Thursday 16 June 2022

Bishops unite to condemn ‘shameful’ Rwanda plan for asylum-seekers

Bishop Martin added his personal support to the widespread coverage of the letter to The Times from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the other 23 bishops who sit as Lords Spiritual in the House of Lords on the Government’s plans to deport asylum seekers from the UK to Rwanda.

Bishop Martin says, “This is a policy that targets and punishes the victims, not the perpetrators. These are refugees fleeing danger, people whose lives have been torn apart by war, conflict, or oppression, fleeing for their lives and many are longing to come to this country to join family and friends.

We need to have a means to provide safe passage for refugees fleeing war and oppression and a process for assessing asylum claims here in this country. We are capable of doing that, in partnership with other countries, as we have seen in the responses, albeit limited, to the situations in Syria and Afghanistan. The response to the war in Ukraine shows just how many people in this country want to reach out to help those who are fleeing for safety”.

Responding to the crisis in Ukraine:

Please see the updated Suffolk Churches welcome Ukrainians leaflet and if you know of additional groups or would like to offer or receive some support please email Paul Taylor (or call on 07768 074107) or email Archdeacon Rhiannon. or visit our website page here for all our resources.

Lambeth Conference 2022

The 15th Lambeth Conference will meet in Canterbury, Kent, between 26 July – 8 August 2022. Every bishop of the Anglican Communion is invited to the Lambeth Conference which is convened by The Most Reverend Justin Welby – The Archbishop of Canterbury. The Lambeth Conference has met once a decade since 1867 and is a significant event in the life of the Anglican Communion. The conference will explore church and world affairs. Outcomes of the conference will shape the life of the Anglican Communion in the decade ahead.
As the conference draws closer, you are invited to pray for the Lambeth Conference and the impact it can have on the life of the Anglican Communion in the decade ahead. Please pray for the bishops and their spouses who attend, and the churches and communities they represent from around the world. The Lambeth Conference Prayer Journey has been launched with daily content on social media:

www.facebook.com/lambethconference

www.twitter.com/lambethconf

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**Church shop celebrates 25th anniversary**

A church charity shop at the heart of a community in Ipswich is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Living Water in Dickens Road, Ipswich, is part of Triangle Church and first opened its doors in June 1997. Offering a range of second-hand clothes, toys, bric-a-brac and books, it also includes a community café for people to visit and have a chat with their cup of tea.

Debbie Carey, managing director of the Living Water shop, said: "It’s a relaxed calm place where people can come to meet, shop and chat. Alongside our two managers we have our volunteers who do an amazing job, whether sorting donated goods or drinking coffee and speaking with people, we couldn’t operate without them. At the end of the day, it’s all about the relationships you build with people.”

To read more please visit their website [here](#).

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**Elections**

There are many ways in which you can support the mission and ministry of the church across our parishes and one of them is to help us to exercise sound governance. If you feel called to work collaboratively, assisting in openness of communication and ensuring clarity of decision making, then please do come forward to offer your time and talents. Current elections include:

- **Bishop’s Council**: one Lay vacancy
- **Vacancy in See Committee**: one Clergy vacancy and five Lay vacancies
- **Board of Patronage**: three Lay vacancies

Please find further information, including what each committee is for, who can stand and application details, on our website [here](#).

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**Events**

**God Calling?**
18 June 2022 10.00am to 12.00pm
Assington Hall, 75 Further Street CO10 5LE
Sometimes life can seem so full on and fast paced that we don’t feel that there is any time to stop and listen to God. God Calling? is an opportunity to press the pause button in our busy lives for a couple of hours and tune into God’s still small voice. Join us at the beautiful surroundings of Assington Hall for a morning of quiet reflection on theme of God’s call on our lives. To book your place please visit: https://2022-god-calling.eventbrite.co.uk

**East of England Cathedrals Eco Churches conference**
18 June 2022 10.00am until 1.00pm (online)

Six cathedrals, including St Edmundsbury Cathedral, are joining forces to host an online conference to help churches play their part in achieving the Church of England’s goal of ‘net carbon zero by 2030’. Keynote speakers and workshop leaders include representatives from A Rocha Eco Church, Caring for God’s Acre, Christian Aid, Climate Stewards, a conservation architect and others involved in aspects of the Church’s environmental engagement. Attendance at the conference is free of charge but registration in advance is essential. Full details and registration links are available on the Sustainable Living Conference website www.sustaininggodscreation.org. Download this poster to advertise this event in your church.

**CCX Multiply Conference**
Thursday 23 June
St Thomas, Norwich, NR2 3RL

Multiply 2022 will be an open conversation, a place to hear different voices as questions are explored, where we gather to seek God's wisdom together. What do we hold on to? What do we let go of? What do we change? What do we reconfigure? For this year’s conference, CCX are going local, establishing locations around the country to host these important conversations, to engage with the issues from our diverse contexts and hear local stories. The eastern venue is St Thomas, Norwich, where a church revitalisation plant began in 2013. There will be stories from around our Eastern counties including Ben Wale, Kathy Wilson and Alicia Holmes, all from Suffolk. The Norwich venue will be hosted by Archdeacon Rhiannon and Dave Lloyd, who leads Garden Church in Norfolk (which is very similar to the Lightwave Community).

To book please visit https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/multiply-2022-norwich-tickets

**Sea Sunday**
Sunday 10 July

With 65,000 Ukrainian and 200,000 Russian crew globally, teams around the world are dealing with very significant additional levels of stress, on top of all that has been faced since 2020. The heroism with which world trade is sustained cannot be overstated. This is the background for continuing ministry amongst seafarers. As one of the Church of England’s ten formal Partners in World Mission, and with integral relationships with the Anglican Communion all over the world, this ministry is yours and that of your congregations. Please do join Sea Sunday to raise awareness of the day and the debt of gratitude that we all owe to seafarers. Please share your gatherings on social media.
channels using #seasunday.

Sea Sunday packs can be requested from: seasunday@missiontoseafarers.org or visit www.missiontoseafarers.org/sea-sunday

**Churchwardens’ training 2022**

**Ipswich Archdeaconry |** Tuesday 5 July 2022 | 7.00pm | River Church, St Mary at the Quay, Foundation Street, Ipswich IP4 1BZ

**Suffolk Archdeaconry |** Wednesday 13 July 2022 | 7.00pm | St Luke’s Church, 61 Rigbourne Hill, Beccles NR34 9JQ

**Sudbury Archdeaconry |** Wednesday 27 July 2022 | 7.00pm | All Saints Church Hall, Park Road, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3QW

This event has been enormously successful in the past. The training session is aimed primarily at new or nearly new churchwardens, but experienced ones invariably find that there is always something new to learn. The sessions are also open to anyone who might have reason to think that he or she could be a churchwarden before long! The session covers Churchwardens’ tasks and legal responsibilities, issues about building maintenance and faculties and many other related issues. There is always an opportunity for Question and Answer sessions.

**Relaunch - Choral Mattins**
St Agnes Church, Newmarket CB8 7BT
Sunday 17 July 2022 11.15am

The St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Branch of the Prayer Book Society invite you to Choral Mattins followed by a bring and share lunch. At 1.30pm there will also be a talk by Rt Revd Graeme Knowles CVO before Evensong at 3.00pm. To register for all or part of the day please email The Revd Canon Mark Haworth: mhaworth50@hotmail.com

**Youth Mental Health Aware**
Thursday 14 July 1.00pm – 4.00pm (Online)

Delivered by Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) England, this online course offers an introduction to young people’s mental health, covering common issues affecting young people, skills to work more effectively with young people living with mental health issues; ways to support young people with a mental health issue and relate to their experiences. Book your place here.

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**Notices**

**Covid-19:** Please visit the Diocesan guidance page here for the most up to date information and guidance for churches.
Notices

**Lead theft:** Lead theft from church roofs has returned to the diocese with St Peter's Church in Little Thurlow suffering in recent days.

Please be vigilant and if you see a crime taking place ring 999. On no account approach the thieves. If you notice a lead theft after the event then report it to the police via 101 or preferably the website [www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something/report-crime](http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something/report-crime). Mention your church is a heritage building and that it gets reported as a heritage crime, this helps the police keep track of the threats to historic churches. More information is on our website [here](http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something/report-crime).

Without security measures, such as Smartwater and cameras, the pay out from insurance companies almost certainly won’t cover the cost of repairs, whether like-for-like or otherwise. As Sgt Brian Calver, Rural Crime, Suffolk Constabulary says, "If there is no alarm, despite the costs involved, this is a false economy as the losses must far outweigh the cost of one. Any alarms should be treated as a priority for (police) attendance and if any are activated during daylight hours, notify the police as this is often a precursor event to such an attack". [Suffolk Historic Churches Trust](http://suffolkhistoricchurches.org.uk) provides grants towards the cost of installing roof alarms.

**2022 contactless giving digital roll out:** We are delighted to announce that we have been selected to receive another 40 contactless devices in early October. The devices available will suit churches with no Wi-Fi or mobile SIM coverage as well as those with Wi-Fi and good mobile SIM coverage, so no church is excluded from applying. Applications will be online and the application link will be on our website on Thursday 30 June 2022 and close on 20 July 2022.

**Vacancies**

[Priest-in-Charge](http://www.suffolk.org.uk/vacancies) (5 year fixed term post) | St Peter’s Stoke Park, Ipswich | Closing date: 30 June

[Full-time Verger](http://www.suffolk.org.uk/vacancies) | Cathedral | Closing date: 1 July

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