Thursday 19 May 2022

**Responding to the crisis in Ukraine:** Please visit our website [here](#). Come along on Saturday 21 May, 12.00pm to 2.00pm to St Mary’s Church, Woodbridge to find out more about welcoming Ukrainians to Woodbridge.

**Bishop Martin champions Suffolk in the House of Lords**

Bishop Martin delivered his maiden speech on Monday 16 May in the House of Lords, as he enters the House as a Lord Spiritual, setting out his intentions to be a voice for Suffolk in parliament.

Speaking on the third day of the Queen’s Speech debate which focussed on the economy, energy and the environment, Bishop Martin also highlighted rural poverty and isolation and the challenges facing the young especially.

Bishop Martin said: “I have had the joy and privilege of serving the people of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, which comprises most of the wonderful county of Suffolk, for the past seven years. It has been a journey of great discovery, learning about rural life, agriculture, care of the land and environment, the conditions of rural poverty and isolation, and the challenges particularly facing young people, that are hidden behind picture post card scenes of beautiful landscape and coastline. It is these concerns and experiences that I hope to bring to the attention of the House and Her Majesty’s Government.”

Bishop Martin also called on the Government to act now on the climate crisis for the long-term future of everyone.

To view the speech please visit BBCiPlayer [here](#) and click forward to watch at 51.26.

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**Bishop Martin invites everyone in our parishes to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee together.**

Click [here](#) for all resources.
We will be celebrating the Queen’s Jubilee at the Suffolk Show
31 May and 1 June 2022

Suffolk’s big agricultural show returns after a two-year break.

This year, as part of the #SuffolkBlessing theme, visitors to the marquee will be invited to write messages of joy on postcards to pass on to their friends and families with the aim of spreading a little joy across the county. The tent will be comfortably furnished to allow visitors to enjoy complimentary tea, coffee and cakes and be entertained with, for example, a puppet show and Messy Church crafts for children, free face painting and arcade games. At 2.30pm each day, the marquee will erupt in song – with a chorus of popular hymns echoing through the tent.

The Revd Canon Dave Gardner, said: "This year, we are launching #SuffolkBlessing as our key theme at the show alongside our Jubilee prayer. Our marquee will be filled with fun activities and refreshments – we would love to see you there."

Come along and see us at stand 602.

Saying farewell

Sadly, Wednesday 1 June marks Diocesan Secretary Anna Hughes’ last day in post at the Diocese. As we thank her for services to the Diocese and send her off with good wishes for her retirement, please email jorna.todd@cofesuffolk.org if you would like to contribute and recognise this occasion.

Events

Living our faith - facilitating inclusive ministries in worship and witness
Saturday 21 May 9.30am to 3.00pm
Earl Stonham Village Hall, Forward Green IP14 5HJ
Are you interested in widening your vision to make God’s Kingdom accessible to all? Our visiting speakers will focus on relating to those with mental ill-health, dementia and hearing problems within our churches and communities. Book here.

‘Footprints on the Earth’ Prayer Walk
Thursday 26 May 6.00pm to 8.30pm
Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve, Foxearth CO10 7HZ

Join this prayer walk led on the reserve by the Revd Ruth Ridge. Relax together and bring your own picnic supper. This prayer walk is offered by Churches Together as part of ‘Suffolk in Prayer’ and ‘Thy Kingdom Come’. All are very welcome. No booking required.
A teaching morning with Bishop Martin - Worship for Christian Formation
Saturday 28 May 9.30am – 12.00pm
Christ Church Moreton Hall, Lawson Place, Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EW

Gathering for worship is the primary focus for growing deeper in faith and discipleship for all who attend our churches. Formation for Christian life in communities centred on word and sacrament is at the heart of our journey of faith. This morning is designed to assist all who lead and plan worship to explore the understanding, insights and practices that can help our acts of worship be formational and transformational for our congregations of whatever shape, size or flavour. Register here: https://worship-for-christian-formation.eventbrite.co.uk

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

Praxis East Relaunch event - Creative Worship Outside
Thursday 7 July 2022, 2.00 - 4.00pm (Zoom)

Praxis East is relaunching in a new network style to enable liturgy and worship practitioners across the eastern region to come together for mutual support and learning. This is an ideal opportunity for clergy and lay ministers to share ideas and expertise.

Covid-19 restrictions forced us to explore worship differently. Many churches have been experimenting with creative worship outside, but what does this look like? From ‘Forest Church’ to ‘Pimms’n’ Hymns’ to ‘Wild Compline’, how does worship look in an outdoor space? What is the biblical precedent for such worship? And how does this relate to our concern for the environment? This is an opportunity to share experiences and find out more in time to enjoy further experimentation over the summer in your own context. Further information, joining details and more please visit: www.praxisworship.org.uk.

Notices

Covid-19: Please visit the recently updated Church of England page here and the Diocesan guidance page here for the most up to date information and guidance for churches.

Notices

Annual return of Parish Officer information: We are in the process of asking parishes
to provide details of the Churchwardens and officers appointed for your parish following your parish’s Annual Meeting. This is being done electronically and if you have any queries about the process, please contact Alison Barker at the Diocesan Office (alison.barker@cofesuffolk.org or call 07485 348882)

Festival of Suffolk Business Expos: As part of Suffolk’s response to celebrating the Jubilee, the Festival of Suffolk team has been encouraging schools to bring their teenagers along to a number of careers events across Suffolk.

- Friday 17 June, Suffolk One’s Employability and Leadership Conference will focus on the Ports & logistics sector.
- Tuesday 21 June, The Technology Day will be led by BT.
- Wednesday 22 June, the University of Suffolk, ‘Education Beyond Teaching’ day will look at career opportunities in education.
- Monday 27 June, Jackson, the renowned civil engineering company, is hosting a day of activities.
- Monday 27 June, Willis Towers Watson is holding a day on Financial Solutions.
- Tuesday 28 June, Vertas features Sustainability at Endeavour House and the Hold, Ipswich.
- Friday 1 July, Abbeycroft Leisure in Haverhill will inspire young people into careers in Health, Fitness and Well-being.
- 4-7 July, EDF is hosting several Energy Days.

It is hoped that the Expos will create a powerful legacy of Suffolk businesses working together as well as inspiring Suffolk’s students to discover their future careers. Further details available here.

Vacancies

Team Vicar | Wilford Benefice
Part time HR Manager | Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich
Lead Evangelist | Centre of Mission, Ipswich