



Thursday 8 April 2021

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Growing in God

Please visit the Church of England page [here](#) and the Diocesan guidance page [here](#) for the most up to date information and guidance for churches during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Growing Younger

The University of Suffolk has been conducting research to see what impact the pandemic has had on the young people in Suffolk. This followed substantial research carried out and published in July 2019 on young people's perceptions of both the challenges and opportunities they have in Suffolk, which was commissioned by a group of community leaders including Bishop Martin.

Bishop Martin says "I have no doubt that those who will bear the greatest long-term impact of the pandemic are our young people. We do know it is already affecting young people's mental health, job opportunities, and sense of themselves and the world. We need to listen and work with young people, as we look to the future, to their future and our future".

To read the full report please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/4m248vat>

Leading a culture of teacher excellence

The Government has announced its partner providers for the reformed National Professional Qualifications (NPQ) for aspiring education leaders. We are delighted that, among nine national providers, is a new partnership between the Church of England and Catholic Education Service. This project has a focus on ensuring that rural school leaders can access and benefit from the programmes. To read the full story please visit [here](#).

St Edmundsbury Cathedral to receive £72,900 from second round of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund

Nearly £400 million has been awarded to thousands of cultural organisations across the country and we are delighted that this includes St Edmundsbury Cathedral. The Grade 1 listed Cathedral welcomes around 70,000 visitors annually and due to the pandemic it is adapting and re-imagining its offer to visitors, pilgrims and worshippers in order to offer engaging heritage experiences in new ways. This vital grant support will enable the Cathedral to carry out essential maintenance, develop its digital technology and train and equip staff and volunteers for new and enhanced roles post-pandemic.

We've got wings - Needham Angels



Needham Market has a giant pair of angel wings outside St John's church and you are invited to take your photo in front of the new wings and then to post the photo to social media with the tag #needhamangels. It's just a fun thing to celebrate all the wonderful people in and around the town as they start looking towards the end of lockdown. For more information please visit: [St John Church Needham Market](#) | [Facebook](#)

Invitation from the Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care System

The people of Suffolk and North East Essex are being asked to send in 1-2 minute films describing their individual recent experiences of health and care and their personal perspective on the question 'How do we help everyone heal?'. Films will be entered into a competition, with prizes for the best films awarded at an Online Awards Ceremony in May 2021. We will also use the best film entries, with your permission, to create a Digital Online Forum and as to help with local discussions about health equality. To enter your film and to find out more please visit their website [here](#). The deadline for submissions is 30 April so get filming!

Lightwave launches 40 Days of Faith



The Lightwave team have been sharing stories of joy and love throughout 2021, with 40 days of hope, followed by 40 days of kindness. Now we're spending the next 40 days exploring faith! We would like to share across the diocese what faith means to different people and how it affects their lives.

We would love you to get involved and send us a 60 second video expressing what faith means to you, and we will then share these between Easter and Pentecost. Let's share with others what faith in God is like for us and let us celebrate what God has given us in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus! Please send your videos to becky.luetchford@cofesuffolk.org

Thy Kingdom Come 2021 – 13 to 23 May



Thy Kingdom Come has pivoted their resources to be a real help to the church in the current times. They have produced :

[The Cheeky Pandas](#) (11 part series for children aged 3 and over.

[11 Video Youth](#) reflections produced in partnership with the Archbishop of York's Youth Trust and an Escape Room.

[The Prayer Journal](#), written by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell.

CPO have 100,000 copies to giveaway please visit: www.cpo.org.uk/ThyKingdomCome for more details.

[The Novena](#) – Praying the Psalms from Ascension to Pentecost (A large print version is also available).

[Promotional video](#) - please feel free to share in your

networks / on your social media platforms.

[Webinar](#) on how to run Thy Kingdom Come in your church on 12 April 2021.

Events

What about Young People?

Wednesday 28 April 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Join Matt Levett (Diocesan Youth & Young Adults Officer), Becks Roberts (Inspiring Ipswich Communications Lead) and Andy Jefferson (Pioneer Developer) for an evening of conversation, inspiration and practical advice to help you put young people at the heart of the mission of your church...and keep them there. By attending this event you will receive 'Making Youth Work Work' a free downloadable resource. To book please visit: www.inspiringipswich.org/wayp.

Richard Stainer - Recounts his travels to remote communities in Ethiopia

Tuesday 13 April at 7.00pm

Prior to lockdown, local Christian Aid supporter, Richard Stainer, travelled to remote communities in Ethiopia and listened to peoples' stories about how their lives have changed as the climate and seasons have changed. He promised to share their stories on his return. Join Richard via Zoom as he recounts what people said and how Christian Aid's Ethiopian workers are offering support. For a Zoom invitation please contact Julian Bryant on jbryant@christian-aid.org

Domestic Abuse Awareness training

12 May 2021

At Lighthouse we are aiming to break the cycle of domestic abuse across communities in Suffolk by creating awareness and understanding, and offering education about domestic abuse in particular to those who come into contact with domestic abuse through their work. If you would like more information please contact Lesley Steed at lesley.steed@cofesuffolk.org. Book at: <https://dv-awareness-may12-2021.eventbrite.co.uk>

Lightwave Small Group leader training

14, 21 and 28 April 7.30pm – 9.00pm on Zoom

This three session course trains Lightwave group leaders and helpers by enabling them to experience and model the life of a Lightwave group. Come prepared to learn, to laugh, to pray and be both supported and challenged. This course is free of charge. You will be emailed the Zoom details nearer to the start of the course, to the email address you sign up with. To book please visit: <https://lightwave.churchsuite.com/events/ffk4eshv>.

What Next? - Conversations on discerning Christian vocation

Saturday 22 May 10.00am

Are you thinking, What does God want me to do next? Or do you know younger people trying to work out how to think about their next steps in ministry, in a church changed and still changing as a result of the turbulent events of the last year? If you are aged 16-32, you are invited to join the conversation. For further information and to book please visit: <https://what-next-2021.eventbrite.co.uk>

TRiM 2021: Flourishing in your vocation: ways to deepen your calling

Friday 11 June 9.00am

Led by John-Francis Friendship, this one-day online conference is open to licensed/PTO clergy and licensed/PTO Readers from the East of England (Diocese of Chelmsford, Ely, Norwich, Peterborough, St Albans and St Edmundsbury and Ipswich). There's a lot of emphasis at present on ministerial 'flourishing'. For some that can mean how we can do what we do better and more effectively, whilst for others it concerns how we take care of ourselves so that we don't burn out. This conference will try to bring these two strands together – the 'being', if you like, and the 'doing'. For further information and to book please visit: <https://trim-2021-day-2.eventbrite.co.uk>

In case you missed it

- St Edmundsbury Cathedral have offered the recorded services from over the Easter period, available on their website [here](#).
- Bishop Martin's Easter message can be seen [here](#).
- The Diocesan film 'Flourishing Congregations' is available on our website [here](#) and the YouTube link to include it in your services and add to your websites including A Church Near You is here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wh1rb7lhZB4

Notices

Rural Monthly Report - focusing on issues of rural life and farming drawing information from organisations connected with the countryside (in its widest sense) within Suffolk and beyond. Items may be of general interest or provide opportunity for prayer. Please contact Brian Chester at bc@bcnewslink.com to submit stories. April's Rural Report is now available [here](#).

Vacancies

[Political Enabler - Volunteer](#) | Expressions of interest: 30 April 2021

[Learning Manager at St Edmundsbury Cathedral](#) | Closing date: Monday 12 April 2021

[Anglican \(Warren Hill\) Prison Chaplain](#) | Closing date: 12 April 2021



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