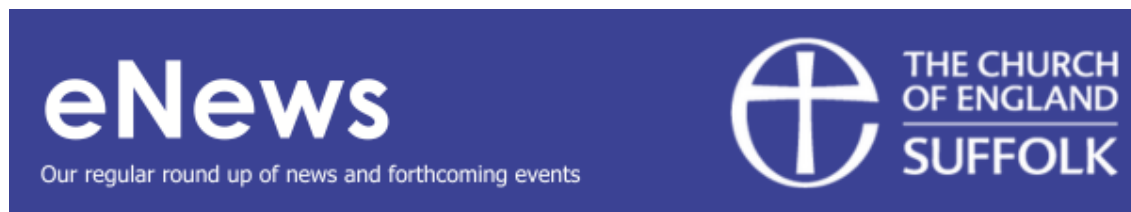


Thursday 6 June 2024



Bishop of Dunwich to become next Bishop of Exeter

Bishop Mike has been appointed by His Majesty the King to become the next Bishop of Exeter. Bishop Mike will succeed the Rt Rev Robert Atwell, who retired last September. Bishop Mike's last Sunday in Suffolk will be on 29 September, and he will be installed at Exeter

Cathedral during the autumn.

Bishop Mike said: *"I am delighted and excited to be the next Bishop of Exeter. It will be a wrench to leave Suffolk and I do so with deep gratitude and affection for the diocese and county. It has been a joy to serve in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich these last eight years. I have been in a privileged position of seeing the difference the Church makes to so many across Suffolk, as well as seeing people come to faith, commit publicly to their faith and to grow in faith across such a wide variety of contexts, and church traditions. I am so grateful to colleagues and congregations for their witness, wisdom and companionship on the way, all of which have been formative as a bishop. I now feel ready to take the next step, going from a suffragan bishop to taking on the added responsibilities that come with the diocesan bishop's role."*

To read the full story, please [click here](#).

Suffolk vicar leads 'poignant' D-Day anniversary services with surviving veterans

The Revd Mandy Reynolds, Team Vicar in the Wilford Peninsula Benefice, has led services to honour the fallen in Normandy for more than a decade and she said this year's memorial service will be all the more important, as it may be the last anniversary she gets to commemorate with those who were there.

Mandy, whose father was a D-Day veteran, says it has been an "honour and a privilege" to have been part of remembering the brave soldiers who fought for our freedom, and those who helped rebuild the country on their return. Mandy joined the military as an army chaplain in 2004 and has led services in France every June since 2011.

To read the rest of this story on our website, [click here](#).



Pray your part - general election 2024



The Church of England is launching a campaign known as #PrayYourPart – to promote prayer and participation in the life of our nation and communities, both as voters and as citizens. A series of daily thematic reflections written by bishops, drawn from the Bible and exploring major themes, will be covering the final three weeks up to polling day. They will be available as a booklet, in audio form for smart speakers, as free opt-in emails and through social media. Each day explores a different theme, with a short Bible reading, reflection and prayer for a different aspect of our common life. You can access free digital versions of this reflection journey and find out how you can get involved in #PrayYourPart

at churchofengland.org/PrayYourPart, sign up for daily election reflections [here](#), and the prayer diary can be bought from Church House Publishing [here](#).

The Churches Together website has useful information about the general election churcheselection.org.uk keeping you up-to-date on how churches and Christian organisations are responding to the General Election. Running a hustings (a public meeting where members of the public can listen to and ask questions of the candidates who are standing for election) can be a great way to be part of the democratic process. If you are interested in running a hustings, please download the guidance here: [Hustings Guidance for Churches](#).

General Election Hustings for Suffolk Coastal Constituency: Sunday 16 June 6.00pm at St John's Church, Saxmundham IP17 1ES | Join SKC Church, Saxmundham Town Council and Churches Together in Saxmundham and Kelsale for the general election hustings for Suffolk Coastal Parliamentary Constituency. Booking information is available [here](#). Live streaming will be available.

Diocesan Board of Patronage Election: There is a clergy vacancy on the Diocesan Board of Patronage. Nominations should be emailed to the Diocesan Secretary

gary.peverley@cofesuffolk.org by Friday 7 June 2024. Candidates are invited to submit a CV (100 words) setting out their background and experience - we would welcome applications from younger clergy. For further information please contact David Lamming, email djlamming@hotmail.com or call 07968 791135.

'Give to Go Green': an new exciting national funding opportunity

GIVE TO GO GREEN

'Give To Go Green' is a national church match-funding campaign to help you double your locally-raised donations. Applications for funding are open now and will close on Sunday 28 July 2024. All the information you need is on our website

[here.](#)

The Church of England's Energy Footprint Tool is now open: You can access the tool through the Parish Returns portal [here](#). The data collected from the tool will help your church understand its carbon footprint and will mean you may be eligible for grants to help kickstart your net zero projects. We hope to run more webinars to help you complete your Energy Footprint Tool soon – watch out for details!

Events

Service to mark the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

Thursday 6 June 5.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Do join this special Evensong service to mark 80 years since D-Day. The landing and airborne operations of 6 June 1944 began the Allied invasion of Normandy during World War II and is still the largest seaborne invasion in history. The Suffolk Service of Commemoration has been organised in partnership with the Royal British Legion who act as the custodians of remembrance. It will be attended by veterans and current military personnel from across Suffolk. Bishop Mike will preach and the Lord Lieutenant, Lady Clare Euston, and three military representatives will lay wreaths during the service and the Cathedral Choir will sing. The Norman Tower bellringers will join the national initiative 'Ringing for Peace' on 6 June at 6.30pm.

Lark Rise Retreat Days 2024



Lark Rise Retreats in Felixstowe provides a space and time for people to relax with God. Upcoming events with the Revd Dr John Bell include:

Friday 7 June | Celtic, green and godly

Friday 7 June | Using imagination to unlock scripture

Saturday 8 June | Come and sing workshop

To book, please visit larkriseretreats.org.uk or call 01394 284213.

Rooted in Prayer

Saturday 8 June, 9.00am to 1.00pm

Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

An invitation to all Readers, Licensed Lay Ministers and Lay Elders to explore journeying in prayer to flourish faith and fellowship in communities and congregations. There will be the opportunity to share prayer resources used across the Diocese, join a workshop to create prayer activities for all ages and explore creating a prayer walk. Reserve your free space [here!](#)

Open Air Service

Sunday 9 June, starting from 12.30pm
Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve

Join this service offered as part of an A Rocha UK "Act for Nature" event. You are invited to join at any stage in the programme from 12.30pm for a bring your own picnic, 1.15pm Dragonfly & Damselfly ID Walks with expert guides and the 3.00pm service, followed by refreshments and an opportunity to learn more about A Rocha UK's vision and future plans. For comfort, please bring a chair or rug. For further information, contact Andy Jowitt 07584 751093 / andy.jowitt@arocha.org

Caring for Creation - A Quiet Day

Friday 14 June 10.00am
Norton Suite, Abbey House, 30 Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds IP30 1LS

Join Mark Prina and the Revd Canon Mark Haworth at this meeting of the diocesan group of the Society of Catholic Priests. 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 on 01284 767415 or email cormack246@gmail.com. A £10 donation made on the day towards costs would be very much appreciated.

Deanery Drop in Session

Monday 17 June, 3.00pm
St John's Church Hall, Saxmundham IP17 1ES

This is an exciting opportunity to meet the various teams from the Diocesan office who are there to offer advice on Children's and Families' Ministry, Youth Ministry, Giving, Grants, Discipleship, Communications, Vocations or anything else you'd like to ask – a real opportunity for us to have conversations and help people. Please [book here](#). A further date will be coming up on Monday 8 July – Church Institute, Brandon.

Safeguarding Drop-in & Mingle

Please see the following links to our events for Safeguarding Officers/administrators or clergy working with a Safeguarding role. Come and have a chat, ask questions, and get to know people in a similar role. Car parking is available at each venue.

St Francis's Church, 192 Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich IP2 0QQ on Wednesday 19 June, between 11.45am and 1.30pm [Book here](#)
St Luke's Church, Beccles NR34 9JQ on Tuesday 2 July, between 2.00pm and 3.45pm [Book here](#)

Churchwarden training 2024

This event has been enormously successful in the past. The training session is aimed

primarily at new or nearly new Churchwardens, but experienced ones invariably find that there is always something new to learn. The sessions are also open to anyone who might have reason to think that he or she could be a Churchwarden before long! The session covers Churchwardens' tasks and legal responsibilities, issues about building maintenance and faculties and many other related issues. There is always an opportunity for Questions and Answers. Events will be led by the Archdeacon with contributions from the Diocesan Registrar.

Book here for:

[Ipswich Archdeaconry](#) | 2 July at 7.00pm at St Helen's, Ipswich IP4 2LS

[Sudbury Archdeaconry](#) | 9 July at 7.00pm at Cockfield Village Hall, Church Lane IP30 0LA

[Suffolk Archdeaconry](#) | 16 July at 7.00pm at St Luke's Church, Rigbourne Hill, Beccles NR34 9JQ

'Leading your Church into Growth' (LyCiG for short) is coming to Suffolk

Friday 5 July 2024, 6.00pm to 9.30pm | Saturday 6 July 2024, 8.30am to 2.00pm

Sunday 7 July 2024, 2.15pm to 5.45pm | Debenham Community Centre IP14 6BL



We are excited to let you know about an opportunity coming up this summer. 'Leading your Church into Growth' (LyCiG for short) is coming to Suffolk! A free

conference offering practical help to partner with God to grow your church(es), to inspire church leaders and encourage you to feel that, in your own way, at your own pace, and with God's help you can do it! LyCiG will equip you with a straightforward and workable strategy to enable you to create (or finesse) and implement a Growing in God plan for growth.

More information has been sent directly to your Incumbent and Churchwardens, booking needs to be made as a group through them so please let them know if you are interested! Further information is available here: <https://lycig-2024.eventbrite.co.uk> or email lycig@cofesuffolk.org

Women's Voices event - Preaching the Women of the Bible

Saturday 6 July, 10.30am – 4.00pm,

St John the Evangelist, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1SP

This event is open to all, but those who preach - lay and ordained - will find this invaluable. Liz and Kate are entertaining and enthusiastic speakers. They will deliver a number of sessions throughout the day and will finish with the first book launch of Out of the Shadows Vol 2 which will be available to purchase. Tea and Coffee etc provided throughout. Bring your own lunch. This event is free, please email the Revd Ali Miller for further information: teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com

American Choir 'Stellarum' Concert

'Stellarum', the leading San Diego-based chamber choir, is to make its first ever international tour; the repertoire ranges from exquisite church music to modern

interpretations of traditional songs and pop favourites. Join them at at:

St Nicholas Church, Denston | Concert | Saturday 6 July 6.30pm

All Saints' Church, Rede (singing at the Morning Prayer service | Sunday 7 July 11.00am

St Mary's Church, Hawkedon (Compline) | Sunday 7 July 6.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral (Evensong) | Monday 8 July 5.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral (Special concert) | Tuesday 9 July 1.00pm.

For further information please contact: Heather Tilbury Phillips on htapr@dircon.co.uk

Getting Started with Contactless

Tuesday 9 July, 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Discover the contactless devices and opportunities for your church to make the most of cashless-giving in this free webinar run by the National Giving Team. It will be helpful for newcomers to contactless giving, and an opportunity for all to ask questions. Please [book here](#).

Care into Action: How to live out our faith by protecting God's Creation

Saturday 20 July, 9.30am

Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

Following an opening address from Bishop Mike, the morning will take the form of presentations and discussions about the practical things we can do to protect nature, live sustainably and work for Climate Justice. To include a talk about the Church of England's commitment to achieving ambitious Net Zero Carbon targets and how this fits into an overall vision of our care for Creation. The morning is aimed at those across the diocese who are keen to take an active role in promoting our environmental mission in their local areas. To book your place, please [click here](#).

Clergy Retreat - Led by Bishop Martin

7 - 11 October 2024

St Andrew's Abbey, Zevenkerken-Brugge, Belgium

The best kept secret in the Diocese! Since 1960 when there was a formal link with Brugge a group of hardy clergy have braved the sea and weather to travel to the Abbey to spend time with the wonderful brothers at St Andrew's Abbey. Speakers in the past have spoken on a range of subjects from World Mission, The Psalms, and more. There are approximately 15 spaces available and you can come with spouses/partners. For more details or to book please contact the Revd David H Messer on 01964 563987 | davidharrymesser93@gmail.com.

Save the dates:

- Suffolk Churches '**Ride and Stride**' Saturday 14 September
- **Building a Generous Church Conference** Saturday 28 September, 9.00am to 4.00pm, Bridge Community Church, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3EW.
- **World Mission Conference** Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Saturday 12 October, 9.00am - 1.00pm, Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE.

Please note: the Growing Younger Conference in November has been postponed to 2025.

Notices

Return of Parish Finance

Many thanks to all parishes who have already submitted their form. Completing your Return of Parish Finance provides your benefice and our Diocese with valuable information and data. The results of your efforts are collated by the National Church and used to report key trends and features of parish financial activity.

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 28 June 2024. Further information is available on our [website here](#).

Electoral Roll Figures: In accordance with Church Representation Rules (CRR) 10, the chair, vice-chair, secretary or electoral roll officer of a PCC must, no later than 1 July each year, give the secretary of the diocesan synod written notification of the number of names there are on the roll of the parish as at the date of the APCM. To help us collate this data, please return your electoral roll figures to statistics@cofesuffolk.org or the Diocesan Office following your APCM, as part of your parish returns.



Bubble church: Offering a 30-minute Sunday church service especially for families with young children. Bubble church includes action songs, a Bible story, puppets and a simple activity. Do watch this video of what it looks like [here](#). Find out more [here](#).

Vacancies

[Associate Priest with responsibility for Chaplaincy](#) | Debenham High School | Closing date: 10 June

[Inspiring Ipswich Estates Assistant](#) | Closing date: 10 June | Interview date: 18 June

[Rector](#) | Bacton Benefice | Closing date: 17 June

[Programme Management Officer](#) | Closing date: 18 June

[Inspiring Ipswich Pioneer](#) | Pinewood/ St Peter's | Closing date: 21 June

[Associate Choral Leader](#) | Closing date: 24 June

[Priest in Charge](#) | Wickham Market & Pettistree | Closing date: 3 July

[Programme Accountant](#) | Closing date: 5 July

[Rector](#) | The Brett Valley Benefice | Closing date: 8 July

[Rector](#) | South Hartismere Benefice | Closing date: 10 July

[House for Duty Priest](#) | Lakenheath with Santon Downham and Elveden | Closing date: 10 July

[River Church Opportunities](#) | Kids Pastor (full-time), Debt Centre Manager (part-time) and internships | Ipswich
[House for Duty Priest in Charge](#) | The Wrentham Benefice
[New Opportunities in Ipswich](#) | Inspiring Ipswich
[Gap Year opportunities](#) | St Mary's, Haverhill

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