



Thursday 25 February 2021

[Printable version](#)

Growing in God

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

Snap up the opportunity to 'Buy a Bishop' and support the Bishops' Lent Appeal



Have you ever wanted the chance to get a Bishop to do your bidding? Thought it might be nice to sit back and watch him mow your lawn or make you a pizza? Well, now you have a chance!

This Lent you are able to bid to buy an hour of a Bishop's time to do something you never thought of before. We are looking for the most creative ideas. So tell us who you are, what you'd like a Bishop to do and why, and how much you're willing to pay. We're looking for bids from individuals as well as groups.

Bishop Martin says; "Whether it's a cake, a loaf of homemade rye bread, a bottle of blackberry gin, a hand-made wooden bowl or a jar of honey, we bishops would be glad to provide something to the highest bidders in the service of our sister diocese of Kagera. There may be something else you have in mind - we're open to possibilities, within reason!"

For all the details please visit our website [here](#).

To find out more about the Bishops' Lent Appeal or make a donation please visit our website: www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal

Please do keep Kagera in your prayers and consider taking part in our challenge for Lent, and if you can, donate generously.

Licensed Evangelists Update by Capt Andrew Payne CA

The Church Army Cluster (local gathering) in the diocese just can't stop growing. Last Thursday (18 February) five new members made their promises to become members of the Church Army Mission Community (CAMC). Dawn Gillett, Graham Miles, Rob Collett and Malcolm Gibbs are all Licensed Evangelists and are now Covenanted Evangelists in CAMC, together with Ingrid Garbett who joined officially as a Companion.



[Church Army](#) is a mission community rooted in the Anglican communion and has been at the forefront of evangelism since its foundation in 1882. Through its DARE strategy – Doing, Advocating, Resourcing and Enabling evangelism - The Church Army seeks to both engage in evangelism and also encourage and support evangelists throughout the country. Many members minister in some of the most challenging areas of the country. Locally in our diocese, those who complete the evangelist training course Share! are invited to apply to join as Covenanted Evangelists and most have done so. Others who support Church Army through prayer, giving, or who work closely with evangelists, can also join as Companion and Co-Workers.

The evangelist training course has been written by Church Army and the Diocese has trialled it in readiness for it to be released as a national resource under a new name, Faith Empowered, which will be offered to other dioceses in conjunction with the Archbishops' College of Evangelists and through Church Army Centres of Mission around the country. So watch this space!

On Thursday the local cluster was joined on Zoom by Louise Luck from the Community Leadership Team, who led the service, and a talk with words of encouragement was given by the Revd Capt Phillip Garbett CA, a Commissioned Church Army Priest Evangelist who served in the diocese for many years before his retirement in 2019.

For more information about Church Army, Faith Empowered, or exploring your call as a Licensed Evangelist please contact Capt Andrew Payne CA on evangelist.adviser@cofesuffolk.org.

Coming Home - Commission on Housing, Church and Community



Around eight million people in England are living in overcrowded, unaffordable or unsuitable housing, according to a recent report by the National Housing Federation. This number is likely to have risen as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In response the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have commissioned the Coming Home report, about housing provision in the UK, which calls for a national plan to tackle the crisis. Coming Home makes recommendations which the Church, government and others can collectively take including the role the Church Commissioners might play. Further details of the report are available [here](#).

Events

Radical Faith: Inspirational Christians' Lives for Challenging Times

Wednesday 3 March 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Priests de la Resistance - Radical Faith in the Darkest of Times by The Revd Fergus Butler-Gallie.

Who says you can't fight fascism in a cassock? This talk will introduce you to clergy - who through acts of derring-do and of quiet bravery - embodied a radical faith in their resistance to fascism during the middle of the Twentieth Century. A veritable awkward squad of priests and partisans, mystics and matrons in whom the faith found a place to shine a light during one of Europe, and Christianity's, darkest hours. The Revd Fergus Butler-Gallie is a clergyman and author who has served in parishes in Liverpool and London. He has written books, articles, reviews and, of course, innumerable sermons.

To book each session please email michael.robinson@cofesuffolk.org. For a full biography please download this [pdf](#). To download the poster please click [here](#).

Domestic Abuse Awareness training

More than 40,000 calls have been made to the National Domestic Abuse Helpline from the start of lockdown until the beginning of July 2020.

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. Creating a culture of openness helps keep victims and their families safer, helps them access specialist support services and empowers them to speak out.

This free one-day course, which is CPD (Continuing Professional Development) accredited, will be led by Katherine Ahluwalia, Training Coordinator at Lighthouse Women's Aid. If you would like more information please contact the Revd Carol Mansell at revcarolallhallows24@gmail.com. To book:

11 March 2021, 9.30am - 3.30pm book here: <https://dv-awareness-march-2021.eventbrite.co.uk>

21 April 2021, 9.30am - 3.30pm book here: <https://dv-awareness-april-2021.eventbrite.co.uk>

Notices

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

It has been confirmed that this will be renewed this year on the same terms as it perviously operated. This scheme will continue to benefit listed places of worship across the country during these difficult times. It will also help to ensure that they are able to reopen fully once it is safe to do so. For further information please visit their website: www.lpwscheme.org.uk.

Safeguarding Dashboards - The Safeguarding Team is happy to announce that the roll out the Safeguarding Dashboard has now begun. This is an electronic database designed to guide parishes through what they need to do in relation to safeguarding policies and procedures. One question which has arisen is in relation to S1 Safer Recruitment training. The S1 training module is not currently available in this diocese, and parishes will not be penalised in any way for not being able to answer this question positively. Roll out of a new Safer Recruitment module is planned for later in the year. For further details please email safeguarding@cofesuffolk.org

Safeguarding Officer Forums - A reminder that the Safeguarding Team is holding Safeguarding Officer Forums throughout spring 2021 and all (if you haven't already) Safeguarding Officers are invited to join them. The one hour Zoom sessions will be an opportunity to meet with other Safeguarding Officers and members of the Safeguarding Team to discuss and share any queries, fears, ideas that you have about Safeguarding in your parish/benefice. Places can be booked via Eventbrite here - [Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Events | Eventbrite](#)

Census 2021 | Sunday 21 March 2021 - You are in an ideal position to offer support to congregation members to complete their census on Sunday 21 March - could you host a Census Sunday session in your community? If your church is able to participate, please email Louise Carson and Timothy Buttle: louise.carsen20@field.census.gov.uk and timothy.buttle84@field.census.gov.uk, copying in Michael Robinson (michael.robinson@cofesuffolk.org) so that we have a record of our collective offer. In the meantime a resource kit is available including posters, social media posts to share, video instructions and more. Please click [here](#) for the details.

Vacancies

[Mission Enabler for St Matthew's Church, Ipswich](#) | Inspiring Ipswich | Closing date Monday 1 March 2021
[Pioneer Evangelist for Ipswich Centre of Mission](#) | Closing date 21 March 2021



Our mailing address is:

Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich
St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich
Suffolk, England IP1 1UQ
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)