinity Park, Suffolk Show Ground, Ipswich IP3 8UH

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Lightwave and the Suffolk Agricultural Association are delighted to invite you to the County Harvest Festival for 2024. This hugely popular biannual event is held at Trinity Park and includes food, bar, live music, craft and produce stalls, as well as an opportunity to meet the animals. It's a special year as Bishop Martin, President of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, will be leading the 2.00pm worship. If you would like a stall please contact graham.miles.lightwave@gmail.com.

Fytt for thy degree: Clothing and Arming the Typical Tudor Man

Friday 11 October, 7.00 pm
Online talk via Zoom

Attend an informative talk on Tudor clothing by Ninya Mikhaila with Dr Tobias Capwell, hosted by the Medieval Dress and Textile Society (MEDATS). St Mary's Mendlesham has the only surviving Tudor armoury in any English parish church, still complete with its original arms and armour. The PCC is currently working with Tobias and other leading armour and museum experts for better conservation, display and interpretation of this unique heritage in its Mendlesham Armoury Facelift Project. All profits to go towards the project. Tickets cost £5, order [here](#). For more information see the St Mary's website [here](#).

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](#).

St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir & Leigh Orpheus Male Voice Choir Concert

Sunday 13 October, 2.00pm
St Mary's, Newmarket CB8 0HP

Two choirs for the price of one! Come along to a concert featuring the two choirs; the St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir and the Leigh Orpheus Male Voice Choir. Tickets cost £10 on the door, to include an interval hot or soft drink.

Elders Celebration Service

Sunday 13 October, 3.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

We are delighted to invite all Elders to a Celebration of Elder Ministry. As before, this will be a joint service with the Diocesan Choral Festival Service guaranteeing a wonderfully uplifting service with the St Edmundsbury Singers and the adults of the Cathedral Choir to sing for us. The afternoon will be led by the Cathedral's new Director of Music, Claudia Grinnell, and accompanied on the mighty Cathedral organ by Assistant Director of Music, Richard Cook. We are looking forward to seeing you there! Please [click here to register](#)

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 Saint's Church, Hitcham IP7 7NR

Did you know that diamonds come in every colour? Join us for 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. Try your hand at spotting the difference between natural and lab grown diamonds! 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

The Abbot Consort of Voices - LIGHT

Saturday 19 October, 7.30pm

St Peter's Church, Thurston IP31 3RU

Come along to an incredible concert featuring music director, Martyn Bagnall with accompanist, Dan Soper. Flor Peeters: Missa in honorem Sancti Josephi; Charles Villiers Stanford: Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis in C. Additional works by MacMillan, Duruflé, Tallis, Lauridsen, Gjeilo and Rheinberger. The collection will be in aid of Church Funds.

Growing in Hope: Accessibility Training

Sunday 20 October, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
St John's Hill, Woodbridge IP12 1HS

You are invited to attend an Accessibility Training afternoon facilitated by Jennie Prentice from the charity 'Growing in Hope'. There is a voluntary donation of £5 on the day and refreshments will be provided. Details can be found [here](#) or contact St John's Church Office at info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk or phone 01394 383162.

Festival of Remembrance | Long Melford Silver Band

Friday 8 November at 7.30pm
St Peter and St Paul's Church, Clare CO10 8PB

Long Melford Silver Band, together with the Wimbish Military Wives Choir present a Festival of Remembrance in St Peter's and St Paul's Church in Clare. Come and join us for an evening of music to pay tribute and remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. To book, please [click 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](#).

Theological Refreshment in Ministry: Spirituality and Art

High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Herts
25 – 26 November

Due to popular demand, this annual short residential conference is now 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. There will be times of worship and prayer together; sessions with input and discussion; and unprogrammed time to either spend with friends and colleagues, or take quiet time to process, pray, or indeed create. 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.

Lark Rise Retreats: Speak Lord, your servant is listening - An Advent Quiet Day

Saturday 30 November 10.00am-4.00pm
230 Ferry Road, Felixstowe IP11 9RU

We invite you to a quiet day led by Sarah Wallington-Smith: before the pre-Christmas rush, spend time resting in peace and reflecting as Advent approaches. The day includes refreshments, cake and a fish and chips lunch. To book, please [click here](#) or call 01394 284213. Please note the Thursday 28 event previously advertised is now fully booked and a new date has been added: Friday 29 November to be held in Metfield.

Events held in St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Big Issues: The Edmund Lectures 2024 | Wednesday 9 and 30 October and Wednesday 30 November, 7.00pm - 8.30pm

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](#).

Diocesan Choral Festival Service | Sunday 13 October, 1.30pm rehearsal and 3.30pm service

All are warmly invited to join the St Edmundsbury Singers and the adults of the Cathedral Choir to sing this year's Diocesan Choral Festival Service. The afternoon will be led by the Cathedral's new Director of Music, Claudia Grinnell, and accompanied on the mighty Cathedral organ by Assistant Director of Music, Richard Cook. Registration by Sunday 6 October is essential in order to take part in this event. Please [click here to register](#) and print your music (as there will not be any copies provided on the day). At the same service we will be giving thanks for the ministry of Diocesan Elders, so it promises to be a real celebration.

Prisons Week Service | Sunday 20 October, 10.30am

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](#).

Banana Blush | Friday 25 October at 7.30pm

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](#).

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

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](#).

Parish Visits from the Dean

The Dean's 2025 diary is now open for Parish Visit requests. Dean Joe would very much like to preach and/or preside at churches across the Diocese, particularly those he has not yet had the pleasure of visiting yet. For further information or to request a visit, please contact his PA Erin at deanspa@stedscathedral.org or 01284 748722.

Notices

General Synod representatives: The Revd Alison Miller was appointed 1 proctor in convocation to represent the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich in General Synod on the Monday 30 September 2024.

- Papers issued 211
- Papers returned 153
- Spoilt Papers 0
- Percentage poll 71%

Insight: Insight is the new learning and resource tool developed by the Diocese and we are excited to invite you to visit, register and start exploring the content available. The purpose of Insight is to make finding interesting courses, events and resources that are relevant to you, as easy as possible. To register, please visit Insight [here](#) and click on the register link on the top right hand side. Please register using the email address that you use to receive this eNews, as held on the Diocesan database (CMS). You can choose to tick all the roles you hold – this will give you access to the items relevant to your roles. If you don't have a role, don't worry you can still register - just don't tick any boxes! You will be asked to provide a password to create your account and you will be up and running. If you have any technical support questions, please email insightsupport@cofesuffolk.org.

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](#).

Vacancies

[Giving Advisor | Parish Resources Team](#) | Closing date: 14 October

[Priest in Charge](#) | Wickham Market and Pettistree cum Loudham | Closing date: 15 October

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

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

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

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

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