Our regular round up of news and forthcoming events from our diocese

Thursday 29 June 2023

Diocesan Synod: 24 June 2023

Bishop Martin welcomed Synod members to St Edmundsbury Cathedral on Saturday 24 June. This Synod's key focus was on climate change, with the key mission message being: "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth." You are able to watch the Presidential speech below, where Bishop Martin introduces Principal Amon from Kagera Christian Theological College (starts at 11.30 mins in the video).

Principal Amon talks about a big shift to all, as the people of Kagera experience climate change in their lives. He shared information about initiatives to educate communities to make sure they understand the negative impacts of climate change, plant trees, grow different crops such as avocados and use energy stoves to limit the use of firewood - thus reducing deforestation.

Synod members took part in four breakout sessions to discuss Church Heating, Churchyards, Eco Church, and the Diocesan Route Map. The Synod presentation, with feedback from the breakout sessions, will be added to our Synod website page here.

Synod also enjoyed updates on:
Schools from Jane Sheat, Diocesan Director of Education
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, from Dean Joe and his team
Lightwave from Sally Gaze, Archdeacon for Rural Mission who launched the video below.

[Video]

Lightwave Update at Synod

Saturday 1 July Ordinations

Bishop Martin and Bishop Mike will ordain 10 deacons and 13 priests on Saturday, please join in praying for these candidates, their families and the people they will serve.

To be ordained Deacon by Bishop Mike at 10.30am

- Mary Brown | The Benefice of Alde Sandlings
- Sarah Hall | Ipswich St Augustine
- Karen Smith | The Benefice of the Stour Valley
- Alexandra Taylor | The Benefice of Beccles with Worlingham, North Cove and Barnby
- Joanna Gunn | Ipswich St Mary le Tower
- Sarah Lock | Rougham, Beyton with Hessett & Rushbrooke
- Doreen Page | The Benefice of Beccles with Worlingham, North Cove and Barnby
- Edith Peck | Framlingham with Saxtead
- Lorna Penaluna | Ipswich St Matthew, Triangle and All Saints
- Katherine Wilson | The Benefice of the Wilford Peninsula and Lightwave Pioneer at The Place by the Water

To be ordained Priest by Bishop Martin at 2.30pm

- Catriona Brinkley | The Benefice of the Blackbourne Team Ministry
- Elizabeth Fox | Ipswich St John the Baptist with St Andrew
- Diane Grano | The Benefice of the Forest Heath Team Ministry and as the Leader of Lightwave Red Lodge and Co-Leader of the Lightwave Community
- Nicola Grieves | Barrow
- Sarah Gull | Bury St Edmunds St Mary with St Peter
- Helen Kerridge | Hundred River & Wainford
- Gail Minter | The Benefice of Carlford
Vocation Spotlight: - Caitlin Brinkley - Reader

I applied for the discernment process to become a Reader, and I attended my discernment panel two days before my first A Level exam. I decided to take a gap year before university to undertake the Reader training and it has allowed me to grow in my faith and relationship with God through this ministry.

For the past two years I have been involved in the leadership of the Chaplaincy at the University of Winchester where I was studying for a Psychology degree. They helped me to complete my training, observing ministerial tasks like leading intercessions or preaching and giving me feedback, and since my licensing I have been part of the ministerial team. Having a smaller and different setting has done wonders for the beginning of my ministry, I've been able to explore my strengths with great guidance and serve the Chaplaincy community and beyond.

To read Caitlin's full story on being a Reader please visit our website here.

Growing in God Growth Fund

The Growth Fund is here to support your church engage creatively in mission. We can offer grants up to £1,500 to support you in outward-looking projects to develop your local mission to the wider community. You may need some extra money to fund projects outlined in your Plan For Growth, or you may be planning mission projects in the summer and just need a little money to get started.

If you would like to apply for funding, all you need to know is on our website here.
Download our leaflet here.

Dementia Support

We are currently looking at the support that churches (and their buildings) provide to those with Dementia and the people that care for them. If your church has any involvement with a support group for those with Dementia, please email our Mission Project Officer helen.prior-townsend@cofesuffolk.org as we are trying to collate best
practice information from benefices who have involvement with groups for those with Dementia either directly or indirectly.

Events

Safeguarding Q&A Session

This is a meeting for all Parish/Benefice Safeguarding Officers to ask questions, and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team will do their best to provide you with some answers. Please join us so that we can get to know you a little better, at the same time as updating you with any changes to Safeguarding Training, DBS checks, the Dashboard, or other matters that you would like to know more about. Both sessions are the same, please choose from:

- Tuesday 4 July, 7.00pm [Book here]
- Saturday 15 July, 9.30am [Book here]

I am Mark

Friday 7 July, 7.00pm
St Gregory's Church, Sudbury CO10 1BA

An opportunity to witness Stefan Smart's incredible performance as he brings Mark's Gospel to life. It is a superb and highly acclaimed one-man act. Entrance is free, but a £10 donation encouraged. There will also be a pay-as-you-go bar available during the evening. It would be helpful if you could indicate your intention to attend via [St Gregory's Church event tickets from TicketSource].

Healing weekend

Christ Church Moreton Hall, Symonds Road, Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EW

Saturday 8 July, 10.00am - 2.30pm
If you or your Church fellowship would like to receive Biblical instruction with practical application on the healing ministry, please join the Revd David Perrett for teaching and training for healing prayer. Cost is £10 and includes a light lunch.

Sunday 9 July 10.30am and 6.30pm
Two healing services, teaching and inviting people to receive healing by the power of the Holy Spirit.

For more information on both events contact the Revd Jonathan Ford on 01284 769956 or email Revdjonathanford@gmail.com

Summer Fair and Gloria!

8 July 2023
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LS

The Summer Fair is free to attend and will start at 12.00pm. It will feature Morris dancing, an indoor market, a BBQ from the Cathedral restaurant Pilgrims’ Kitchen, family craft
activities, face painting, a family treasure hunt, LEGO activities and much more. There is also an opportunity to climb the Cathedral Tower with prices just £3.00 for individuals and £10.00 per family, tower climbs will be available at 12.00pm, 1.00pm, 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.00pm. Children must be 10 years old or over and accompanied by an adult.

In the evening of the same day, 'Gloria! A Summer Concert' will showcase the talent of the St Edmundsbury Cathedral musicians, performing a magnificent programme of music for a summer's evening. Tickets for Gloria! A Summer Concert start at £8.00 and are available online [here](https://us2.campaign-archive.com/?e=__test_email__&u=c52dd45d5732d5bd4c5aa7748&id=398e1163d1).

**PCC Workshop - The DAC: A User’s Guide**

Tuesday 11 July, 7.30pm, Zoom

‘You will need a faculty for that’ is a phrase that strikes dread into the heart of many churchwardens and members of the clergy. But it need not be. As an insider talking to users, Edmund Harris explains how the faculty system works. Please book [here](https://us2.campaign-archive.com/?e=__test_email__&u=c52dd45d5732d5bd4c5aa7748&id=398e1163d1).

**Building a generous culture**

Wednesday 12 July, 7.00pm

Village Hall, Felsham Road, Bradfield St George, Bury St Edmunds IP30 0AS

Join the Parish Resources Team to find out about building a generous culture in your parish. To book please email Yalda.davis@cofesuffolk.org, stating your name, parish role and parish.

**PCC Workshop - Crime in our churches and churchyards and how to reduce it**

Tuesday 18 July, 7.30pm, Zoom

Sergeant Brian Calver, one of Suffolk Constabulary's top police officers from the Rural Crime Neighbourhood Partnership Team, will cover the current areas targeted by thieves in churches and churchyards across the region, and what parishes and local communities can do to reduce the chances of falling victim to these heinous acts. Please book [here](https://us2.campaign-archive.com/?e=__test_email__&u=c52dd45d5732d5bd4c5aa7748&id=398e1163d1).

**Crematorium Familiarisation Visits**

Thursday 20 July, Thursday 24 August, Thursday 21 September, Thursday 19 October or Thursday 23 November, starting 11.30am

West Suffolk Crematorium, Bury St Edmunds IP28 6RR

West Suffolk Crematorium has kindly offered familiarisation visits on a selection of dates to see 'behind the scenes'. This is an opportunity to help those of us wishing to understand more of what happens when a cremation takes place. Please note there is a maximum of six people per visit. To make a booking, and for further information, please contact West Suffolk Crematorium direct on 01284 755118.

**PCC Workshop - Building Friends' Groups**

Tuesday 25 July, 7.30pm, Zoom

Lots of churches have Friends' Groups and they can be very useful for mobilising the wider community to look after the fabric of your church. This webinar will tell you what you need
to know to get your Friends’ Group off on the right foot and functioning effectively and harmoniously. Please book here.

**Photographic portrait exhibition**
4 - 26 July 2023
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LS

This is an exceptional photographic project documenting all 42 of England’s Anglican cathedrals undertaken by Peter Marlow (1952 - 2016) who travelled across England documenting the interiors of these iconic architectural landmarks. More information here.

**Know and Grow Makaton Course**
Saturday 23 September 9.45am – 4.30pm
All Saints' Church Hall, Church Road, Sudbury, CO10 2BL (parking opposite)

We're hoping to equip churches with key-word signing so they can become more welcoming and accessible to adults with learning disabilities, enabling them to come to know Jesus and grow in their faith. Workshop includes: Makaton use for every day, Makaton Christian vocabulary and signing in church. Tickets are £25 per person and advance booking is essential as places are limited. To book please email Makaton Tutor: janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk or call 07896 675538. Please bring your own lunch.

**Notices**

**Return of Parish Finance:** Over 50% of parishes have already submitted their forms - thank you. Returns are to be submitted on the Online Parish Returns System, if you require login details or any other assistance regarding the online portal, please contact statistics@cofesuffolk.org by email. The deadline is extended to 31 July 2023. Further information is available on our website here.

**Vacancies**

- **Independent Volunteer Health & Safety Advisor, Governance Committee** | Closing date: 30 June
- **House for Duty Priest in Charge** | The Wrentham Benefice | Closing date: 7 July
- **Rector** | Orwell and Deben | Closing date: 10 July
- Perspectives Ipswich’s Centre Co-ordinator | for further information please email perspectivesipswich.plss@gmail.com or call 07443 537541
- **Choir Director** | Woodbridge
- **Volunteer Parish Administrator** | St Peter’s Church, Stoke Park, Ipswich
- **Rector’s PA & Benefice Administrator** | Carlford Churches
- **Spiritual Care Worker:** | St Elizabeth Hospice | Closing date: 12 July
- **Parish Nurse Vacancy** | Walton Parish Nursing | Closing date: 31 August

Vacancies at River Church: Director of Operations, Spear Centre Manager, PA to the
Church Leaders and River College Internship. For details on all these roles please visit Vacancies at River Church here.

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