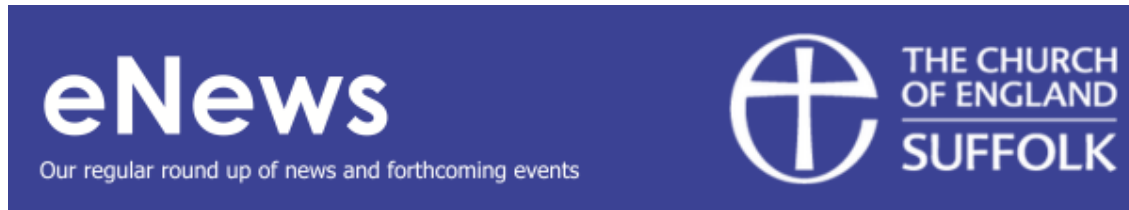


Thursday 7 September 2023



A Message from Bishop Martin on the eve of Accession Day



The past year has been significant in the life and history of the nation. This Friday marks the first anniversary of the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and the Accession of King Charles III. I warmly encourage everyone to join me in praying for our King and Queen, for the whole Royal Family, and our nation, as we reflect at this time. Looking back, we continue to give thanks for the life and faith of Queen Elizabeth. Looking ahead to the future, we pray for the King that God will comfort and strengthen him, and us, in the service of the common good.

God Save the King.
With every blessing,

Prayer for HM The King

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
bless our Sovereign Lord KING CHARLES,
and all them that are in authority under him;
that they may order all things in wisdom and equity,
righteousness and peace,
to the honour of thy name,
and the good of thy Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

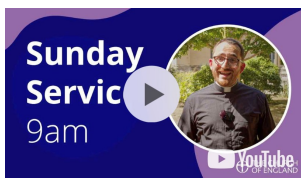
Education Sunday 10 September 2023

Jane Sheat, Diocesan Director of Education writes: "Education Sunday is a National Day of Prayer and celebration for everyone in the world of education. I am so grateful for all that our churches do to serve and support schools, through pastoral support, collective worship, visits and services held in churches. This is faithful work, built on relationships. Education Sunday prompts us to thank God for and to pray for all those in education. Please do pray for your local school, its staff and pupils, as a new school year begins, and throughout the year." Please click the links below for resources:

[Education Sunday](#)

[Pray for Schools](#)

Foundation Governors are important to the ministry of the Church, as they preserve and develop the religious character of their schools. There are 87 Church of England schools in our Diocese and these schools need governors who want to help schools to flourish. We are recruiting volunteers to serve as governors. If you would like to make a difference, please take a look at the '[Becoming a School Governor](#)' resources on our website.



We are also delighted that St Mary le Tower was chosen by the Church of England to produce a Choral Matins service for Education Sunday. This was recorded last year and will be released at 9.00am on Sunday on the Church of England YouTube channels [here](#).

Teachers' Evensong

Sunday 17 September, 3.30pm

St Mary's, Honey Hill, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1RT

Please come and join the Revd Sarah Gull and Helen Matter, formerly Diocesan Schools' Adviser, at this most traditional of services. Enjoy the quiet, the music and choir and pray for all those involved in education as we give thanks for the special role of teachers and teaching. All welcome.

Cost of living creates queues for church top-up shop



Volunteers at a Suffolk church have been praised for providing a vital top-up shop attracting nearly 100 people who queue at breakfast to buy essential food.

The shop at St Matthew's Church, Ipswich, has been operating since the Covid pandemic struck and now attracts long queues every Thursday morning. Food which has been collected from major supermarkets is offered, ranging from fresh fruit and vegetables to cans of tuna, soup, packets of cereals and bread – with shoppers filling a bag for £2.

Demand remains consistently high which, says the Church of England, is a sad reflection on the deepening cost of living crisis. In fact demand for food and other essential items is greater than the volunteers receive from the supermarkets, and they have been grateful for financial support from local government and other charities as well as the money raised

from 'shoppers,' to enable the volunteers to purchase supplementary food. To read more on this story please visit our [website here](#).

Vocations

Mission Shaped Ministry Course – Growing in God’s Mission

Tuesday 26 September, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Forward Green IP14 5HJ



Join our new MSM Course – Growing in God’s Mission! The course will help equip you for Mission in the 2020s in parish churches and new Worshipping Communities. This six-session interactive and dynamic course is devised to help us reach out beyond our regular congregations, with experience in mission

learning from many, both in our diocese and nationally. The course will be delivered via a hybrid model, starting and ending with in-person sessions and the others on Zoom, with required pre-work to gain the most from the course. We will be introducing practices to enable you to engage in God’s mission in your context that will go beyond the course itself in whatever context. All dates and further details and booking details are available [here](#).

Vocation Conversations

Thursday 28 September, 7.00pm-8.00pm on Zoom



This is the first in a series of evening conversations for anyone who is thinking about the question 'how do I know what God is asking me to do?'. For the first conversation we will be joined by Bishop Martin, who is going to share his vocation journey with us. Open to all interested in hearing Bishop Martin’s story. Come and

join the conversations with others about their vocational journeys. Sign up [here](#).

Faith Empowered - training for Evangelists

Saturday 30 September, 12.00pm

The Rectory, Grundisburgh IP13 6UF



Faith Empowered is a one-year course (September 2023 to July 2024) exploring the ministry of Evangelists, using materials developed with the Church Army. Participants come together in person and online to discuss key subjects such as how to get to know your context, what evangelism is, how to plan a missional activity and what to say when people ask big questions. If you are interested in exploring this ministry come along to our welcome BBQ . For more information please visit our

website [here](#) or download our course leaflet [here](#).

Lay Elder training and social morning

Saturday 21 October 21, 9.30am - 1.30pm
Salvation Army Stowmarket, Violet Hill Road IP14 1NE

As part of our two-year cycle of training and celebrating, we are holding an Elders training and social morning with special guest speakers from across the Diocese. We are also very pleased that our keynote speaker will be the Venerable Rich Henderson, Archdeacon of Suffolk. For more information and to book please click [here](#).

Connect - training for Children's and Families' Ministers



Connect is a one-year course starting in September 2023, exploring child development, spirituality and formation, new approaches to Family Ministry and personal skills to enable participants to be visionary Family Ministry leaders within the parish and across the Diocese. For more information please visit our website [here](#) or download our course leaflet [here](#).

Youth Essentials - training for youth workers

Tuesdays starting 16 January and finishing 26 March (no meeting on 20 February) 7.15pm to 9.15pm
Earl Stonham Village Hall, Forward Green IP14 5HJ.



Join this innovative course which will increase your skills and build confidence in your role working alongside young people. You may be looking to start youth work or you could already be volunteering - we can tailor sessions to suit you and your needs! Volunteers from all over the Diocese will join the course so we can learn from each other's situations and experiences. This is a 10-session basic level course designed by Youthscape and topics include Insights into Young People; Skills for Youth Work and Developing Character. [Click here to download the leaflet for more information.](#)

Any enquiries to: [Matt Levett](#), Youth and Young Adults Enabler, 07736 941654 and to book onto the course please click [here](#).

Events

King James Bible: The Book that Changed the World

Friday 8 September, 6.30pm
Hawkedon Village Hall IP29 4NP

Don't miss the opportunity to view a rare showing of this amazing film - narrated by well-known actor John Rhys-Davies. It is an excitingly dramatised tale of the turbulent times during which the famous translation was commissioned and printed. Tickets cost £15 and include food and wine, please email [Judith Wilson](#) or call 01284 789376.

Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride and Pedal & Drive

Saturday 9 September 2023



Organised by Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), this is an annual fundraising event which sees several thousand cyclists, walkers, and drivers of vintage and classic cars taking part in the annual fundraising event

for the repair and upkeep of Suffolk churches. Cyclists and walkers get sponsors or donations for their journey around some of Suffolk's churches, choosing their own route, long or short. The money they raise help save this wonderful part of our history, with half going to the Trust to give out as grants for church buildings, and half to the participant's chosen church. Hundreds of churches will be open to welcome cyclists, walkers and drivers. More information [here](#).

Open Morning - The Place by the Water

Saturday 9 September 10.00am to 12.30pm

The Rectory, Church Lane, Shottisham IP12 3HG

You are invited to an open morning to explore how the Place by the Water can support or host your groups of churches in work and ministry. Please email [Kathy Wilson](mailto:Kathy.Wilson@placebythewater.org) or call her on 07884 373799

Being Anglican

Tuesday 12, 19 and 26 September, 7.30pm - 9.45pm, online

4 November, 3 February and 13 April: outings to places of interest in Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk.

Join us to explore together the essential aspects of Anglicanism in an informal learning style. This six-session course will be delivered partly on Zoom and also in-person. We start with three online sessions by Zoom, then we will visit places of particular Anglican interest. This course will be particularly valuable if you would like to explore your rich Anglican heritage. To book please click [here](#).

Duo Oriana

Wednesday 13 September, 7.30pm

Wickhambrook All Saints CB8 8XH

Learn some fascinating facts about the lute, this magical medieval musical instrument and why it is still so popular today. Tickets cost £10, for more information please click [here](#).

Rural Mission Solutions Open Forum

Wednesday 13 September 10.00am-12.00pm, online

Rural Mission Solutions has been working with rural churches discreetly for a long time. This forum was introduced last year as a periodic open online forum free to anyone concerned for a village church. These are ideal whether a person is new to rural ministry or an 'old hand'. Book [here](#). To find out more please visit their website [here](#).

Fundraising at Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford

Friday 15 September, 6.00pm Pimms & Hymns. Music performed by Nigel Brown,

Organist, in conjunction with the Rossignol Choir and Holy Trinity's own singers. Tickets £10pp – please contact [Cheryl](#) on 07943 811030

Saturday 16 September 10.00am Tower Tours, firing the cannon on the green, organ recitals, brass rubbing; on-screen drone video footage, Punch and Judy show, treasure hunt, plus a pop-up café serving delicious cakes and refreshments. Booking for tower tours essential, please contact [Judi Moss](#) on 07748 038074 - adults £10 and children £5 (up to 15 yrs) and children must be accompanied by an adult.

Mary and Choral Music - Christopher Borrett and singers

Saturday 16 September, 11.00am
St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich IP1 3BE

Join this lecture on the subject of Marian devotional music, which will include musical illustrations (spanning six centuries) sung by members of the St Mary-le-Tower's choir. The lecture will last an hour and will consider different styles of music and Marian texts from around Europe and how they enrich prayer. More information [here](#).

A Harvest Concert

Saturday 16 September
St Peter and Paul's Church, Bardwell IP31 1AH

Come along to a lively Harvest event raising funds for the Church Fabric Fund. Starting off with tea and Pimms, enjoy a talk by Clive Paine on the history of the church, followed by the concert. There is also a raffle to be drawn at the event. Tickets cost £10, and are available by calling 07710 798178 or [clicking here](#) to visit the website.

Margery Kempe's Journeys in Sound

Saturday 16 September, 5.30pm
St Mary's Church, Buxhall IP14 3DJ

Margery Kempe, born around 1373, was a visionary and mystic from Kings Lynn. She was an enthusiastic pilgrim and in this concert, Leah Stuttard will evoke some of her journeys and meetings with music from the places she visited as far afield as Gdansk, Santiago de Compostela, Rome and Jerusalem. Tickets £10 each including wine and nibbles after the concert and are available [here](#) or on the door. Free parking is available at the church. In aid of church funds. Call 07840 862364 for more information.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust 50th Anniversary Service

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS
Sunday 17 September

Celebrate with the SHCT, who over 50 years has raised the equivalent of around £10 million in today's money, from the membership fees of its 'Friends' organisation, from donations, grants, legacies, and, in particular, from the annual Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride sponsored event and, more recently, the Pedal and Drive Vintage and Classic Car rally. Churches, chapels and Meeting Houses who wish to send representatives to the special service should contact shctcathedral@gmail.com for an invitation.

Amplify Your Impact

Thursday 21 September, 9.30am-3.30pm

St John's Church, Woodbridge IP12 1HS

Amplify Your Impact is a three-session training day aimed at all those working in church administration and operations. You will cover time management, implementation, evaluation, effective workflows, and cohesive teams. The day will be packed full of shared wisdom, practical tools and know-how. This is a paid event with concessions for UCAN members. To book, please visit [here](#).

The Bible, Bugs and Insect Decline

Sunday 24 September 3.00pm

Foxearth Meadows CO10 7HZ

The Revd Mike Perry is key speaker for this open air service, having worked as a research biologist before becoming an Anglican priest. For comfort, do bring along a chair or rug to sit on. We invite people to come along early to enjoy the reserve or stay afterwards for a guided walk. On-site car parking is available. More information is available [here](#).

Haverhill Heritage Days 2023

Saturday 30 September 10.30am

St Mary's Church, Haverhill CB9 8AX

The friends of St Mary's invite you to join them to find out about Stained Glass and Conservation - featuring Derek Hunt, an expert in the conservation of stained glass and leaded glass windows. The event is free and refreshments will be provided.

Suffolk Harvest Festival

Sunday 1 October from 12.00pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS



The Dean of St Edmundsbury invites you to this year's Suffolk Harvest Festival. The Cathedral will play host to farm animals, Farming Live, family activities and much more. The Harvest Service will take place from 2.00pm to 3.00pm led by Bishop Martin and joined by Mark Murphy (former BBC Radio Suffolk presenter) who will interview some very special guests around this year's theme of Living Water.

Statistics for Mission and the Online Parish Returns System

Wednesday 4 October 2.00pm Online

Wednesday 11 October 7.30pm Online

This information-based webinar will be presented by Charlotte Hodgson, Paul Sparrow, and

Nigel Cook to explain the purpose of the Online Parish Returns System. The session is ideal for anyone associated with the Church but especially those involved in completing data returns on behalf of their parish. Areas covered will include registering on the system, Statistics for Mission, Finance Return, and the Energy Footprint Tool kit. There will be an opportunity at the end for you to ask questions.

For the 4 October session please book [here](#) or for the 11 October session please book [here](#)

World Mission Conference - Ethical Consumerism

Saturday 7 October, 9.00am-1.00pm

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



Ethical consumerism is the practice of purchasing products and services produced in a way that minimises social and/or environmental damage, while avoiding products and services thought to have a negative impact on society or the environment. Key speakers include Mike Gidney, CEO of the Fairtrade Foundation

and Ruth Lindley, Campaigns Lead, Transform Trade, with more to be announced soon. Please book [here](#).

Inspire Counselling, Training Celebration and Thanksgiving Service

Sunday 8 October, 10.00am

St Matthew's Church, Portman Road, Ipswich IP1 2EX

Celebrating 25 years of providing a counselling service and 30 years of providing training. Bishop Martin will be in attendance and will re-commission Inspire and the team. Refreshments and cake will be provided. This is an open invitation - no need to respond, just turn up!

Rolling Down Justice: Disability, Intersectionality & God

Saturday 14 October, 10.00am to 4.30pm

On Zoom, with BSL and captions

Intersectionality is a way of describing how social categories (eg disability, race, gender) combine to create overlapping systems of discrimination or disadvantage. In this online conference you will explore intersectional experience and how we can help the waters of justice flow in church and the world around us. Through art, story and theology; in talks, small groups, workshops and worship. Book [here](#).

Holy Trinity Church Scaffolding Tours

Thursday 26 October, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford CO10 9DT

Following a successful event in August, this is another opportunity to view Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford from the highest interior point of the church to view the ongoing repairs; look at areas usually completely inaccessible to people, and take in panoramic views through the windows. Cost is £15 and includes coffee/cake. Booking essential, please contact [Judi Moss](#) on 07748 038074.

An Adventurous Advent

Saturday 28 October, 9.00am - 12.30pm

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

An invitation to all Readers, Licensed Lay Ministers, Elders and those in training - do join us as Mark Oakley leads us in preparation for An Adventurous Advent. The language of hope, promise and waiting is not evident in today's culture and our communities embrace Christmas at the beginning of December with the switching on of town lights and Christmas carol services throughout the month. The season of Advent, with its four weeks of waiting, is counter-cultural. To find out more and book your place on this event, [please click here](#).

Notices

Collecting Diversity Data - for the attention of all Clergy and Licensed Lay

Ministers: May we encourage you to take the few moments to update your HR Diversity data on the 'People System'. This is part of a programme to support 'Belonging and Inclusion' strategies and is part of the recommendations contained in 'From Lament to Action: Archbishops' Anti-Racism Taskforce calls for urgent changes to culture of Church of England'. In addition, the Church of England's Racial Justice team is seeking to mobilise all Global Majority Heritage (GMH)/UK Minoritised Ethnic (UKME) clergy, ordinands and lay ministers and leaders to join an ethnocultural communications network. Such networks form part of a wider governance, management, and change agenda to help promote equality, diversity, and inclusion. You are invited to help coordinate voice, identify needs, and strengthen the network by registering with the GMH/UKME Communication network. To find out more please email racialjusticeunit@churchofengland.org. To register please use this link: cofe.io/gmh-network

Beyond Belief is a Radio Four series exploring the place and nature of faith in today's world. Next week's episode will feature the Revd Canon Andrew Dotchin - available to listen [here](#) from next Monday.

Vacancies

[Team Rector](#) | The Forest Heath Team Benefice | Closing date: 12 September
[Rector | Claydon and Barham, Great Blakenham and Henley](#) | Closing date: 22 September
[Priest \(0.5\)](#) | Sproughton, Burstall, Copdock with Washbrook & Belstead | Closing date: 26 September

[Part time Fundraiser and Bid-writer](#) | Lightwave | Closing date: 27 September
[Chaplain and Leader of Youth Orientated Congregation](#) | Debenham High School | Closing date: 28 September

[Rector of Beccles](#) | Closing date: 4 October | Visits & Interviews: 26-27 October

[Priest in Charge 0.8 FTE](#) | Alde River Benefice | Closing date: 4 October

[House for Duty Priest in Charge](#) | The Wrentham Benefice | Closing date: 9 October

[Rector Designate](#) | East Bergholt, Brantham, Bentley & Tattingstone | Closing date: 10 October

[Choir Director](#) | Woodbridge

[Centre Manager of the Sanctuary Day Centre](#) | Ipswich

River Church, Ipswich are recruiting for Director of Operations, Kids Pastor and Spear Centre Manager/Employability Coach. All details at: riverchurchipswich.org/vacancies

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



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