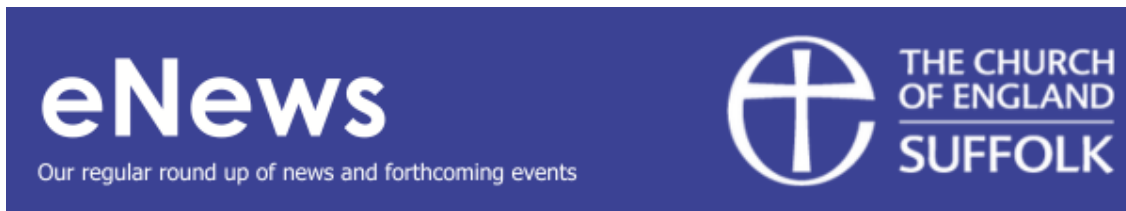


Thursday 15 May 2025



This Sunday BBC Radio 4 Worship Comes to Ipswich Minster



Ipswich's town and civic church, Ipswich Minster, has been chosen to host Sunday Worship, BBC Radio 4's live Sunday morning church service. Sunday Worship is broadcast on BBC Radio 4 and the BBC World Service with some estimates suggesting listeners of up to 1.6million people across the world, including British nationals abroad and armed forces personnel. This

Sunday, 18 May, at 8.10am, a service of Choral Matins will come live from Ipswich, led by the Revd Tom Mumford, along with the church's choir, directed by Christopher Borrett.

The Revd Tom said: *"To be asked to host Sunday Worship is an enormous privilege. This is the second time they have chosen us in the last three years, and that is a testament to the mission and ministry we are pursuing here, not least through our choral tradition which, quite rare for a town, includes both adults and children. My hope and prayer is that people, wherever they tune in from, will experience the peace and presence of God, and hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the story of God's love, afresh for them."*

Ipswich Minster is a parish church that is welcoming and inclusive of all, with a thriving and diverse congregation of people of all ages. The church is open for daily prayer and holds a midweek and Sunday worship including choral services of Matins, Eucharist and Evensong.

Grants for Church Bells | Adrian Knights fund



The Suffolk Guild of Ringers, the charity which looks to cherish church bells and ringing in the Diocese, is very fortunate to have received a significant bequest in the will of a late ringer, Adrian Knights, for the purpose of augmenting rings of bells in the Diocese to eight or more. Please see this open letter addressed to all PCCs ([download the letter here](#)). The Guild would like to hear from any churches interested in

benefiting from such a generous legacy. Email Tim Hart, treasurer@suffolkbells.org.uk or call 07786 656723, to register an interest in this unique and exciting opportunity.

Together we Pray

'Together We Pray' is focusing on the power of prayer and celebrating and supporting our communities and each other through prayer. Each week a different deanery will be

Together we pray

delivering our morning prayers, this week please join the Revd Dennis Coburn from Brandon in Mildenhall Deanery.



The Revd Dennis Coburn is leading Together we Pray w/c 19 May 2025, watch this video to find out more.

Events

Light of the World Concert

Saturday 17 May, 7.00pm start | St Andrew's Church, Rushmere IP5 1DH

As part of our May Festival, you are warmly invited to this joyful presentation of music featuring the acclaimed flute and harp duo, Ken and Rachel Bartels, and the Rushmere Concert Choir, directed by Richard Hubbard (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Music Development Director). The concert is free - just turn up! Full details [Church Website here](#)

Global Food and Pita Festival

Sunday 18 May, 12.00pm-5.00pm, Suffolk New College, Ipswich IP4 1LT

Suffolk Pita Festival is a traditional Bangladeshi Cultural Exhibition that involves a pita competition, traditional food stalls, educational awards, jewellery and accessory stalls, information stalls, children's entertainment, and henna art. With advice on healthy living and eating. Free entry - all are welcomed. For more information please contact info@bscmulticulturalservices.org.uk.

PCC Workshops

You are invited to join topic-based one-hour meetings led by Diocesan staff and parish experts. Suitable for Treasurers, Churchwardens, PCC members and administrators, as well as clergy and LLMs. Each session will involve sharing information and a short presentation.



For more information please email [Emma Rowlinson](mailto:emma.rowlinson@dioceseoflondon.org).

Here are the details of the three workshops:

Benefits of Joining the Parish Giving Scheme, join Steph Hartley from PGS and Emma Rowlinson, Diocesan Giving Advisor | Wednesday 21 May, 1.00pm | [Book here](#)

Find out about Digital Giving | Thursday 22 May, 1.00pm | [Book here](#)

Setting up a Friends Group | Friday 20 June, 12.00pm |

[Book here.](#)

Music at Thornham

St Mary's Magdalene Church, Thornham Parva IP23 8ES

You are welcome to join us for two events at Thornham Parva:

JS Bach, the solo sonatas with Jorge Jimenex playing baroque violin on Saturday 24 May at 12.00pm, tickets £10. John Jenkins Consort on Saturday 7 June at 4.00pm, tickets £20.

For further information and to book please email mail@musicathornham.org.uk or call 01379 788130.

The Lightwave Community CIO Thank You Gathering & AGM

Tuesday 27 May, 6.30pm - 9.00pm

Salvation Army, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1NE

Come along to a fantastic opportunity to hear about what has been happening in and through the Lightwave Community in the last year, to praise God and to show our gratitude all those who have been part of making it happen, especially our trustees. The meeting will also include the essential business of the Annual General Meeting for the Lightwave Community. Refreshments from 6.30pm – Praise story-telling and AGM business from 7.00pm. All are welcome. To find out more and to book please [click here](#).

The Installation of the new Canon Precentor of St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Sunday 1 June 2025 (Easter 7) at 3.30pm | St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

The Acting Bishop and the Dean of St Edmundsbury are pleased to invite the whole diocese to the Collation and Institution of the Revd Katherine (Katy) Helen Cunliffe to the office of Residentiary Canon Precentor. All are welcome to this nave service, which will be followed by refreshments.

Finding Inner Peace- practising meditation & mindfulness

Thursday 5 June, 10.00am – 4.00pm | Metfield near Halesworth.

Led by Revd Catherine Bond, this retreat will focus on the practice of meditation and offering people the opportunity to be in meditation together. *"When we create space within ourselves by letting go of concerns or worries, we create space for God's peace and healing"*. Lark Rise Retreat days are £25/person which includes refreshments and lunch. More details and bookings on www.larkriseretreats.org or call us on 01394 284213.

Climate Sunday

Sunday 8 June, 3.30pm | St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

This year the Climate Sunday service has a theme of 'Celebrating our Care for God's Creation', this service is being held on Pentecost Sunday and will give thanks for all that is happening to protect creation and promote climate justice. A warm welcome to everyone, but particularly to those in our churches who have achieved an Eco award in the past year, their community partners and those beginning their Eco church journey.

Webinar series for 'Love your burial Ground Week' and 'Churches Count on Nature'

As part of 'Love your Burial Ground Week' and 'Churches Count on Nature', a series of lunchtime webinars are on offer, topics to be covered are:

Monday 9 June | **People and Nature**, Five Steps to Churchyard Management

Tuesday 10 June | **Eco Churches count on nature**, How Eco Churches are taking action for nature year-round

Wednesday 11 June | **On the ground**, practical conservation management in two churchyards

Thursday 12 June | **Here be dragons**, amphibians and reptiles in burial grounds

Friday 13 June | **Challenges and opportunities for accessibility in churchyards**

All are 12.00pm to 1.00pm and you can find out more and book a spot [here](#).

Digital Surgeries with the Diocesan Parish Resources Team

Wednesday 11 June, 2.00pm - 4.00pm | Diocesan Office, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich IP1 1UQ

Come along and have a personal one-to-one session with our Diocesan Giving Advisors to find out about purchasing or borrowing a contactless device, setting up online giving (including QR codes), get your contactless device repaired or updated with new campaigns, and find out how to have an effective online giving presence on your ACNY or website pages. For more information email [Emma Denton](#) or [Emma Rowlinson](#), Diocesan Giving Advisors. [Book here](#).

'Leading your Church into Growth': LyCiG is back for 2025!

Friday 13 June, 5.00pm to 9.00pm and Saturday 14 June, 9.00am to 6.00pm | Debenham Sports & Leisure Centre IP14 6BL



There's still time to book onto this year's conference! Designed for parish or benefice teams, the conference offers inspiration, tried and tested approaches, and practical suggestions for mission and growth in your context. We'll share a hot meal together on the Friday evening followed by the first talks and discussions, and will then spend Saturday delving deeper into the wisdom that LYCiG has to offer. Offered free of charge to

benefices, there will also be follow-up support throughout the following next year. For more information, email [Katie de Bourcier](#), Diocesan Mission Enabler. Please [visit here to book](#). Watch our short video [here](#).

Flower Festival and Art Show

21 and 22 June, 10.00am to 4.00pm | St Andrew's Church and Barns, Weybread IP21 5TR

Enjoy this grand day out including flowers, art and cake. A real showstopper with art from local talented artists. Proceeds to the church. For more information please email [Frances Brittain](#).

Line Management Skills for Incumbents

Wednesday 2 July, 10.00am | The Sanctuary, Diocesan Office, Ipswich IP1 1UQ

A training day exploring good people management practice for incumbents who manage employees such as administrators, children's and families' workers, youth workers, and others. Led by the Diocese's People Director, Penny Longford, and Diocesan Mission Enabler, the Revd Katie de Bourcier, it will explore good practice and employment law to help you manage people well so that they flourish in their roles and contribute to the life and growth of their parish(es). Only 20 spaces are available, to book click [here](#). Please ensure you are logged into Insight to book this session.

Facilitation Skills for Church Leaders

Wednesday 9 July, 10.00am | St Felix of Dunwich Church, Rendlesham IP12 2GG

This one-day training is for Rural Deans, Lay Chairs, incumbents, diocesan staff and others in leadership roles requiring skilled, creative facilitation of meetings and events. Led by Nicky McGinty, an experienced leadership trainer and self-supporting priest, it will offer practical tools and approaches for facilitating workshops and discussions, and engaging with a wide range of stakeholders. While applicable to many scenarios, these skills may be particularly helpful for those leading and supporting people through times of change. Only 20 spaces are available, please book [here](#). Please ensure you are logged into Insight to book this session.

Quiet Day with Bishop Tim Stevens

Thursday 10 July, 10.00am for 10.30am start to 3.30pm | The Barn, The Rookery, Hollesley Road, Eyke IP12 2RR

Starting with a celebration of the Eucharist, this day will be considering the motto of the Carthusian Order - 'The Cross stands firm while the world turns' - exploring Christian living in a profoundly uncertain world. Please bring food to share at lunch-time - drinks will be provided. Participants are welcome to stroll in the delightful gardens. Please book with Michael Wilde: 01284 767415 or email cormack246@gmail.com. A £10 donation made on the day towards costs would be very much appreciated.

Day Pilgrimage

Saturday 26 July, 10.00am | St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Join a day pilgrimage, a delightful walk along old paths through unspoilt Suffolk countryside, including two lesser known and fascinating churches at Nowton and Rushbrooke. The journey is nine miles in total, and we will aim to have completed it within five hours. Bring food and drink for the journey, and suitable footwear for walking. Toilets available. The pilgrimage returns to Pilgrims' Kitchen via the Abbey Gardens. After refreshment, you are warmly invited to stay for Evensong at 3.30pm. Tickets cost £10 per person. [Book your place here.](#)

Notices

Diocesan Registry Website: Birkett's Diocesan Registry teams serve the dioceses of Guildford, London, Norwich and St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. They have launched a new website where you will be able to find answers to many frequently asked questions about the law relating to the Church of England and its clergy, dioceses and parishes. Please find their new website [here](#).

Completing your Energy Footprint Tool - deadline 30 June: The Energy Footprint Tool is available for you to fill out and use now - the deadline is 30 June. This work is an essential part of caring for God's Creation, by helping to combat global heating and climate change. The data collected from the tool will help your church understand its carbon footprint and enable you to be more eligible for grants to kickstart net zero projects. [Click here](#) to find out more.

Articles of Enquiry: Each year we ask churchwardens to fill in a short survey about their Church and Parish. The responses are used by the Archdeacons and Diocesan team to help shape our strategic planning and support for churches. The survey also provides a useful insight into current church life across Suffolk. The survey is now live for you to complete on the Online Parish Return System (OPRS) and can be accessed [here](#). For any queries completing the survey, please email statistics@cofesuffolk.org

New Electoral Roll: The current electoral rolls (created in 2019) will be replaced with brand-new rolls this year (2025). Everything you need to help you with this is on our website: [APCMs](#). In accordance with the [Church Representation Rules](#), following your APCM and no later than 1 July in each year, parishes should give the Diocesan Secretary written notification of the number of names there are on the roll of the parish as at the date of the annual parochial church meeting. To facilitate this requirement, please return your completed Electoral Roll Certificates by email to diocesan.secretary@cofesuffolk.org. We ask that wherever possible forms are returned electronically, however if you have no means to do this, they can be returned by post at the address: Diocesan Electoral Roll Officer, The Diocesan Office, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich IP1 1UQ.

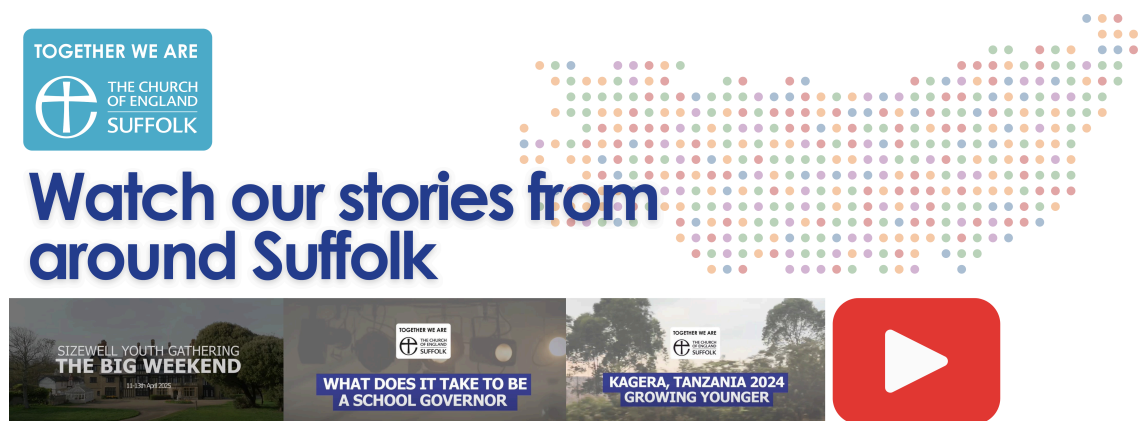
Vacancies

[Lead for Operations](#) | The Lightwave Community and the Lightwave Forest Heath Hub | Closing date: 19 May
[Rector](#) | Woolpit and Drinkstone Benefice | Closing date: 21 May
[House for Duty Team Vicar](#) | Lark Valley and North Bury Team | Closing date: 21 May
[Vicar](#) | St Peter & St Mary's Church, Stowmarket | Closing date: 1 June
[Team Vicar](#) | Sole Bay Team | Closing date: 4 June
[Red Lodge Youth Worker](#) | Lightwave | Closing date: 4 June
[Rector](#) | Barrow Benefice | Closing date: 5 June
[Shop Assistant](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral | Closing date: 6 June
[Verge](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral | Closing date: 11 June

[Team Vicar](#) | Forest Heath Team Ministry | Closing date: 24 June
[Rector](#) | North Bosmere Benefice | Closing Date : 25 June 2025
[Part-time Associate Priest](#) | Carlford Benefice
[Youth Pastor](#) | St Augustine's church, Ipswich
[Verger, Part-time Verger, Events Duty Manager and Shop Assistant](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral

River College: Over a one-year course, through a mixture of classroom teaching in theology and Biblical studies, training in leadership, mentoring from our senior staff team, and practical experience on one of our internship streams, River College students will discover and develop their God-given gifts, ready to transform their church and beyond.
[Find out more and apply here.](#)

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