


JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019

THE MAGAZINE

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich



Unity in diversity

One church – active ecumenism
PAGE 6

Deaf Church – worshipping together
PAGE 10

Pause Button:
That we may
be one

5

Walsingham's new
ecumenical
covenant

13

Focus On:
Dereham
Baptist Church

16

Archbishop's visit
in pictures

32

5-session discussion course

Daring to see God now

IDEAL FOR
LENT



Written by Bishop Nick Baines

On hearing, understanding and living 'the Good News of God' in today's world (Mark 1.14-15).

Designed to minimise preparation time, the course materials are suitable for inexperienced group leaders, yet versatile enough for more confident leaders to adapt to their own style.

Each session has a wide choice of questions so that, wherever you are on your journey of faith, you can join in with the lively discussion!

Featuring on the course audio:



Keith Ward



Cathy Galvin



David Wilbourne



Rachel Lampard

Why do a discussion course?

- ✓ Because it's good to discuss issues of faith, doubt, morality ... especially if others take a different view. It's just good to talk - and to share!
- ✓ Because discussing important issues with fellow Christians helps you grow, both as a person and in faith. And swapping ideas can be very creative.
- ✓ Because there are always new things to learn, however long you've been a Christian.
- ✓ Because it's a great opportunity to get together with other believers - perhaps from other congregations and denominations.



Digital
Downloads
available



Why do a York Course?

- ✓ to learn more about the Christian faith
- ✓ to tackle the biggest questions facing humanity
- ✓ to examine your own beliefs, in fellowship with others

Course booklet



£3.75

DIGITAL
DOWNLOAD
£3.10

CD/Audio



£8.99

DIGITAL
DOWNLOAD
£8.50

Transcript



£3.50

DIGITAL
DOWNLOAD
£3.10

Taster Pack



£16.20

DIGITAL
DOWNLOAD
£14.70

No one likes paying for postage, so we offer free packing and postage on all UK orders.

**YORK
COURSES**

Please order or download at www.yorkcourses.co.uk

Telephone orders **01904 466516**

Postal orders **York Courses, PO Box 343, York, YO19 5YB, UK**

From the Editor

Welcome to the New Year! At the time of writing, the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to our Diocese is still a recent memory. His choice to begin his visit with an ecumenical service at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Norwich set the tone for the theme of reconciliation and unity that pervaded his tour. You can see a photo gallery of his visit on page 32.

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity falls at the end of January and this year's reflections have been prepared by Christians from Indonesia. The largest country in South East Asia with over 740 local languages, this nation's motto *Bhineka Tunggal Ika*, which means *Unity in Diversity*. This is an apt motto for us as Christians to embrace in the everyday practice of our faith.

We have an opportunity in these uncertain and troubled times to show unity in a divided world by concentrating on what we have in common more than what divides us. There are some great examples of this across our community.

In the main feature, Bidy Collyer takes us on a tour of the Diocese to show some snapshots of ecumenism in action (pg 6). Tim Rogers discovers more about the joint initiative between a Methodist Minister and an Anglican Priest that is Norwich Deaf Church (pg 10). The Norwich Centre for

Christian Learning offers ecumenical learning opportunities (pg 12) and a new ecumenical covenant has been celebrated between the two Walsingham Shrines (pg 13). In the spirit of unity in diversity, our regular *Focus On* feature has been written by Ian Clarke from Dereham Baptist Church in place of an Anglican benefice (pg 16).

Ecumenism is, if the evidence in this issue is anything to go by, flourishing here! As we bid a fond farewell to our dear Bishop Graham (see photos from his final service and a message from him on pg 30) please do pray for discernment for the process of seeking a new Bishop of Norwich.

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore" (Psalm 133).

Blessings,



Barbara
Barbara Bryant
Editor

Get in touch

01603 882348 (Editor)

barbara.bryant@dioceseofnorwich.org

Diocesan House, 109 Dereham Road,
Easton, Norwich NR9 5ES

www.DofN.org/magazine

[facebook.com/dioceseofnorwich](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofnorwich)

[@DioceseNorwich](https://twitter.com/DioceseNorwich)

*The next issue (deadline 21 Jan)
focuses on faith & politics.*

The Magazine design:

Adept Design www.adeptdesign.co.uk

Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Diocese and the acceptance of advertising does not indicate editorial endorsement.

Cover photo: The historic ecumenical service at the start of the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Norwich; photo by Tim Rogers.



Listen to *The Magazine* Podcast by searching for 'Diocese of Norwich' on the podcast app of your choice.

To advertise in *The Magazine* please contact Sally on
01603 882322 or email sally.finn@dioceseofnorwich.org

Contents

THE MAGAZINE | JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2019

4 COMMENT: Dwelling together in unity

5 PAUSE BUTTON: That we may be one

6 FEATURE:
One church – active ecumenism



10 Deaf Church – working together to worship together

12 NCCL: Learning ecumenically

14 CYF: Together united

23 Prayer Calendar is moving

25 The Anglican Centre in Rome

26 Church Army: Mission-focused community

28 Medieval artistic connection

30 Bishop Graham's farewell message

37 RESOURCES: Competition for FREE course materials



39
Lent Appeal 2019



Dwelling together in unity

“We live in a broken world, and the devil longs to pull us apart from each other as well as from God. But the redeeming work of Jesus is reconciliation with himself and each other.”

The other month, as I stood beside Christians from 12 local churches worshipping God and thanking him for his work, I was reminded of the picture in Revelation of the unity of believers in heaven: the “great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language” standing before the throne of God and giving glory to him.

This time of ecumenical worship was a precious and uplifting experience. But how do we ensure that our Christian unity is expressed in the worship of our lives as well as the worship of our lips?

I’m blessed to be able to work with Christians from different congregations and denominations as they come together to express their love of God in acts of practical compassion in the community.

There’s the Great Yarmouth Food Bank which was instigated by several local churches for those experiencing food poverty. Then there’s the letter which was sent to Damian Green in 2016, spearheaded by leaders of local community ministries, which called for revisions to Universal Credit so that the

pain caused during its pilot period in Great Yarmouth would not be replicated around the country.

We have NHS prayer meetings with Christians from different churches who care about the NHS coming together to pray. Churches also came together to start up The Living Room winter night shelter and are currently looking to work together to support the CAP Debt Centre. The list could go on.

When Christians come together in unity, not only are we obeying the commands of Jesus, and practically enabling each other to do more than we could do alone, but we also see the power of the Holy Spirit at work.

When Peter and Cornelius followed God’s command to come together in radical, countercultural partnership (Acts 10), the Holy Spirit was poured out on Gentile Christians for the first time. When the churches in the borough of Great Yarmouth have come together we have seen the Holy Spirit provide for people’s needs, turn hearts to him, raise up volunteers and leaders who never thought they could lead or volunteer and stir a desire to continue working together even when it’s challenging.

Unity isn’t always easy. I have experienced the struggles as well as triumphs of

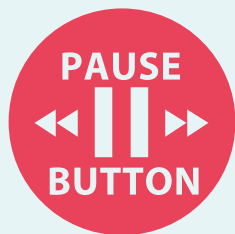
Christians attempting to work together in partnership. We live in a broken world, and the devil longs to pull us apart from each other as well as from God. But the redeeming work of Jesus is reconciliation with himself and each other.

Perhaps it was because Jesus knew it would be tough that his prayer in John 17 included the unity of believers. He knew that we need each other in order to fulfil the great commission, but he knew we could never work in unity without his power!

If this prayer for unity was of sufficient importance for the final prayer of Jesus before death, I’m going to keep praying it: for Great Yarmouth, Norfolk and our world.



Anna Heydon works as a Development Worker for Imagine Norfolk Together – a joint venture between the Diocese of Norwich and the Church Urban Fund. She works with churches in the Great Yarmouth area to encourage their work in and with the local community.



That we may be one

One of the prayers I find myself using in the intercessions offered at Evensong in the Cathedral when praying for Christian Unity is this:

We pray, O God, for the Church in the world of today: that it may be true to its gospel and responsive to the needs of humankind; that it may conserve what is good in the past and reach out boldly to the future; that it may care for the individual and help to change society; and that it may have a growing unity without sacrificing all variety of response to your grace.

That prayer encapsulates so much of what is important about the way we behave as Christians; it reminds us that as a Church we exist primarily for others and not for ourselves. It reminds us also that in exercising our faith there is a balance to be struck between old and new, and between our ministry to the individual and our engagement with the wider world. However, the phrase that I particularly like is the one that prays for growing unity without sacrificing all variety of response.

We human beings are all made in the image of God and yet we are all different from each other in so many ways. We of course have many physical differences, but even more significant is the range of our personality types, which lead to the huge variety of the likes and dislikes we express and the things we choose to pursue in life.

It's not surprising then that when it comes to our worship of God and the ways in which we relate to him, there will be many differences. Whatever our own preferences are though, we should never be in the business of thinking that our way is the right way and that others have got it wrong.

Jesus prayed that his followers would all be one as he and his Father are one. However, being at one with each other doesn't mean all being the same. At the heart of his great prayer for unity in St John's Gospel chapter 17 is his desire that his followers should be united by

love, "The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one. I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" (v 22–23).

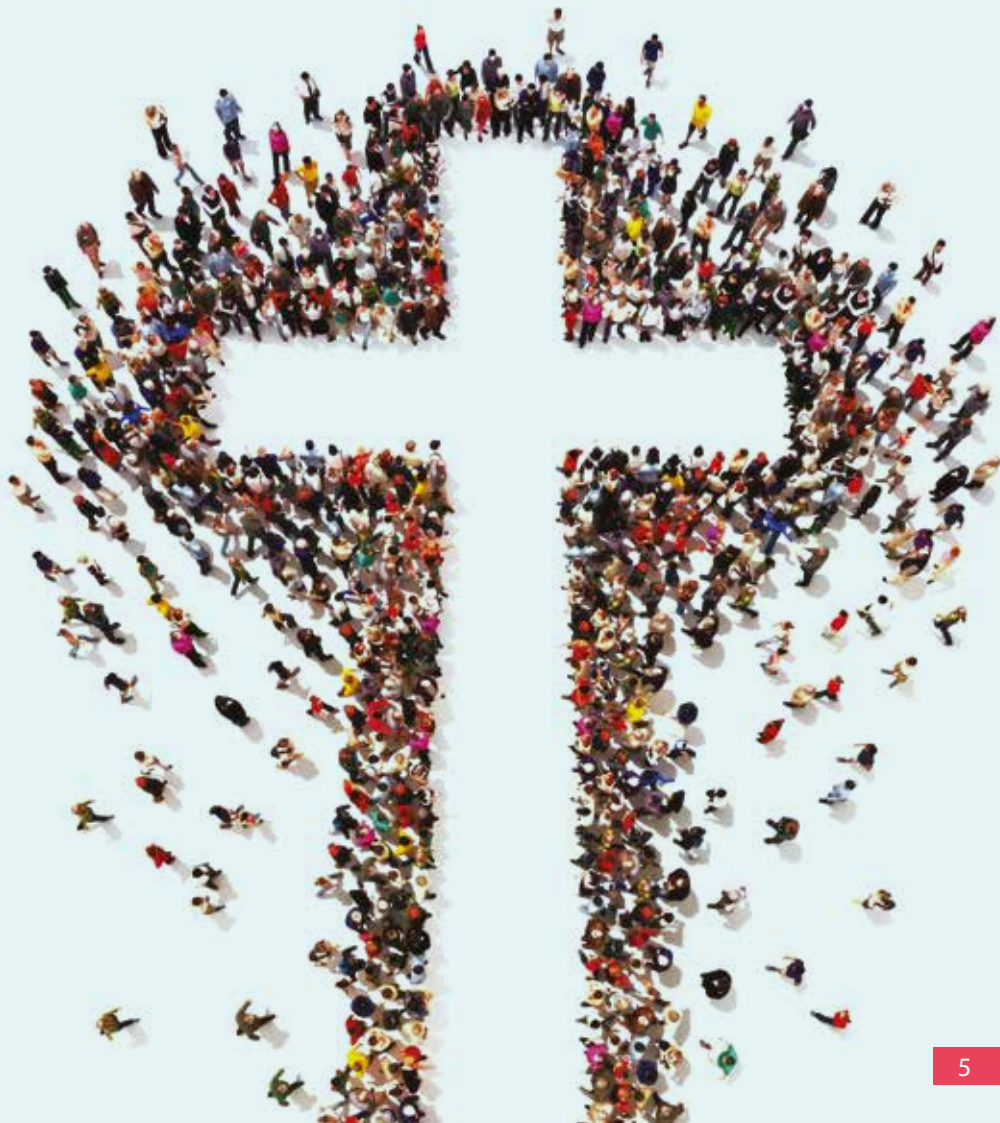
Our life together as Christians must flow from Christ's life and love. If we let his love flow into our lives we will have respect for each other's differences, we will have a desire for our brothers and sisters to flourish, and we will be open to learning from each other and appreciating the variety of gifts God has showered upon us.


It is Christ's love that binds us together; by responding to that love, by loving one another, we will fulfil his desire that we also show his love to the world around us.

“Whatever our own preferences are though, we should never be in the business of thinking that our way is the right way and that others have got it wrong.”



The Very Revd Jane Hedges
Dean of Norwich





“People sensed that something had been missing previously. It was a great opportunity to socialise around a common bond.”

ONE church

Biddy Collyer makes a tour of the Diocese of Norwich, seeking out examples of ecumenism in action.

I was converted over 30 years ago by a couple called Janet and David. New Christians themselves, they had an amazing impact in our village, bringing many people to faith. Their enthusiasm was catching and soon a group of us were meeting regularly for Bible study, sharing our newfound excitement with others, and finding ways to reach out into our community. Our churchmanship expressed itself in Anglicanism, Roman Catholicism, Methodist and Free Church but it just didn't seem important where we went on Sundays. What was important was what bound us together – the love of Jesus.

Since then, distinctions between different denominations have never

been tightly drawn for me. As St Paul says, “We are all one in Christ Jesus.”

The analogy of being part of a body has always spoken to me, each muscle, limb or organ playing its specific role. I am not interested in what separates us, but in what binds us together.

For the past 12 years, I have been a core team member of Dreams and Visions, which focuses on investment in new projects. We only had two criteria that had to be met. The first was that it was bottom-up, not top-down; coming from someone's dream of what God had put on their heart, not what they had been asked by another in authority to deliver. The second was that the

application had to be supported by two different congregations, be they from the same denomination, or better still, two different denominations.

I remember a community church that joined with a high Anglican church to put on a wonderful all-day party in a deprived area of King's Lynn. Those who had a great day out with their children were not interested in where the Christians worshipped. What they experienced was the heart of God, manifested through a loving community.

This example is not alone, thank goodness. Across the Diocese, there are Churches Together in most towns, where Christians work and pray as one.



Celebrate evening, Great Yarmouth and Community meal, King's Lynn



Togetherness in Great Yarmouth

Anna Heydon is the Together Norfolk worker in the Great Yarmouth area. Last October she helped co-ordinate the first Celebrate evening there. Twelve different churches came together in a service of thanksgiving for the way that they are working together to meet the needs of the community, specifically through five projects, Food Bank, Christians Against Poverty, The Living Room and the two youth organisations, East Norfolk Youth for Christ and Identity.

By focusing in this way on what unites, rather than on differences of theology and styles of worship, they can achieve so much more. Anna said that, "Having a common vision is really important. This is what we are called to do and how we work most effectively." Following the Celebrate evening, there was a call for this to be a regular event. "People sensed that something had been missing previously. It was a great opportunity to socialise around a common bond."

What I found talking to people in these areas is that it has been a combination of top-down and bottom-up. Some initiatives have come from ministry leadership, with leaders of the churches in Gorleston meeting regularly for breakfast and praying together, while in Great Yarmouth they meet at lunch time. These have led to the multi-church involvement in the annual Act of Remembrance and carol singing at Christmas. On the ground the churches have coalesced around projects. Some providing volunteers, others financial resources or premises.



One Yarmouth story I heard was of someone who had come to faith following the support they had received from the debt centre at Park Baptist Church. His mentor picked him up and drove him to Park Baptist on Sundays. He soon realised that the new Christian actually lived next door to St Mary Magdalene Church and suggested that, rather than being driven across town, he goes to his local church. Once that happened, St Mary Magdalene started exploring getting involved in the debt centre themselves.

What is also important is living in the area you feel called to serve. Anna Heydon has always done this and says that it opened her eyes to what the challenges are. "Unity is a hard graft and not easily won but when it happens there is power in it." Since they have been praying and working together, there has been a significant difference in the community and it is changing things beyond the churches.

Community in King's Lynn

At the other end of the Diocese, in Kings Lynn, I spoke to the Revd Becca Rogers. She moved to the area three-and-a-half years ago with her husband Tim. Hers was a new role, combining a half-time post at St John's with serving in the Minster parish, with responsibility for the housing estate of North Lynn. Most of this work is done through the North Lynn Methodist



Church, so Becca has been licensed to serve there. The Anglicans and Methodists are now moving towards forming a Local Ecumenical Project.

The relationship between the Minster and the Methodist Church has been strong for a long time, and these developments are simply moving forward what is already happening.

In the past there was an Anglican church, St Edmund's, which opened on the estate 20 years ago but never thrived. That church and the West Lynn Methodist chapel have been sold, and the money is going into redeveloping the North Lynn Methodist church building. Next door, the Diocese are building a new vicarage where Becca and Tim will live.

Currently, they host a weekly community meal, Coffee on the Couch, monthly Messy Church and a Start course, which is about exploring the Christian faith. In the New Year they are forming a Wednesday morning group which is about developing people's physical, spiritual and emotional health. The work on the estate is also being supported by Seabank Chapel, an independent reform church with whom they meet to pray, and who share in the Start Course.

Becca said, "The most important thing is that we all follow Christ. He is our focus, and so whatever tradition we are, we meet because of him. The people we are reaching out to care far more about what we are doing and who we are, than what denomination we belong to. I think that spiritually, coming together across traditions allows God to work. He commands us to be united, so when we obey him, good things happen."



The spiritual groundwork has been laid over a long time, not least by a local couple, Stephen and Jean, who met at Bible College. They initially thought God might be calling them to be missionaries overseas, then realised that God was calling them to return home to Stephen's roots in North Lynn. Over 25 years they have served in many ways. Now they are, "Excited about having a church that is totally inclusive and having a vision for what it will be."

Youth unites in Thetford

Over in Thetford, Churches Together form a strong Christian group with everyone coming to the table.



The Revd Helen Jary came to the town seven years ago to serve with the Thetford Team ministry.

One of the initiatives has been several 24/7 prayer weeks hosted by Cloverfield Church. Helen explained: "Sustaining these weeks is too much for one church, but with people coming to cover the time from other congregations it is possible and what we should be doing together anyway."

Recently, Thetford Churches Together have provided a night shelter over Christmas and New Year. Joining with members of the wider community, their meetings took place at the local Tesco's. "It is fundamental that we work together," said Helen.

One powerful expression of the unity in the town is the support given to the ministry of Integrate Youth for Christ. At the same time as individual youth work in the town was winding down for various reasons, Steph

Richardson from Integrate Youth for Christ got in touch.

For a long time, the organisation had felt God's nudge towards working there. Now nine churches are partnering with them in different ways: providing financial support, venues, prayer and volunteers.

From this the Thetford Youth Project has emerged. They are running a weekly Youth Cafe and last October took a group to the Cathedral@Night event. On 31 October they ran a really successful Light Night at Cloverfield, with 150 plus children and parents attending. They have done some work with one primary school and plan to expand this to provide mentoring support for young people transitioning to High School in the future.

Steph said, "We have been really grateful for how the churches have responded to us. The general feeling is how good it is when we work together. Not about their church but about the Kingdom, and about getting the word out in Thetford."

The Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano* dubbed Norwich as the 'ecumenical capital' when the Archbishop of Canterbury began his visit to the Diocese in November with an unprecedented service at the Roman Catholic Cathedral. It seems clear that here, ecumenism is thriving.

Since her retirement **Biddy Collyer** has become involved in the life of St Stephens in Norwich and is now Churchwarden there. She is a new grandmother to Charlie, and loves walking, sailing and family life.

Photo©Adam Jackson



Light Night in Thetford

Further ideas...

on ecumenism and unity. See the book reviews on page 18 too and www.DofN.org/ecumenism

Week of prayer for Christian Unity

15–25 January

Material for 2019 originates from the churches of Indonesia, where there is a strong emphasis upon the need for unity alongside the nation's ethnic and religious diversity. The theme is based on Deuteronomy 16:18–20, 'Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue...' Order or download resources at: www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer Paper copies available from **Catherine Howe County Ecumenical Officer** or through any of the Denominational Ecumenical Officers of NWCT (see next listing). catherine.howe@dioceseofnorwich.org



Diss and Roydon Churches Together will be holding a United Service on Sunday 20 January at 3pm at the United Reformed Church, Mere St, Diss IP22 4AD to which everyone is welcome.

The Ecumenical Chain of Prayer for Greater Norwich will be in St Luke's Chapel in Norwich Cathedral on Thursday 24 January from 10am to 4pm; all welcome.



Norfolk & Waveney Churches Together

is an intermediate body of Churches Together in England covering the whole of Norfolk and those parts of the Waveney area around Lowestoft. There is a useful directory of Local Ecumenical Projects, local Churches Together groups and news of other ecumenical activities and resources at: www.nwct.org.uk

Good Work is our local Norfolk & Waveney Industrial Mission: "seeking God's love and justice in the economy and world of work". It's the umbrella organisation for chaplaincy in our area. Their website carries latest news and links. www.good-work.org.uk

Network Norwich & Norfolk is a portal website set up to help improve communications and connections within the Christian community in and around Norwich and Norfolk. It offers individuals, churches, and Christian projects or organisations various services to help their ministry.

networknorfolk

It is a great place to find news and stories of Christian ministry across denominations.

www.networknorwich.co.uk

'Ecumenical Spring': Archbishop Justin's speech at World Council of Churches 70th Anniversary

"It is not simply that we do things better together. It is that we are the Church when we are together. We are obedient when we are together. We are open to the spirit of God blowing in power through us into a world becalmed in suffering, when we are together." See www.DofN.org/ecumenism for the full text of this talk given by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Churches Together in Britain & Ireland

"Many Churches, One Purpose: Serving the churches of Britain and Ireland on the shared journey towards full visible unity in Christ." See their website for a wide variety of resources. www.ctbi.org.uk 020 3794 2288

churches together
IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Churches Together in England

is "a visible sign in England of the Churches' commitment as they seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another and proclaim the Gospel together by common witness and service." With 47 member churches and 2,600 local groups, their website offers a plethora of resources. www.cte.org.uk 020 7529 8131



Embracing the Other

is a resource for Receptive Ecumenism produced by a team served by Churches Together in England. It is free for anyone to use. It is intended for groups of people, perhaps from different church traditions. It can be run as a stand-alone or five-session course.

www.cte.org.uk
020 7529 8131



World Day of Prayer: 1 March 2019

A worldwide ecumenical movement of "informed prayer and prayerful action". Women of Slovenia have prepared this year's service and they encourage us to reflect on the barriers they have faced since the end of the Second World War and share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future.

www.wwdp.org.uk 01892 541411



Deaf Church – working together to worship together

Norwich Deaf Church is a joint initiative between Methodist Minister the Revd Anne Richardson and Anglican Priest the Revd Dominic Hubbock to enable and encourage the Christian Deaf Community to meet, worship and spend time together. Tim Rogers met with them to find out how they are working together in reaching out to deaf people.

Deaf people are a cultural and linguistic minority. According to Christian Deaf Link UK *Go! Sign!*, of the 250,000 people who use British Sign Language (BSL) in the UK as their first or second language, only two per cent are professing Christians, and globally, Deaf people are the fourth largest unreached group in the world.

Despite progress in making churches physically accessible for everybody, there was (and still is) a need

for language and cultural adaptations to allow the Deaf community to fully engage with a church service – above and beyond the provision of a hearing loop. Norwich Deaf Church is a small step forward in reaching out to a community in culturally appropriate ways using BSL as the dominant language.

Having worked as a Chaplain among the Deaf community in the Diocese of London, Anne was keen to be part of a Deaf ministry in Norfolk too.

Bishop Graham put her in touch with Barry Oake, the then Diocesan Chaplain to Deaf people, who in turn pointed her towards Revd Dominic Hubbock who had an interest in Deaf culture and, like Anne, wanted to provide a ministry for the Deaf community. So,

having held Deaf Church services in the Norwich Deaf Club, Deaf Church moved to Thorpe St. Andrew's Church, and since September 2018 has provided monthly services there.

The congregation is made up of Deaf and deafened people, people with some hearing and people who are learning to use BSL themselves. The service is an opportunity for the Deaf community to worship God using BSL instead of merely signing an existing spoken service. It involves interactive activities, where members of the congregation lead prayers, sign hymns and Bible readings, and can bring ideas for the next service. They go to the pub after the service for a meal.

Dominic adds, "Sharing ideas, energy and knowledge is crucial in creating something sustainable. Working together in positive ways in front of the community encourages others to get involved, to try new things and feel secure."

"We want to model an inclusive and welcoming community," explains Anne. "Working together, showing respect, listening to one another, working together, is key to growing a group where everyone can be themselves."

Deaf Church attendee Steven said, "The church is very nice with lots of history. It's a nice feeling here." Fellow attendee Sonya added, "It's important to come here and be part of the Deaf family, and of course with the hearing family too. It's not the same as going to my own church, but because everyone here is deaf and signs, it makes a difference."

"If we came on a Sunday with the hearing and with an interpreter," added another attendee, Malcom, "that would

“Working together in positive ways in front of the community encourages others to get involved, to try new things and feel secure.”

be good as well. But there aren't enough interpreters and transport on a Sunday can often be a problem too."

Anne's background as Chaplain with the Deaf community, her experience and understanding of worshipping in BSL as the dominant language, paired with Dominic's passion for mission to unreached or forgotten groups and his background in inclusion and accessibility, makes this an effective partnership.

The Methodist Church in East Anglia recently recognised the Deaf Church as a new form of church, and, hoping to start something ecumenical, Anne set up 'Sign the Cross – Deaf Church in East Anglia'. Norwich Deaf Church, along with other Christian Deaf Groups who meet in Downham Market and Lowestoft, sit within its umbrella.

"The service isn't typically Anglican,"



Dominic explained. "It doesn't come from the Books of Common Prayer or Common Worship. Neither does it come from the Methodist worship book."

"You have to look at the folks you have, listen to what they are saying and try to shape something together," said Anne.

Anne and Dominic's priority is to enable Deaf people to worship God together. The ecumenical work is possible

because of this common goal. Like any new relationship it takes time, effort, patience and creative thinking to know how and where to take it further. But it also highlights how people from different denominations can work together to promote the gospel and serve the people around them.

Norwich Deaf Church meets at Thorpe St Andrew Church on the first Friday of every month. More information can be found at www.signthecross.com/norwich





Norwich Centre for Christian Learning: Learning ecumenically

Gudrun Warren struggles with the term “ecumenism”, but has to in her job at the Norwich Centre for Christian Learning. The NCCL was set up in 2010 as an ecumenical educational project offering high quality learning opportunities in Christian theology. Gudrun, who is also Librarian and Curator at Norwich Cathedral, explains:

From its inception it has sought representation from across the Christian denominations on its Steering Group, its pool of tutors, and among its attendees. We were warned at the outset that ecumenical activity can be a difficult balance; if Anglicans are numerically the largest grouping then the danger is that NCCL will be seen as essentially an Anglican enterprise, a perception no doubt strengthened by the fact that it operates from the Anglican cathedral.

The awareness of this tension constantly informs the work of NCCL. We have had some NCCL courses which deal overtly with ecumenism, most notably a series of three sessions which considered the

document *Baptism, Eucharist, Ministry*. These were carefully constructed with a representative from each of the Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Anglican viewpoints.

This is one way of dealing with learning ecumenically; more typically a tutor selects a topic and presents it from their own particular religious affiliation. Everyone teaches from within their own context, so no one is delivering material in a theological vacuum; but neither are they seeking to deliver a party line. What happens in practice is that the tutor explains their own background, and as the session proceeds anything that requires denominational clarification is dealt with as it arises, and in the process learning becomes a joint activity.

I believe that learning can assist with ecumenism by offering a forum in which to be honest and open about our differences, but in an atmosphere of respect; if we are to have genuine ecumenical dialogue through learning, we must be willing to hear other perspectives and not enclose ourselves yet further within a perceived mentality of a club within which we believe ourselves to be operating.


Seeking a common space for learning whatever each of us has to share offers potential for growth. It is more productive and challenging to be actively doing theology than it is to pre-

package an argument and present it as “what this group of people believes”. It is during the discussion that you may come up against an alternative viewpoint that you had not even considered might be expressed differently.

By operating from within our own contexts, in a truly safe and open learning space, we should be better placed to question, to explore, to be taken into unknown or previously avoided areas of thought, and in doing so open ourselves to the truth of existence from another perspective. This is not about conversion, it is about increasing awareness.

I hope that what NCCL can offer is the opportunity to explore theologically in an arena that does not reinforce silos and walls, but opens spaces for meeting, acknowledging similarities and differences, and providing places for conversations to start that will in turn build greater respect and understanding.

Gudrun Warren is the Administrator for Norwich Centre for Christian Learning (NCCL)

 Norwich Centre for
Christian Learning

 NORWICH
CATHEDRAL

Walsingham's new ecumenical covenant

On the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham last September, the Priest Administrator of the Anglican Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham, Fr Kevin Smith, and the Rector of the Roman Catholic National Shrine, Mgr John Armitage, signed an Ecumenical Covenant during Sung Vespers in the Anglican Shrine Church. Fr Kevin tells us more.

The pain and scandal of disunity within the Church of Jesus Christ is not something that can be easily ignored at Walsingham. The fact that there are two Shrines in one place means that prayer for the unity of the Church is much more than a platitude. It has a particular and immediate focus. In the words of a much loved recently departed priest who for a time lived in Walsingham and devoted his life to praying for unity, "we speak with a divided voice; we get used to it, and of course we shouldn't; but how can we change this? There is one thing we can and must do ... and that is to pray together" (Mgr Augustine Hoey).

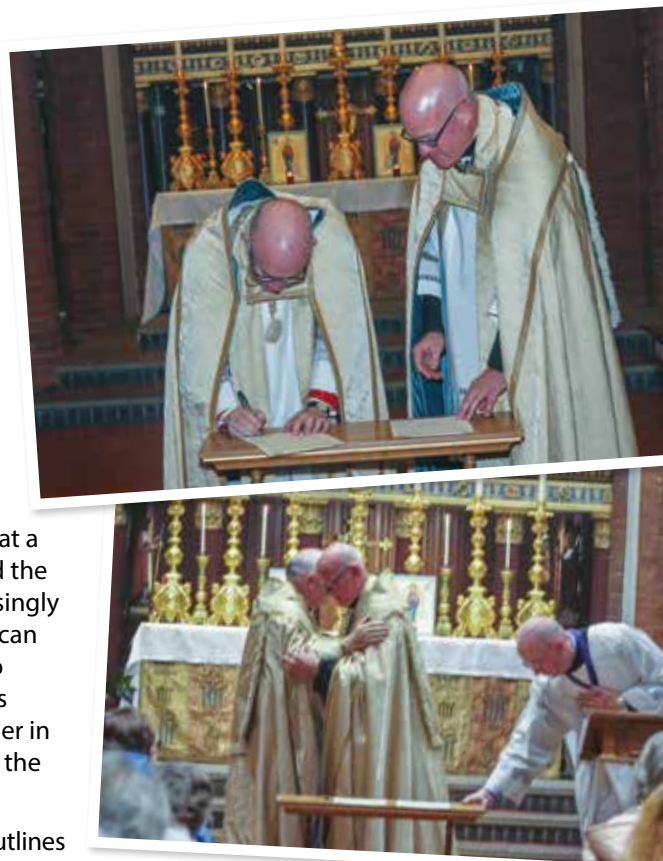
The desire for unity was at the heart of Jesus' own prayer on the night before he died and so it is at Walsingham. A sign of this is that, despite the many difficulties and obstacles that exist on the path of unity, there have been such positive and fruitful developments over the years in the relationship between the Anglican and Catholic Shrines. In many ways this is something of a miracle, but we should not be surprised by the miraculous, or be lacking in faith that God will always open up new opportunities and possibilities.

In her home in Walsingham, England's Nazareth, Mary points us to the treasures of the Gospel. She calls us to penitence, reconciliation and healing in its many forms. Mary guides us towards the ways of peace and in seeking a right relationship with God. These treasures, these gifts are offered, not only to the Church but the world as well.

As a centre of pilgrimage and of prayer, Walsingham is entrusted with an important work of witness to the nation, especially at a time when the reality of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ are increasingly ignored and rejected. That work can only be strengthened by the two Shrines striving in whatever ways possible to walk and pray together in the service of the Gospel and for the building up of the Church.

The new Ecumenical Covenant outlines the principles upon which any future work and cooperation should be built. Above all, it reminds the Shrines and all who come to Walsingham as pilgrims, visitors or tourists what Walsingham is about: the joy which comes to the world through the good news of Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Mary.

It is therefore with one voice that both Shrines declare that "we wish to share in that joy, which is the foundation of our faith, by our common witness and worship in Walsingham, as together with Mary we praise and magnify God's holy name".





Together: United

By Anna Walker

“Encounter brings individuals and groups together in an accessible way. It doesn't look or feel like any particular denomination, which makes it appealing and engaging for all young people whether they have faith or not.”

There is something important about being together; it's uplifting, encouraging and brings new energy and dynamic. With busy lives it can be all too easy to operate in our own silos, but in a large Diocese such as ours it can be all the more important to create opportunities for young people to come together. Doing so highlights that they are not the only ones choosing to attend church or live out life as Christians, but that there are connections and friendships to be made with others and new worship and discipleship

experiences to be part of, which they may not have considered or been given the opportunity to explore before.

I recently met with Sequoia Mallett from St Stephen's Church who is involved in running a group drawing together young people from across five different Anglican churches in Norwich. She explained the background to its recent formation.

“As churches we recognised that we each had several children with established faith moving up to high school who needed something beyond Sunday

School, but none of us had enough to start a youth group on our own, so we decided to team up and work together.

“High school is a tricky time to negotiate so the group is intended for discipleship – really digging deeper into purpose, the Bible, and what it means to have faith in high school and beyond – while also being a place where they can have some fun and be pastorally supported. For them, it is two hours a fortnight where they can ask questions, socialise with other Christians their age, and be honest about their feelings.”

In the Autumn, this Norwich-based youth group attended Cathedral@Night – a biennial 12-hour overnight event jointly run by the Diocese of Norwich and Norwich Cathedral.

“We chose to go to Cathedral@Night because we wanted the group to have time outside of our regular slot to bond, and to have some fun with us and each other. We place a huge emphasis in our group on respecting and understanding different traditions and opinions within Christianity and this event facilitated this as so many different expressions of faith were covered across the night.

“We want them, as a group made up of different churches, to realise that the ‘church’ isn’t just the building they go to on Sunday mornings, it is a family. They have since been very interested in the varied ways that God can speak to us, and this has opened doors for us to explore with them their personal faith and relationship with God.”

Molly Carroll, 16, came to Cathedral@Night with her youth group from Fountain of Life Church, Ashill, and explained: “Lots of my friends were there, many of whom aren’t Christians, and we all loved it. For them, it was a real eye-opener, seeing that church isn’t just confined to pews and hymnbooks – one of the highlights being a rather crazy worship session from Soul Youth. For me, it was great to meet new people in a completely new environment.”

Soul Church’s Youth Leader Sam Milchem compèred the event with input from the Soul Church band, and together with other local churches and ecumenical organisations including Yare Valley Churches, Aylsham Parish Church, Norfolk Street Partnership, Norwich Youth for Christ and Christian Aid, were strategically involved in producing the large-scale event attended by hundreds of young people.

There was a range of different worship experiences throughout the night which the young people were encouraged to participate in, from the energetic worship sets led by the Soul Youth team to the tranquillity of the beautiful compline sung by candlelight at 1.30am with participation from individuals who had attended a singing workshop earlier in the evening.

As morning light broke, young people gathered for acoustic worship led by Matt and Grace Schwarzenberger from Fountain of Life Church before groups of young people gathered side by side with

“They have since been very interested in the varied ways that God can speak to us, and this has opened doors for us to explore with them their personal faith and relationship with God.”

existing and newly-made friends in a feeding the 5,000-style breakfast. The event culminated in an Agape feast – an early apostolic practice of sharing a communal meal among Christians to strengthen bonds and show love to one another, which is often used today in ecumenical settings.

These unique and memorable events play an important part in encouraging groups to participate together but regular opportunities for groups to plug into are also key.

Once a term on a Friday evening ‘Encounter’ – a city-wide worship service – takes place at Norwich Central Baptist Church. Nick Blanch, Director of Norwich Youth for Christ who leads the event, talked about the reason for running it.

“Encounter is for young people of high school age upwards. It seeks to unite young Christians with contemporary worship, relevant teaching and lots of fun!

“A lot of youth groups don’t have a relationship with each other so young people end up as Christians in isolation, often not knowing that there are other Christians even in their school class. In a youth group it can sometimes be the hardest thing to create opportunities where young people get to spend time and know individuals from other groups and churches.

“Encounter brings individuals and groups together in an accessible way. It doesn’t look or feel like any particular denomination, which makes it appealing and engaging for all young people whether they have faith or not. And as relationships develop it’s great to see young people from different backgrounds commit to serving, whether on the band or as part of the café team.”

There are other great examples of churches working cooperatively to draw



young Christians together including ‘Limitless’ – a youth worship event run between Dereham, Watton and Swaffham churches – annual camps in the region such as Intents and Newday, and the Diocese of Norwich Residential weekend Soulshaper.

These experiences offer huge encouragement to young people; giving space to meet other Christians their own age and grow in their journey with God. Many Norfolk churches are proactively engaging youth and seeking to broaden their horizons, but there is always more to be done in reaching the next generation.

Perhaps you could facilitate young people you know to be part of some of these existing events? Or maybe there is an opportunity to start something similar between churches in your area?



Showing Jesus' heart in the heart of Norfolk

By Ian Clarke



This regular feature focuses on a benefice in the Diocese of Norwich but in the spirit of ecumenism, this issue it's Dereham Baptist Church.

A few years ago, a clever man with a whizzy device discovered that the precise heart of Norfolk is in the middle of the Tesco car park in Dereham.

Local people are proud of their place in the very centre of our beautiful county.

For Dereham Baptist Church – which is situated in the High Street in the middle of the town – the fact has added significance.

More than ever in its 235-year history, the church has a passion to show the real heart of Jesus to the community in the heart of Norfolk. It was way back in 1783 that a group of faithful men walked (yes, walked) from Norwich to Dereham to set up the congregation.

While Dereham remains in many ways a traditional, picturesque and pleasant market town which has seen a welcome revival in community spirit, there are a growing number of tough issues below the surface of a rural idyll – and which the church is eager to get involved in helping to tackle.

Homelessness, alcohol and drug addiction, lack of aspiration, money problems,

a battle with complicated benefits, family breakdown, bereavement and a sense of hopelessness are among them.

DBC lead minister the Revd Nigel Bayley said: "As we look at the life of Jesus it is clear that he had a heart for the lost, the least and the last.

"He had time for those people that others had no time for, and he stood up for those who couldn't stand up for themselves. He was filled with compassion for them and was happy to go out and meet them wherever they happened to be."

Nigel added: "He listened and cared and responded by meeting their needs at every opportunity."

Associate minister the Revd Dave Ward said: "Jesus has been at work in us at DBC so that we also share some of his heart for those on the fringes.

"We have a variety of things going on which help us to connect with the needy and disadvantaged in our town. We are there to listen and have compassion, and to share God's love with them by standing

alongside them and helping them in whatever ways we can. We long for them to know Jesus for themselves and live in the reality of his love for them."

The church normally has about 200 people of all ages and all backgrounds at services on a Sunday – plus several dozen at a Portuguese-speaking congregation on Saturday nights – and contact with hundreds more during each week.

DBC's motto for 2018 was from 1 Corinthians 9:22 – "That by all means possible we may save some" – and encapsulates what the church is aiming to do.

Last year saw the launch of the church's charity arm Love Dereham, which oversees many practical ways of showing Jesus' heart.

Co-ordinator Anita Clarke said: "The primary focus of the charity has always been to support individuals to engage with and feel part of their community. The charity delivers love in tangible ways."

“We are there to listen and have compassion, and to share God’s love with them by standing alongside them and helping them in whatever ways we can.”



Free community lunches, Crib (a self-help group for anyone affected by the death of a child), a CAP Job Club and Money Course, The Hub drop-in club for young people and English For Speakers of Other Languages are some of the wide range of projects.

In a joint initiative with Breckland Council and Green Pastures Bookshop, Love Dereham also runs the town’s Community Fridge.

Businesses can donate good quality, end of date food, that would otherwise be thrown away. This food can then be taken by anyone who can use it. The project is not primarily about food poverty, but many individuals and families have been blessed by the access to free food.

Working with other churches in the town is key to DBC, along with collaborating with organisations promoting the resurgence of community spirit. The church has been integral with the town’s hugely successful carnival day by doing a pre-carnival party, and with the Christmas lights switch-on day.

At both events, members offer a range of fun activities from a nativity photo booth to

hook-a-duck to giving out free ice creams. These have opened doors to have great conversations with local folk about Jesus.

Love Dereham’s motto verse is from Hebrews 10:24-25 – “Let’s see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out.”

Within the church and the charity arm there is a realisation that thinking differently is crucial to reaching out to a changing community.

Dave said: “I guess our main challenge is to see more people come to faith in Jesus for themselves. We are beginning to sense a growing fervour amongst us to see the few become the some and the some become the many!”

With this in mind, DBC is starting a new Sunday afternoon “church” for those who, for a variety of reasons, do not find it easy to access what happens on a Sunday morning.

Nigel said: “This group exists to help people know and follow Jesus for themselves, whatever their background, situation or circumstances. We’d love to

have a set-apart space for this work and we are praying that God will open a door for this as we move forward.”

One further way the church is aiming to be more integrally involved in the town is by opening up the back of the building.

At the moment there is a wall between the back garden and the busy Chapel Walk shopping area. It is a physical barrier and the church feels that removing it will be a sign of being open to the community.

The importance of unity in the town among Christians is shared by Canon Sally Theakston, Team Rector for the Dereham & District Benefice, who said: “Churches in Dereham work well together to support community activities in the town.

“Examples of this include the Mid Norfolk Foodbank and community lunches. We make a major contribution to the lights-on event as Dereham prepares for Christmas. We join together for the Good Friday Walk of Witness and swap pulpits during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

“When opportunities for serving our town arise, I feel we are at a stage when we consider ‘can we do this better together?’”

Review



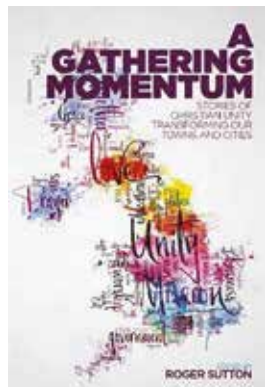
A selection of books on the theme of unity and ecumenism, reviewed by Steve Foyster.

A Gathering Momentum

Stories of Christian Unity Transforming Our Towns and Cities

Roger Sutton

Instant Apostle (2017) £8.99
Revelation price £8.00



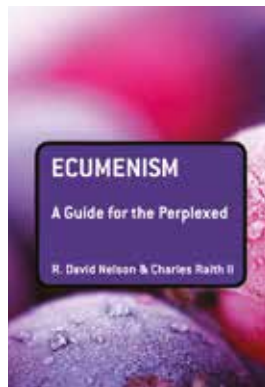
Church leaders from across the denominational spectrum are coming together in friendship and prayer to seek God's will for their towns and cities. A transformation is taking place! Beyond churches, Christians in business, health and education, sports, charities and the arts are collaborating strategically to make an impact on their communities. Sharing common purpose and relational unity, they are discovering the power of working together as one. This inspirational collection of stories of Christians bringing cultural, social and spiritual transformation to the places that they love will encourage and amaze.

Ecumenism

A Guide for the Perplexed

R David Nelson & Charles Raith

T & T Clark (2017) £16.99
Revelation price £15.00



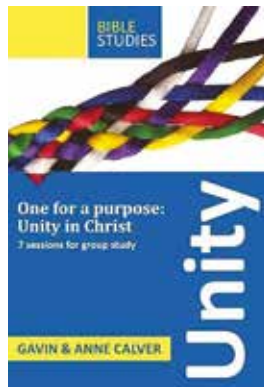
A comprehensive introduction to the methods, achievements and future prospects of the modern ecumenical movement. The authors chart out a serviceable definition of ecumenism, a term that has long been a source of confusion for students of both theology and church history. They go on to review the chronology of the modern ecumenical movement, highlighting the major events, figures, accomplishments and impasses. The historical survey is followed by critical examinations of three significant challenges for contemporary ecumenical theology and practice, providing commentary on the difficulties and hopes of the ecumenical movement in the 21st century.

Unity

One for a Purpose, Unity in Christ

Gavin & Anne Calver

Essential Christian (Spring Harvest Bible Study 2017) £3.99
Revelation price £3.00



Scripture gives us a clear mandate: unity is essential and it's a God-given unity centred on mission and the primary truths of faith. For the sake of the world, this mandate needs to be fully embraced so that all Christians may be one in purpose.

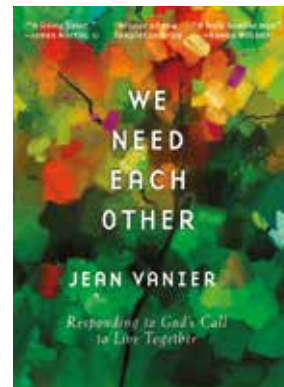
Specially designed for small groups and individuals, this workbook has material for seven sessions and a prayer resource section, all of which should lead participants to engage with the scriptures and apply them to daily life. Each study includes a Bible passage, questions to reflect upon and discuss, action points and prayer guidance.

We Need Each Other

Responding to God's Call to Live Together for Good

Jean Vanier

Paraclete Press (January 2019) £15.99
Revelation price £15.00



In April 2008 Jean Vanier led a simple retreat in Nyahururu, Kenya, a place recently shattered by violence between its people that had led to much bloodshed. Inhabitants were very shaken. With frequent reference to the Gospel of John, this book comprises the talks that Vanier gave: What are you looking for? The cry of the poor; The feast is ready; To live in unity; Be open; Encountering the other; The washing of the feet.

Vanier quotes: 'Sometimes we hide behind the idea that we are better than others. We have to discover that none of us is better, that we are all children of God. God has a desire to bring people together in love. There are two fundamental things that Jesus came to reveal to us. First, God is a lover, God loves. Second, this incredible gentle and tender God is in love with each of us. Each person is precious to God and together we are to build a community where we love each other.'

Fri 25

The Conversion
of St Paul

THE BURNHAMS: Burnham Market, Burnham Overy, Burnham Sutton cum Ulph, Burnham Thorpe. Clergy: Steven Wood as he prepares to take up his new ministry in this benefice.

Warden of Readers, Karen Hutchinson and assistant, Alison Steward.

Diocese of Lomega (South Sudan): Archbishop Benjamin Yugusuk. Diocese of Sunyani (West Africa): Bishop Festus Yeboah-Asumah.

Sat 26

THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM Clergy: Kevin Smith, Andreas Wenzel.

Our five Reader Sub-Wardens and their support of Readers.

Diocese of London: Bishops Sarah Mullally, Jonathan Baker, Peter Broadbent, Adrian Newman, Ric Thorpe, Graham Tomlin and Robert Wickham.

Sun 27

Epiphany 4

Pray for Bishop Alan and Bishop Jonathan. Pray too for Bishop Graham and Julie, preparing for their move to Cornwall.

The Religious Society of Friends: Area Representative, David Saunders.

Diocese of Lui - (South Sudan): Archbishop Stephen Mbalah. Diocese of St Mark the Evangelist (Southern Africa): Bishop Martin Breitenbach.

Mon 28

TOFTREES Clergy: Edward Bundock.

Norwich Cathedral: its mission and ministry.

Diocese of Swansea and Brecon (Wales): Archbishop John Davies. Diocese of Lusaka (Central Africa): Bishop David Njovu.

Tue 29

UPPER WENSUM VILLAGE GROUP: Brisley, Colkirk with Oxwick with Pattesley, Gateley, Great Ryburgh with Little Ryburgh and Testerton, Horningtoft, Shereford with Duntton, Whissonsett. Clergy: Robin Stapleford. Reader: Richard Hirst. Brisley CofE VA Primary School, Colkirk CofE Primary Academy
Reader CMD Officer, Jan Sexton.

Diocese of Luwero (Uganda): Bishop Eridard Nsubuga. Diocese of Los Angeles (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops John Taylor, and Diane Bruce.

Wed 30

WALSINGHAM: East Barsham, Houghton, Little Walsingham. Clergy: Harri Williams. Reader: Anne Wilson. Walsingham CofE VA Primary School.

Bishop's Officer for Ordinands and Initial Training, David Foster, and assistant Margaret Mallett.

Dioceses of Lweru and Mara (Tanzania): Bishops Godfrey Mbelwa and George Okoth.

Thu 31

DEANERY OF DEPWADE Rural Dean: Heather Wilcox. Lay Chair: Jacqueline Cook.

Today's meeting of Bishop's Council.

Diocese of Machakos (Kenya): Bishop Joseph Mutungi.

Editor: The Revd Susanna Gunner, Bishop's Chaplain - 01603 614172, bishops.chaplain@dioceseofnorwich.org

Prayer Calendar

January 2019

Tue 1

At the dawning of a new year, pray that this diocese may look ahead trustingly.
DNEAT (Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust): Executive Officer, Mary Jane Edwards; PA, Hannah Bannister; Admin Assistant, Tara Burrows.
Diocese of Lagos (Nigeria): Bishop Humphery Olumakaye.

Wed 2

YARE VALLEY CHURCHES: Brundall, Braydeston and Postwick. Clergy: Peter Leech. Reader: Keith Gerrard.
DNEAT Operations Team: Howard Nelson, Sharon Money, Linda Jones and Fiona Garner.
Diocese of Lagos Mainland (Nigeria): Bishop Akinpelu Johnson.

Thu 3

DEANERY OF BRECKLAND Rural Dean: Stephen Thorp. Lay Chair: Alistair Skipper.
DNEAT Head of Governance, Jill Wakefield and Senior Clerk, Hannah Monk.
Diocese of Lagos West (Nigeria): Bishop James Odedeji.

Fri 4

ASHILL: Ashill, Carbrooke, Ovington, Saham Toney. Clergy: Jane Atkins.
Readers: Anne Leighton, Jean Rockett. Ashill and Parker's CofE VC Primary Schools, St Peter & St Paul Carbrooke CofE Primary Academy.
DNEAT Finance Team: David Fannon, Jenny Pringle, James Crisp, Scott Buxton, Paul Harris and Robert Parish.
Diocese of Langtang (Nigeria): Bishop Stanley Fube.

Sat 5

HILBOROUGH, MUNDFORD AND OXBOROUGH GROUPS: Cockley Cley, Foulden, Gooderstone, Great Cressingham, Hilborough, Cranwich, Ickburgh, Langford, Mundford, Bodney, Didlington, Little Cressingham and Oxborough.
Clergy: Zoe Ferguson, Linda Lubbe. Gooderstone and Mundford CofE Primary Academies.
DNEAT Academy Improvement Team, Karen Gay, Oliver Burwood, Simon Morley.
Diocese of Lahore (Pakistan): Bishop Irfan Jamil.

Sun 6

Epiphany

Pray for Bishop Alan and Bishop Jonathan. Pray too for Bishop Graham and Julie, preparing for their move to Cornwall.

Pray that our Mission Strategy 2021 may be an effective tool as we seek renewal and fresh inspiration for proclaiming the good news across this diocese. Pray too for those being confirmed in Docking and Old Hunstanton today.

For Christians of all denominations, called to reveal Christ to the whole world.

Mon 7

THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE Clergy: Stephen Mawditt, Paul Wilkinson.
Our Archdeacons: Steven Betts, Karen Hutchinson and Ian Bentley.
Diocese of Lainya (South Sudan): Bishop Eliaba Obede

Tue 8 **NECTON:** Holme Hale, Necton, North Pickenham, South Pickenham Clergy: Stephen Thorp. Readers: Carole Hicks, Raymond Mathias. Necton CofE VA Primary School, St Andrew's CofE Primary Academy (North Pickenham).

St Benet's Multi Academy Trust: Richard Cranmer and James Richards.
Diocese of Lake Malawi (Central Africa): Bishop Francis Kaulanda. Lake Rukwa - (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Mathayo Kasagara.

Wed 9 Pray that all links between parishes in this diocese and those in Luleå, Papua New Guinea and across the world may forge strong bonds and bring new insights.

Diocesan Board of Education Distinctiveness and Standards Manager, Jon Moule.
Diocese of Lake Rukwa (Tanzania): Bishop Mathayo Kasagara.

Thu 10 **SWAFFHAM AND SPORLE:** Sporle with Great and Little Palgrave, Swaffham. Clergy: Janet Allan, Hilary De Lyon. Readers: Julia Richardson, Andy Mash. Sporle CofE Primary Academy, Swaffham CofE Junior Academy, Swaffham CofE VC Infant School.

Diocesan IT Admin Assistant: James Hodson. Those confirmed in Topcroft tonight.
Diocese of Lango (Uganda): Bishop Alfred Olwa.

Fri 11 **MAR VALLEY :** Castleacre, Narborough with Narford, Newton-by-Castleacre, Pentney, Southacre, Westacre. Clergy: Stuart Nairn, Richard Howells. Castle Acre and Narborough CofE Primary Academies.

The Horstead Centre, its mission and ministry: Josie Barnett and the Trustees.
Diocese of Lebombo (Southern Africa): Bishop Carlos Matsinhe.

Sat 12 **WAYLAND GROUP:** Breckles, Caston, Great Hockham, Griston, Merton, Stow Bedon, Sturston, Thompson, Tottington. Clergy: Adrian Bell. Caston CofE VA Primary School.

The Horstead Centre's Administrative Team, Elaine Cissell and Louisa Taylor, and Senior Instructor, Chris Martlew.
Diocese of Leeds: Bishop Nick Baines and Area Bishops Toby Howarth, Jonathan Gibbs, Paul Slater, Helen-Ann Hartley and Tony Robinson. Diocese of Leicester: Bishops Martyn James Snow and Guli Francis-Dehqani.

Sun 13 **Pray for Bishop Alan and Bishop Jonathan. Pray too for Bishop Graham and Julie, preparing for their move to Cornwall.**

Deanery of Northern Lapland (Luleå, Sweden): Gotthard Nilsson, Rural Dean.
Diocese of Lesotho (Southern Africa): Bishop Adam Taaso.

Mon 14 **WATTON** Clergy: Geraldine Foster. Readers: Shirley Blake, Margaret Enger, Elaine Rodgers. Our Rural Deans at their annual Residential.

Dioceses of Lexington and Litoral Ecuador (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Mark van Koevering and Alfredo Morante.

Tue 15 **THREXTON:** Clergy: Gerry Foster.
Children, Youth and Families Development Officer, Jonathan Richardson and Administrator, Anna Walker. The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers.
Diocese of Liberia (West Africa): Archbishop Jonathan Bau-Bau Hart.

Wed 16 **DEANERY OF BURNHAM AND WALSINGHAM** Rural Dean: Alan Elkins. Lay Chair: Anne Prentis.

'Imagine Norfolk Together': Anna Heydon and Andrew Frere-Smith.
Diocese of Lichfield: Bishops Michael Igrave, Mark Rylands, Geoffrey Annas and Clive Gregory.

Thu 17 **BARNEY, HINDRINGHAM, THURSFORD, GREAT SNORING, LITTLE SNORING, KETTLESTONE AND PENSTHORPE** Clergy: James Muggleton.

Hindringham CofE VC Primary School.
Sunday School teachers, Youth and Children's Workers and the Children, Youth and Families Task Force chaired by Louise Alder.
Diocese of Limerick & Kilaloe (Church of Ireland): Bishop Kenneth Kearon.

Fri 18 **COXFORD GROUP:** East Raynham, East Rudham, Helhoughton, Houghton next Harpley, South Raynham, Tatterford, Tattersett. Clergy: Edward Bundoock. Rudham CofE Primary Academy, West Raynham CofE Primary Academy.

Chaplain to the UEA, Darren Thornton, and his ecumenical colleagues.
Diocese of Liverpool: Bishops Paul Bayes and Beverley Mason.

Sat 19 **FAKENHAM** Clergy: Francis Mason. Readers: Elaine Burbridge, Linda Frost, Amanda Sands.

Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC) chaired by Alan Kefford. Diocese of Llandaff (Church of Wales): Bishop June Osborne.

Sun 20 **Pray for Bishop Alan and Bishop Jonathan. Pray too for Bishop Graham and Julie, preparing for their move to Cornwall.**

Epiphany 3
The Salvation Army: Commanders of the Anglia Division, Derek and Susan Jones.
The United Church of Bangladesh: Archbishop Paul Sarker.

Mon 21 **FULMODESTON WITH CROXTON** Clergy: Francis Mason, DAC Team: Matthew McDade, Caroline Rawlings, Margaret Mallett and Marleen Madinda.

Diocese of Asaph (Wales): Bishop Gregory Cameron.

Tue 22 **HEMPTON** Clergy: John Burgess.
PlayVan Development Worker, Lesley Gurney.
Diocese of St Davids (Wales): Bishop Joanna Penberthy.

Wed 23 **HOLKHAM:** Holkham, Warham, Wells-next-the-Sea, Wighton. Clergy: Brenda Stewart. Today's meeting of Bishop's Staff.

Director of Reader Training, Charles Read and all those training to be Readers.
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich: Bishops Martin Seeley and Michael Harrison.

Thu 24 **SOUTH CREAKE:** North Creake, Sculthorpe, South Creake, Syderstone Clergy: Clive Wylie. Reader: Peter Gray. Sculthorpe CofE Primary Academy
As we near the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, pray for God's blessing on the Ecumenical Chain of Prayer at the Cathedral today.
Diocese of Lokoja (Nigeria): Archbishop Emmanuel Egbunu.

Thu 21

FLEGG GROUP (ORMESBY): Ormesby St Margaret, Ormesby St Michael, Rollesby. Clergy: Mandy Bishop. Reader: Margaret Parish.
The ministry of our Police Chaplains.
Diocese of Maseno South (Kenya): Bishop Francis Abiero.

Fri 22

GORLESTON ST ANDREW Clergy: Brian Hall, Mike Simm. Readers: Ed Ellis, Patricia Kane, Melvyn Reid, Wendy Bircham, Tracy Mayne.
Prison Chaplains across our region and the prison communities they serve.
Diocese of Maseno West (Kenya): Bishop Joseph Wasonga.

Sat 23

GORLESTON ST MARY MAGDALENE Clergy: Matthew Price. Peterhouse CofE Primary Academy (Gorleston).
Diocesan Urban Officer and Church Urban Fund Link, Peter Howard.
Diocese of Mbeere (Kenya): Bishop Moses Nthukah.

Sun 24

ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
The Methodist Church: Chair of the East Anglian District, Julian Pursehouse.
Diocese of Masindi-Kitara (Uganda): Bishop George Kasangaki.

2nd Sunday
before Lent

Mon 25

GREAT YARMOUTH TEAM MINISTRY Clergy: Simon Ward, Helen Lynch, Jemma Sander-Helys, Frank Cliff. Readers: Pat Stringer, Carolyn Cliff, Michael Gibbs. St Nicholas Priory CofE VA Primary School (Great Yarmouth).
At the beginning of Fairtrade Fortnight, pray that all who buy and sell the produce of others may take trade justice more seriously. Pray too for the mission and ministry of Norwich Cathedral.
Diocese of Massachusetts (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Alan Gates and Gayle Harris. Diocese of Michigan (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Wendell Gibbs.

Tue 26

THE SOUTH TRINITY BROADS Clergy: Sue Hemsley Halls. Reader: Judy Pritchard. Fleggburgh CofE VC Primary School.
Diocesan Director of Marketing and Communications, Gordon Darley, and his PA Barbara Kirk.
Diocese of Matabeleland (Central Africa): Bishop Cleophas Lunga.

Wed 27

DEANERY OF HEACHAM AND RISING Rural Dean: Peter Cook. Lay Chair: Jane Wood.
Bishop's Press Officer, Katherine Limbach: all those working in the media.
Diocese of Matana (Burundi): Bishop Seth Ndayirukiye.

Thu 28

DERSINGHAM, ANMER, INGOLDISTHORPE & SHERNBORNE Clergy: Mark Capron. Readers: Neil Adams, Alan Crawshaw. Dersingham CofE VA Primary School & Nursery, Ingoldisthorpe CofE VA Primary School.
The editor of 'The Magazine', Barbara Bryant, and all parish magazine editors and webmasters.
Diocese of Matlosane (Southern Africa): Bishop Stephen Diseko.

Editor: The Revd Susanna Gunner, Bishop's Chaplain - 01603 614172, bishops.chaplain@dioceseofnorwich.org

Prayer Calendar

February 2019



Fri 1

BROOKE: Brooke, Kirstead, Mundham with Seething, Thwaite. Clergy: Lynn Chapman. Reader: John Ash. Brooke CofE VC Primary School.
All in training on the Eastern Region Ministry Course and Principal, Alex Jensen.
Diocese of Madi & West Nile (Uganda): Bishop Charles Andaku.

Sat 2

HEMPNALL TEAM MINISTRY: Bedingham, Hempnall, Morningthorpe and Fritton, Shelton with Hardwick, Topcroft, Woodton. Clergy: Michael Kingston, Liz Billett.
Reader: Jacqueline Cook.
The Presentation of Christ
Ordinands from our diocese in training at residential colleges.
Diocese of Madras (South India): Bishop George Jeyaraj.

Sun 3

ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
Pray that our Mission Strategy 2021 may be an effective tool as we seek renewal and fresh inspiration for proclaiming the good news across this diocese.
Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad (South India): Bishop Marialouis Joseph.

5th Sunday
before Lent

Mon 4

TAS VALLEY TEAM MINISTRY: Newton Flotman, Saxlingham Nethergate, Shotesham, Swainsthorpe, Tas Valley Cells (Bishop's Mission Order), Tasburgh, Tharston. Clergy: Dawn Davidson, Austin Uzoigwe. Reader: David Lancaster.
Newton Flotman, Saxlingham Nethergate and Preston (Tasburgh) CofE VC Primary Schools.
Our Archdeacons: Steven Betts, Karen Hutchinson and Ian Bentley.
Diocese of Mahajanga (Indian Ocean) and the wise appointment of a new bishop.

Tue 5

THE LONG STRATTON & PILGRIM TEAM MINISTRY: Aslacton, Bunwell, Carleton Rode, Great Moulton with Little Moulton, Stratton St Mary, Stratton St Michael and St Peter, Tibenham, Wacton Magna with Wacton Parva. Clergy: Heather Wilcox, John Madinda, Gill Osborne. Readers: Margaret Thorburn, Steve Adcock, Margaret Smith. Carleton Rode CofE VA Primary School, St Mary's CofE Junior Academy (Long Stratton).
Bishop's Officer for Continuing Ministerial Development, Keith James, and assistant Lesley Loftis.
Diocese of Maiduguri (Nigeria): Bishop Emmanuel Morris.

Wed 6

DEANERY OF DEREHAM IN MITFORD Rural Dean: Mark McCaghrey. Lay Chair: Sheila Hanmer.
The local branch of The Guild of Vergers and all who serve as vergers in our Cathedral and parish churches.
Diocese of Maine (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Stephen Lane.

Thu 7

BARNHAM BROOM & UPPER YARE: Barford, Barnham Broom with Bickerston, Brandon Parva, Carleton Forehoe, Cranworth with Letton and Southburgh, Garvestone, Hardingham, Kimberley, Reymerston, Runhall with Coston, Thuxton, Winiburngh with Westfield, Wrampingham Clergy: Tim Weatherstone, Arthur Hawes. Reader: Roger Walpole. Barnham Broom CofE VA Primary School.

All church musicians - organists, choirs, music groups and worship bands.
Dioceses of Makueni and Malindi (Kenya): Bishops Francis Mboya Matui and Lawrence Dena.

Fri 8

DEREHAM & DISTRICT TEAM MINISTRY: Beetley with East Biley, East Bradenham with West Bradenham, East Dereham, Hoe, Scarning, Shipdham, Swanton Morley. Clergy: Sally Theakston, James Rosie, Dominique Turnham, Gill Wells, Jane Nursey, Kenneth Pilgrim. Readers: Alan Barrett, Helen Jackells, Adam Pyke, Evelyn Speed, Lydia Crick. Dereham CofE Junior Academy, Dereham CofE VA Infant School & Nursery, Swanton Morley CofE VC Primary School, Thomas Bullock CofE Primary Academy (Shipdham)

The Diocesan Liturgical Committee chaired by Charles Read.
Diocese of Makurdi (Nigeria): Bishop Nathan Inyom.

Sat 9

EASTON: Bawburgh, Colton, Easton, Marlingford. Clergy: Laura Montgomery, Penny Goodman. Reader: Peter Pease. St Peter's CofE Primary Academy (Easton).

Our Mission Enabling Team: Heather Cracknell, Tim Yau, Deb Cousins, Simon Fenn, Rachel Foster and Jonathan Richardson.
Diocese of Malabar (South India): Bishop Royce Manoj Victor.

Sun 10

ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
For the international work of our link diocese of Luleå, Sweden, for the Deanery of Kalix-Torne there and Roland Hemphälä, Rural Dean.
Diocese of Malaita (Melanesia): Bishop Samuel Sahu.

Mon 11

HONINGHAM The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy.
The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers.
Diocese of Malakal (South Sudan): Archbishop Hilary Garang Deng and Bishops John Gattek and Peter Gabel Kunen.

Tue 12

LAUNDITCH & THE UPPER NAR TEAM MINISTRY: Beeston-next-Mileham, Bittering Parva, East Lexham, Great Dunham, Great and Little Fransham, Gressenhall, Litcham w Kempston, Little Dunham, Longham, Mileham, Rougham, Stanfield, Tittleshall w Godwick, Weasenham, Wellingham, Wendling, West Lexham Clergy: Heather Butcher, Miriam Fife, Julia Hemp, Kevin Blogg. Readers: Peter Brown, Tom Butler-Stoney, Jan Sexton. Weasenham CofE Primary Academy.
Norfolk and Waveney Churches Together and all Local Ecumenical Partnerships.
Diocese of Malek (South Sudan): Bishop Peter Mayom.

Wed 13

MATTISHALL & TUDD VALLEY: East Tuddenham, Hockering, Mattishall, North Tuddenham, Welborne, Yaxham. Clergy: Mark McCaghrey, Sally Thurgill.

Readers: Margaret Dixon, Joyce Turner, Jackie Clay, Alan Cossey, Jackie Crisp, Tom Cross, Melanie Stevenson. Hockering CofE Primary Academy, Yaxham CofE VA Primary School.
County Ecumenical Officer, Catherine Howe, and all the Denominational Ecumenical Officers of Norfolk and Waveney Churches Together.
Diocese of Malek Rup (South Sudan): Bishop Peter Marial Agok.

Thu 14

DEANERY OF GREAT YARMOUTH Rural Dean: John Kinchin-Smith. Lay Chair: David Pearson.

Today's meeting of Bishop's Staff.
Diocese of Mandalay (Myanmar): Bishop David Nyi Nyi Naing.

Fri 15

BELTON AND BURGH CASTLE Clergy: Rosie Bunn. Reader: Mary Ives. Moorlands CofE Primary Academy (Belton)

Bishop's Safeguarding Advisers, Sue Brice and Sian Griffiths, and assistant, Brenna Wells.
Dioceses of Manicaland and Masvingo (Central Africa): Bishops Erick Ruwona and Godfrey Tawonezwi.

Sat 16

BRADWELL Clergy: Sue Upton, Martin Upton. Homefield CofE VC Primary School (Bradwell).

The ministry of our Industrial and Workplace Chaplains.
Diocese of Marathwada (North India): Bishop Madhukar Kasab.

Sun 17

ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
On this Racial Justice Sunday, pray for all those who experience systemic prejudice because of their race or colour. Pray too for the Roman Catholic Church, the Diocese of East Anglia and Bishop Alan Hopes.
The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan: Archbishop Justin Arama.

Mon 18

CAISTER Clergy: David Wells. Reader: Mary Taylor.
All who support those with mental health issues and 'Recovery Friendly Church' based at St Matthews, Thorpe Hamlet.
Diocese of Marsabit (Kenya): Bishop Daniel Qampicha.

Tue 19

FLEGG GROUP (COASTAL): Hemsby, Horsey, West Somerton, Winterton. Clergy: John Bloomfield as he begins his new ministry in this benefice.
Norwich Deaf Church and other ministry among deaf people currently facilitated by Dom Hubbock.
Diocese of Maryland (Episcopal Church of USA: Bishop Eugene Sutton and the wise appointment of a new suffragan bishop.

Wed 20

FLEGG GROUP (MARTHAM): Clippesby, Martham, Repps, Thurne. Clergy: Steven Silyer. Reader: Alison McTaggart.
Chaplain for Deaf/Blind People, Heather Wright.
Diocese of Masasi (Tanzania): Bishop James Almasi.

How we distribute the Prayer Calendar is changing...

By Gordon Darley

The Prayer Calendar is a wonderful resource that enables so many people across the Diocese to pray each day for one another and the parishes, schools and wider church.

It's been so encouraging over the past couple of years to see an increase in its use online through social media as people follow @PrayerCalendar on Twitter or Facebook. Each day at 6am they receive the day's prayer via their mobile. You can also find us on the PrayerMate app.

Keeping the information within the Prayer Calendar as up-to-date and relevant as possible is key to its success, and this is down to the tireless and dedicated work each edition of the Bishop's Chaplain, Susanna Gunner. She explained the thinking behind its content earlier this year:

"Each day's entry guides us in prayer from the local to the global. It begins with one very particular Deanery or Benefice and the clergy and Readers who minister there. Any church schools in that place are also listed. Then the parameters shift a bit wider and we are asked to pray for particular people who contribute to life across our whole Diocese – such as the Archdeacons, or those who are responsible for music in our churches. Finally, our horizons broaden again, and our prayers are asked for the diocese listed that day in the worldwide Anglican Cycle of Prayer."

With *The Magazine* moving to four issues a year – Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter – the Bishop's Staff have had to

take the difficult decision not to include the Prayer Calendar pages in future. The time between writing the prayers and the day they are used is already significant at up to four months in some cases. This would rise to five months and the result would naturally be regular inaccuracies.

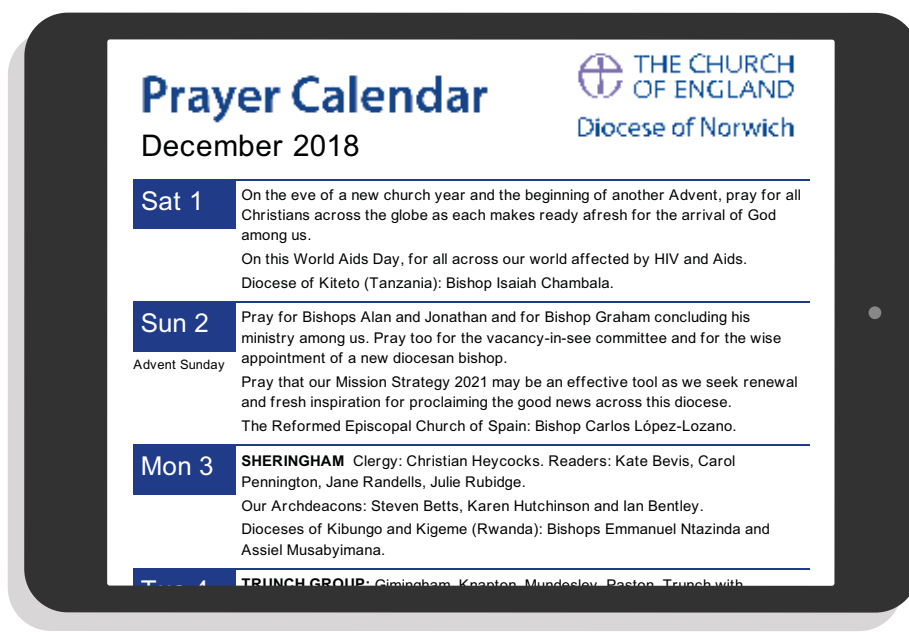
One of the new ways we are introducing to receive the Prayer Calendar is a monthly email which anyone can subscribe to. A few days before each month we will email the forthcoming Prayer Calendar to you. Simply visit **www.DofN.org/prayer** to subscribe.

Many people already regularly visit the Prayer Calendar section on the Diocesan website and download the PDF version or read the day's prayer there. Both formats will continue, as will the daily social media posts.

Finally, if you would like to continue receiving the Prayer Calendar on paper by

post, please let us know your name and address and we will post copies directly to you (at no cost to you) every few months. Contact Sally Finn on **01603 882322**, **sally.finn@dioceseofnorwich.org** or by post at Diocesan House, 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich, NR9 5ES.

Please do also look out for others who use the printed edition and would value receiving it by post. Let them know that it's still available but to contact Sally and ask to be added to the mailing list.





The South Creake Lectures – building on success

Nigel Kenyon Jones looks back over the past four years' experience of the lectures at South Creake.

We're lucky with Our Lady Saint Mary South Creake: a beautiful medieval building, large, light and airy, a nave roof famous for its angels, a flexible space unencumbered by pews, a quirky Anglo-Catholic interior.

But it's not all luck. Our church is always open so we get many visitors, we have an energetic Rector who speaks his mind and shares his altar with women priests, we are one of few churches in the east of England belonging to *Inclusive Church*, we share our space with a major music festival, we've had a website www.southcreake.org since 2007, and for the last seven years sent out a regular eNews to over 550 email subscribers.

Our Sunday service is always a Eucharist and always at 9.30am. Our finances are solid and we pay our share of the benefice ask in full because we follow the principles of Christian Stewardship: regular, generous, cheerful giving of money back to God for His purposes by our congregation, by villagers, by second home owners, and by

our friends near and far. It's uncomplicated stuff but done deliberately and consistently.

And then there are the South Creake Lectures. It's a simple idea. Invite speakers of national renown to lecture on two evenings in the autumn: one on a religious topic and one on a secular and pitched as *food for the mind and soul*. Entry is free: these are not fund-raisers. They cost us money to run but we want to give back to the local community and show a generous, confident, open-minded, outward looking church.

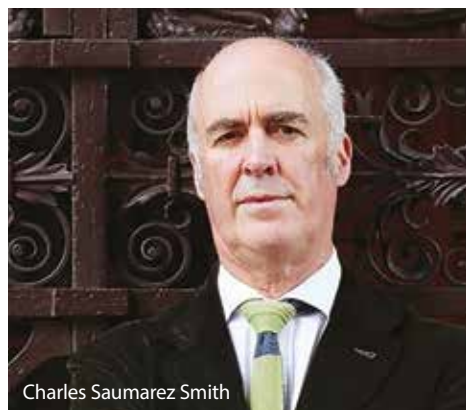
We launched the South Creake Lectures in 2015. We didn't know what would happen. Would speakers come all the way to north Norfolk – we offer them only a very modest fee, their travel expenses and overnight accommodation in the village? Would our marketing work and attract an audience? Would that audience be engaged and stimulated?

Having just completed our fourth series and with our speakers booked for autumn 2019, the answers to those questions are 'Yes'.

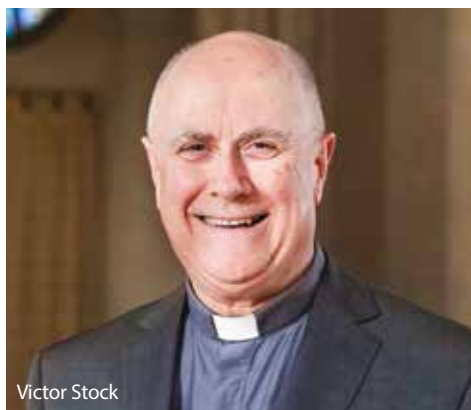
We've welcomed as speakers two Bishops, two Deans, an historian, the Chief Executive of the Royal Academy, the lady Master of a Cambridge college, a poet priest, and a Professor of Criminal Law. We've never had an audience of less than 100 and our biggest was 140.

We attract people from all over Norfolk and beyond and, because we ask everyone who attends for their email address, we attract much of our audience to return. The audiences are engaged. After each lecture we break for an interval and a glass of wine before a Question & Answer session. The majority of the audience stay for what have proved spirited sessions with only a few people slipping away.

With this simple idea we don't just give back to the local community but wave a metaphorical flag over our church. We're here, we're active, we're open to new ideas, we welcome anyone, we're not always asking for money. And, yes, we show that success breeds success.



Charles Saumarez Smith



Victor Stock



Fiona Reynolds

The Anglican Centre in Rome

promoting Christian unity in a divided world



By Peter Doll and Alaric Lewis

During his recent visit to the Diocese, at his 'Reflections on Reconciliation' in the Cathedral, Archbishop Justin reminded us that the work of ecumenical reconciliation is not an optional extra for Christians, but an absolute imperative in response to Our Lord's prayer "that they may all be one ... so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (John 17:21).

This will be a matter both of our engagement with theological differences, as in the work of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, but it will also involve our working together as fellow Christians in the Lord's service. The covenant between the Shrines at Walsingham is an important witness to us all.

The focus for the Anglican Communion's encounter with the Roman Catholic Church is at the Anglican Centre in Rome, a place of worship, hospitality and learning. Alaric Lewis, recently arrived in the Diocese as Priest-in-charge of St George Colegate and St George Tombland, Norwich, has been involved in its work. He writes:

Each Tuesday afternoon at 12.30pm, a group gathers to celebrate Anglican Holy Communion in the heart of Rome, at the St Augustine of Canterbury Chapel in the Anglican Centre, housed in the thousand-room Palazzo Doria Pamphilj.

The service is open to everyone, and both residents of Rome and visitors passing through come, with all being invited to stay on for prosecco and lunch afterwards. The atmosphere is relaxed and convivial and provides a good balance to the extravagance of the palazzo.

Mark Beatty, a Lutheran visitor to the Centre who happened upon it while visiting the famed Galleria Doria Pamphilj housed below, found the experience moving: "I was overwhelmed by the sheer



grandeur at first," he said, "but celebrating and sharing food and conversation with other Christians from all over the world tempered that, and I was left with an overwhelming sense of family – a diverse family, but a family nonetheless."

This attention to hospitality, diversity and sense of family has been present from the Centre's inception, due in large part to the Doria Pamphilj family who also call the palazzo home. Instrumental in its establishment, Princess Orietta Doria Pamphilj and her husband Frank had a desire to help facilitate a coming together of people and ideas, a new idea of family which was groundbreaking in the religious environment of the 1960s.

"My father was Anglican and converted to Roman Catholicism before he met my mother, and though they were both devout Catholics they never

forgot the diversity he came from," says Prince Jonathan Doria Pamphilj, Frank and Orietta's son.

"Our notion of family has always been connected to that."



If you are interested in exploring the theology of unity, the Norwich Centre for Christian Learning at the Cathedral is offering a course on 'Exploring Anglican-Roman Catholic Ecumenism: The report of ARCIC III, *Walking together on the way*, 2 and 16 March 2019.

If you are interested in the possibility of a pilgrimage to Rome, please be in touch with Alaric st.george.alaric@gmail.com or Peter canonlibrarian@cathedral.org.uk

The Anglican Centre in Rome: Palazzo Doria Pamphilj, Piazza del Collegio Romano 2, Rome. www.anglicancentreinrome.org

Church Army: mission-focused community

By Barbara Bryant

I stood at the back of a large church observing a group of people praising God with a sincerity that was palpable. Different ages, backgrounds, experiences and from across Norfolk and Waveney; what had brought them together on this autumnal evening, beyond an obviously shared Christian faith, was their membership of the Church Army.

It was an annual thanksgiving service for the founder of the Church Army (CA). The Revd Wilson Carlile founded the CA in 1882 to enable ordinary Christian women and men to share their faith. He began by holding open-air gatherings to share faith and encourage faith in action such as serving the slums of Westminster. He famously said: "We do not seek to

drag the Church of England into the mud but to bring some of the social mud into the church." The training of evangelists continues to this day "rooted in experience and in the modern day".

I seized the opportunity to find out more about the work of the CA and its impact on individuals locally by talking with some of those attending the service.

John Worsfold has been part of the CA for over 30 years and he explained how the Diocese of Norwich has a long history of links with the Army. "The Church Army first came to Lowestoft around 1886 to work with the fishermen and women on the docks. We have had mission caravans, care homes for the elderly in Lowestoft, beach missions, pub to pub missions on

the Norfolk Broads as well as Church Army evangelists working in various settings and ministries.

"And the links continue. We have recently opened two new Centres of Mission in the Diocese, in Harleston and King's Lynn, where CA Officers are working with local churches to take the good news of Jesus to people there. The CA Community has always found different ways to bring others to know Jesus and his great love for all.

"Prayer is a very important part of the work we do. Prayer is the main part of my vocation now. People from different parts of the country ask me to remember them before God in prayer. Prayer is vital for our work."





“We do not seek to drag the Church of England into the mud but to bring some of the social mud into the church. The training of evangelists continues to this day rooted in experience and in the modern day.”

Trevor Clarke, lead evangelist in Harleston, said: “The CA is seeking to resource and help the Church and people share their story of faith and speak about Jesus in a natural, easy and approachable way.”

He talked of some of the things happening in his area such as the Midweek Mingle in St John’s, Harleston. This initiative came out of a tragedy of a young person’s death in a car crash but has become a place for parents to meet over refreshments. He’s supporting a similar ‘coffee stop’ initiative with local Mothers’ Union members at a Pulham Market school.

James Hawksworth is based at the King’s Lynn Centre of Mission and is the new Chaplain to Springwood High School and in a local YMCA Norfolk Youth Club. He’s also working with churches from two denominations and three young people themselves from the North Lynn estate to set up a midweek discussion group to look at life issues from a Christian perspective. “The young people feel that this kind of group may be key to helping their peers develop their aspirations for the future and tackle the anxiety a lot of our young people live with today.”

Peter Murray, commissioned as a CA Officer in 1979, says, “Being part of CA enables me to function effectively in using my gifts and experience within the Church of England. Since retiring I still do some door-to-door visiting in one of the parishes in our deanery and support a regular family service in another.

“I think the important thing that CA brings to a parish or benefice is to emphasise the importance of the Church continually



reaching out in imaginative ways to those many people who need to hear and respond to the gospel and who are not part of any Christian community, and to assist all Christians to gain greater confidence in sharing their faith.”

Stella Noons told me how, through the ministry of a CA Sister, she became a Christian. “From the moment she arrived at St John’s, North Woolwich, I was attracted to this fun-loving person who went out of her way to befriend us as young people. It was several years later as she prepared me for confirmation that I committed myself to Jesus Christ – I had come to recognise that it was faith in him that motivated her whole life and I wanted that for myself too.”

Today, as a retired CA Evangelist, Stella enjoys being a member of St Edmund’s Taverham and sharing in their ministry of outreach, through Messy Church and leading a walking group that includes members of the community as well as church folk. She concludes: “But it’s probably true to say that just as many opportunities to share Christ’s love for his people come through sharing in



activities like playing badminton several times a week.”

In 2012 the CA became a Mission Community – open to all those who have a passion for evangelism to join with 400 other current members. There is a local network in Norfolk and Waveney which meets to support and encourage one another.

John urges us to prayerfully consider this: “As a Community member you will be used by praying for our work and supporting the Community any way you can, keeping a rule of life, and sometimes meeting together with other members. But, most importantly, by helping the Community to spread the Good News of Jesus in your local church and in your local area, you will become a vital part of the Community living and working in the world.”

**CHURCH
ARMY**
ORG

To find out more about the Church Army:
churcharmy.org or to make contact locally:

Rachel Seabrook, **01603 868217**
rachel.seabrook@gmail.com



An artist connects with medieval counterparts

Word and illustrations by John Finnie



St Mary's West Somerton

Bristol has one, County Durham has two, Leicestershire has three and Norfolk (including us at St Mary's, West Somerton) has 60! Churches with medieval wall paintings.

Somerton is one mile from the coast, eight miles north of Yarmouth. Our drawing, from an imagined aerial viewpoint looking east, has St Mary's in the foreground; a bus wending its way round the woods and Burnley Hall en route for Martham and (top-left) the great tower of the church at Winterton-on-Sea that has been a landmark for sailors down the centuries.

The wall paintings at Somerton have been dated to between 1327 and 1377, in part by the armour worn by the figure with clasped hand half way down on the right. I am concentrating on this, the largest section of painting on the south wall: 'The Last Judgement'.

In its complete state it has Christ seated on a rainbow dispensing judicial verdicts upon the awakened dead. But nothing above the tips of the rainbow and the Lord's feet have survived. Kneeling figures are discerned but not clearly. I cannot yet place in context what may be large wings, but with guidance of similar works I have sought to fill the gaps thus far.

Martham Library sourced two truly authoritative books: *Medieval Wall Paintings* by Roger Rosewell and *The Medieval Castle* by Charles Phillips. The latter book was consulted for guidance on medieval scaffolding. There is more I want to find out on this subject.

The artist, or artists – I imagine they worked in groups – clearly used a template for a small flower design, for prints of it can be discerned almost everywhere. I made a template myself with a leather punch and thin card for my painting and rather over did it, very much like my unknown colleagues of 700 years ago.

In drawing and re-drawing again and again these figures from the painting, I began to feel a way into that distant industry and I kept asking myself where have I seen work like this before? Then it came: the fairground!

I put it to you, and I intend no impiety: imagine the arc of the rainbow as a railway tunnel entrance and impose the words 'GHOST TRAIN'!



Like fairground people, those artists must have led a peripatetic existence with infrequent visits home, wherever that might be, and some may have come from Normandy. Along with their brushes, mixing bowls, pestle and mortar for making their colours and all such requisites, did they include scaffolding? And like fairground folk, did they put complex structures up – and take them down with amazing rapidity?

One thing above all resonates with me. The artists and those who looked upon their work believed the truths (and the fables) depicted. They believed Christ will return and judge the world and were frightened by the prospect and call it 'Doom'. I too believe Christ will return and pray every day and without fear for it to happen. For I put my faith in Christ's redeeming promises to this stricken world. Come, Lord Jesus!

Julie and I find it hard to believe we've lived in Norwich for 19 years – much longer than anywhere else. The time seems to have flown by. And that's not because of the beauty of the landscape or the glory of our church buildings, marvellous though they are. It's not even because Norwich City seemed to find a run of exceptional form prior to my retirement. It's because the people of the Diocese of Norwich – indeed all the people of Norfolk and Waveney – have won our hearts. The received tradition here is that people need to be around for years before they are accepted. Yet we've found it the most welcoming place we've ever lived. That's why we will miss you all so much. Thank you for making the farewell services so memorable and for your gifts and kindness. God bless you.

+ *Chris Norris* :





Comings & Goings

Our prayers for their future ministry go to:

- ◀ The Revd Karlene Kerr confirmed as Team Vicar in the Gaywood Team and appointed Diocesan Ecumenical Officer.
- ◀ The Revd Austin Uzoigwe appointed Team Vicar of the Tas Valley Team Ministry.
- ◀ The Revd Sally Thurgill becoming Assistant Priest and staying in the Mattishall and Tudd Valley Benefice.
- ◀ The Revd Nicholas Ktorides appointed Interim Assistant Minister at Oulton St Michael.
- ◀ The Venerable Dr Linda Lubbe appointed Part-time Associate Priest of the Hilborough, Mundford and Oxborough Groups with pastoral responsibility for the Hilborough Group.
- ◀ The Revd Andrew Slater appointed Assistant Priest in the Benefice of Attleborough with Besthorpe.
- ◀ The Revd Canon Eleanor Langan appointed Vicar of St Helen's, Norwich and Chaplain to The Great Hospital.
- ◀ Mrs Christina Rees appointed Lay Chaplain at Beeston Hall School.
- ◀ The Revd Riaz Mubarak appointed Chaplain to Norfolk Constabulary.
- ◀ The Revd James Ridge appointed Chaplain General to the Prison Service.
- ◀ The Revd Dr Lorna Allies retiring on 31/01/2019 as Associate Priest in the Acle and Bure to Yare Benefice.
- ◀ The Revd Rachel Jackson who retired as Assistant Curate (OLM) in the Barnham Broom and Upper Yare Benefice.
- ◀ The Revd Kate Belcher who retired on 26/11/2018 as Assistant Priest in the Lakenham Group (St John and Tuckswood).
- ◀ The Revd Dr (Flt Lt) Chris Hodder and the Revd Rachel Jackson who have been given Permission to Officiate.

We are saddened to announce the death of:

The Revd Karen June Rayner on 30/09/2018.
 The Revd Margaret Ann Doggett on 01/10/2018.
 The Revd Canon Hugh Melinsky on 22/10/2018.
 Mr Alan Huggins, Reader with the Lakenham Group Benefice on 09/11/2018.

Photos: Tim Rogers

Snapshots of the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the Diocese

Reflections on reconciliation at Norwich Cathedral



Strolling through Norwich Market



Archbishop & Fish at Great Yarmouth Minster



Ethical fashion at Norwich University of the Arts



Chatting with pupils at Peterhouse Academy



Listening to staff at James Paget University Hospital



Breakfast at Blakeney

"It's been an extraordinary, profound and exhilarating three days in the Diocese of Norwich. I have been so encouraged by all the different ways the churches have been showing the love of Jesus Christ by reaching out and serving their communities.

"On the eve of the Armistice celebrations, it was wonderful to see a passion for reconciliation in all its forms, from sitting down to breakfast with lonely neighbours to gathering all of the children in the area to sing for the peace of the world.

This Diocese gives me hope for the church and for the world and I leave full of joy. May the love of Jesus Christ continue to uphold and sustain you in all that you do."

The Most Revd Justin Welby



Liturgy of the Cross at The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham



Some time for reflection at Blakeney Quay



Receiving a gift at Norwich Synagogue



Serving at St Stephens Café, Norwich



Planting a tree at the Bread Kitchen allotment, Gt Yarmouth

Out & About

happenings across the Diocese

*A round-up of some of the parish activities over the past few months.
Do send in your photos to barbara.bryant@dioceseofnorwich.org or
tag  @dioceseofnorwich  @DioceseNorwich*

Pakefield Café sessions

Judith Betts started running this occasional Friday café about five years ago as her personal Lent project for that year. Now it's become a regular fixture as it became more and more popular. "There is a great community feel. It brings people into the church who might not ordinarily come. We have donated goodies from church members, make hot drinks and cook bacon butties."



Ecumenical Just Desserts

A cross-section of 18 Methodists, Catholics and Anglicans attended Acle Methodist Church to partake in the annual, traditional "Just Desserts" event. Acle Churches Together spawned the idea of the evening and continues to lead the field in the area of ecumenism. Sara Edwards, a Sunday Young Persons' Leader, gave a fascinating talk on art.



Throngs of Angels at Eaton

Christ Church, Eaton, abounded with angels – and people – just before Advent last year. Angels, of all shapes and sizes were on view along with further angel delights from the cafe and craft stall. Angelic music, including handbell-ringing, provided a melodious atmosphere.

Photo: ©www.stuartbeardphotography.co.uk



MU festival service with outgoing World President

Mothers' Union outgoing Worldwide President Lynne Tembey shared Home Communion with a housebound member following her preaching at the Diocesan Festival service, where members laid footprints to symbolise following the example of their founder Mary Sumner. Afterwards the trustees took tea with Lynne and Bishop Graham at Guildhall Britannia.





News in brief

Updates from across the Diocese

Helter Skelter at Norwich Cathedral



Photo: Clavin Leisure

All the fun of the fair is coming to Norwich Cathedral in summer 2019 to take people on a journey of discovery. *Seeing It Differently* will see a 40ft helter skelter installed in the Nave from August 7 to 18 next year, and the hope is this rather unusual addition to the Cathedral will give people the chance to experience the centuries-old building in a new way and open-up conversations about faith and God.

Visitors climbing up to have a go on the ride will be treated to unique views of the Cathedral and its famous roof bosses and quite literally see things differently.

The Revd Canon Andy Bryant, Canon for Mission and Pastoral Care, said: "A cathedral may not be the natural home of a helter skelter but that is precisely part of the draw. It is the unusual that helps create the missional opportunity.

"We will be doing what cathedrals have always done: helping people see things differently and make connections with the things of God." More details available soon at www.cathedral.org.uk

Horstead golden memories needed!

The Horstead Centre – the residential stays and activity days venue in the Diocese of Norwich – will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in June 2019. A variety of different happenings are planned, but they are keen to hear from those who have been involved with the Centre over the past 50 years. "We would love to hear from anyone who has stayed at, or visited the centre, with the purpose of including their memory in our proposed Horstead Centre Storyboard. If yours is selected to be displayed, then you

50th Year Anniversary

Horstead Centre

Residential Stays and Activity Days

will be invited to the anniversary event, so please remember to include your contact details." Send your contribution to:

admin@horsteadcentre.org.uk or The Horstead Centre, Rectory Road, Horstead, Norwich NR12 7EP Tel: **01603 737215**.

Mothers' Union welcomes new worldwide president and refugees



Mothers' Union has elected its first ever Worldwide President from outside the British Isles. A record number of Mothers' Union leaders from across the globe voted for Mrs Sheran Harper, from Guyana, to represent and lead the movement's four million members in 84 countries.

Mothers' Union in the Dioceses of Norwich and Guyana were linked together through the Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer initiative until 2016. "Sheran was in regular correspondence with our Trustees, still looks out for us at conferences and posts regular messages and prayers on our Facebook page," explained Marguerite Phillips, current Diocesan President in Norwich. After the announcement of her election, Sheran wrote in an email: "Please can you ask your prayer team to keep me

in their prayer diary? Norwich has such an awesome prayer team!"

Locally Mothers' Union is looking forward to helping more Syrian refugees to settle in Norwich. Marguerite explains: "This follows on from the successful work with the 12 families who came in 2017 and who are very happily settled with the children doing well at school. The help we gave to refurbish some allotments has resulted in a terrific first harvest of exotic fruit and vegetables. The trustees have again agreed to provide bedding and duvet sets and making up of beds ready for the new arrivals."



THE MAGAZINE

– changing frequency but maintaining quality!

The Magazine reflects life in the Diocese of Norwich in all its fullness: an opportunity to engage, think and respond. Through its pages we reach out beyond our churches to engage with our communities and show them what a rich experience of life they can find if they dare to journey with us!

It's distributed free of charge across the Diocese, and you can order as many copies as you feel you can usefully give away! It's a great mission tool and the cost of having more delivered is minimal, so please be generous and imaginative in how you use it.

This edition of *The Magazine* will be the last bi-monthly issue as we go quarterly from March.

Take a look at the forthcoming themes and let us know if you or your church community is involved with something that complements that theme.

We receive enough content to fill *The Magazine* at least a fortnight before the final deadline. If you would like your item to be considered, please send it in good time.

Contact details are on page 3.

Edition	Theme	Content planning	Final deadline
Spring – Mar/Apr/May	Faith & politics	Wed 12 Dec	Mon 21 Jan
Summer – Jun/Jul/Aug	Whose truth?	Wed 6 Mar	Wed 17 Apr
Autumn – Sep/Oct/Nov	Poverty in plenty	Wed 5 Jun	Wed 17 Jul
Winter – Dec/Jan/Feb	New beginnings	Wed 4 Sep	Wed 16 Oct

Any photos need to be a high resolution (at least over 1MB in size), so ones taken on a tablet, or downloaded from social media for instance, are often not usable.



Over 100 community choirs and music groups are run by churches in the Diocese.

Help people discover yours; add it to www.brightmap.org



SPECIALISTS IN ALL TYPES OF STAINED AND LEADED GLASS

We work on glass dating from the early 14th century to the present day, the repair of casements and ferramenta, supply and installation of window protection. Many of our commissions come direct from PCC's whilst many others are initiated by architects.

To discuss conservation, protection or commissions of stained glass in any space in the UK or further afield please contact our studio. **01379 677111** www.devlinplummer.co.uk

DEVLIN PLUMMER STAINED GLASS





Resources

General and seasonal resources and ideas to inform, inspire and enable.

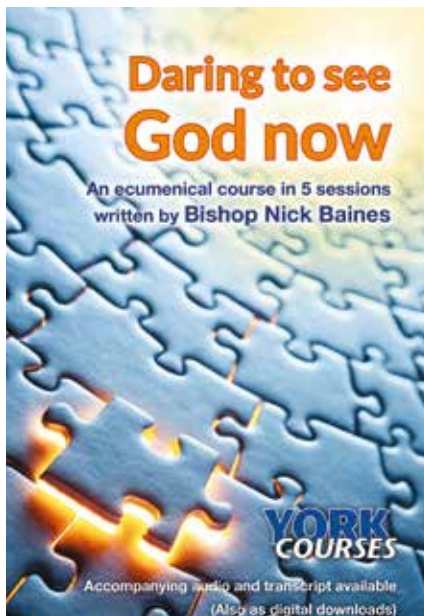


York Courses – for Lent or all year round

Lent, traditionally a period of fasting and prayer in preparation for Easter, is an ideal opportunity to put aside time for regular meetings for joint study. You can get five or six in between Ash Wednesday and Easter. It's not easy to forget if it becomes a regular annual event.

York Courses also have a backlist of around 30 courses to choose from, all suitable for any time of year. They have a handy information sheet and organiser's checklist to download, with lots of tips for getting started.

Available as digital downloads, as well as printed booklets and CD, they cost from £3.10 for a booklet. Free 2nd class postage and packing in the UK, regardless of order value. York Courses, PO Box 343, York YO19 5YB email: info@yorkcourses.co.uk Tel: **01904 466516** www.yorkcourses.co.uk



COMPETITION – win a York Course Taster pack

York Courses are giving away a free Taster Pack of *Daring to see God now*, their new five-session course for Lent 2019, as a competition prize in this issue (see advert on pg 2).

Worth £16.20, the Taster Pack comprises a course booklet, CD and transcript – everything needed to prepare for and lead a group. To enter, simply send your contact details to: barbara.bryant@dioceseofnorwich.org or post to Barbara at Diocesan House address on page 3 by Monday 21 January.



Church of England Lent campaign

LentPilgrim and EasterPilgrim are the Church of England's 2019 Lent and Easter campaigns.

LentPilgrim is 40 daily reflections based on the Beatitudes – to run from Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday, available in digital and print format. There will be daily audio content for smart speakers and a social media campaign. A bridge to EasterPilgrim – with weekly content shared from Church of England from Easter Day until Ascension based on the Lord's Prayer – will make it a great way to prepare for Thy Kingdom Come.



Booklets accompanying both LentPilgrim and EasterPilgrim are available from Church House Publishing – as part of a new Pilgrim Journeys series, priced at £2.99 per copy, with bulk discounts on packs of 10 and 50. www.churchofengland.org/lent

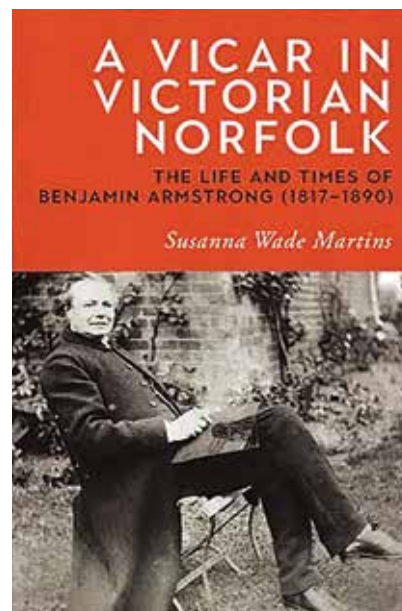
New book: A Vicar in Victorian Norfolk

The Revd Benjamin Armstrong, for many years vicar of the market town of East Dereham, Norfolk, is best-known for what have been described as "one of England's greatest clerical diaries", 11 volumes spanning his whole adult life, between 1850 and 1888. It was a time of turmoil in the church, with its conflict between high and low forms of service, and theological arguments, stirred up not least by controversies over Darwin's theories of creation.

Bishop Graham, a fan of Armstrong, writes in the foreword: "Armstrong deserves to be remembered both for his own qualities and as a representative of many of the clergy of his generation who exhibited a new pastoral zeal alongside a desire for the highest standards of public worship".

Author Dr Susanna Wade Martins is an Honorary Research Fellow in the School of History at the University of East Anglia.

Order online at www.boydellandbrewer.com, entering offer code BB125 to receive introductory price of £18.75 (full price £25) or contact Boydell & Brewer Sales, John Wiley & Sons Ltd on **01243 843291**, customer@wiley.com



WHAT'S ON

Highlights of events and learning opportunities across the Diocese January – February 2019

For more head to www.DofN.org/events

JANUARY

Taize Prayer

Sun 13 January

6pm

Address: Chapelfield Road Methodist Church, Chapelfield Road, Norwich NR2 1SD
Join Norwich Taizé for a simple service of sung and silent prayer following the tradition of the Taizé Community in France.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Cathy Harvey,
cathyharvey@rocketmail.com



The Minor Prophets

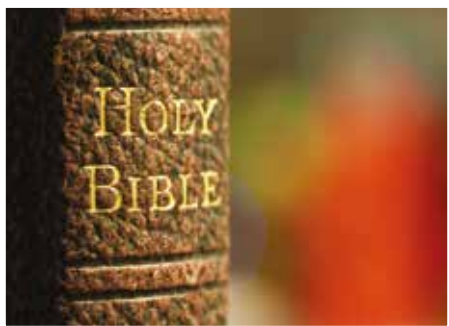
Sat 19 January

10am – 12.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD
Twelve books of the Old Testament written by passionate, brave people inspired by God to pronounce his word, sometimes even against their own instincts and wishes.

Admission: £10.

Contact: NCCL Admin Team, 01603 218443,
NCCL@cathedral.org.uk



Working in Schools Day

Thurs 24 January

9.30am – 3.30pm

Address: St Luke's, 61 Aylsham Road, New Catton, Norwich NR3 2HF
A training day for those from churches who already work with or are interested in working in schools with Kathryn Wright, Jonathan Richardson and guests.

Admission: Free for individuals from CofE churches, church schools and Diocesan MAT Academies. £10 for individuals from other churches, community schools and academies.
Contact: Anna Walker, 01603 882374,
anna.walker@dioceseofnorwich.org

Home for Good: Children's and Youth Leader Training

Tues 29 January

10.30am – 1pm

Address: St Thomas Church, Earlham Road, Norwich NR2 3RG

Training for youth and children's teams to be equipped in supporting children who have been adopted or in foster care.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Nicola Ford, nicola.ford@stn.org.uk



FEBRUARY

#RealMenSing

Fri 1 February

7.30pm

Address: The World's End Pub, Mulbarton NR14 8JT

#RealMenSing is a singing event just for men! If your voice is more Carrow Road than Carnegie Hall, then #RealMenSing is for you! If you like real ale, then #RealMenSing is for you!

Admission: Free.

Contact: Revd Andrew North, 01508 500343,
rev.north@btinternet.com

Healing ministry

Sat 2 February

10am – 3pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD

This study day will focus on particular aspects of healing, with time for discussion and feedback.

Admission: £15 – tea and coffee will be provided, please make your own lunch arrangements.

Contact: NCCL Admin Team, 01603 218443,
NCCL@cathedral.org.uk

Music for a Winter's Evening

Sat 2 February

7pm

Address: All Saints Church, Church Road, Alburgh IP20 0BD

An evening of music for organ and flute by two talented performers, Loreto Aramendi and Suzanna Guterl.

Admission: Adults, £10, Children under 16, £5.

Contact: Ann Wrench, 01986 789102,
ann.wrench@btinternet.com



Gilead, by Marilynne Robinson

Sat 9 February

10am – 12.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD

The benediction of ordinary things. A discussion of Marilynne Robinson's novel, led by the Revd Julian Purchasehouse.

Admission: £10.

Contact: NCCL Admin Team, 01603 218443,
NCCL@cathedral.org.uk

MARCH

Developing Christian Distinctiveness – A day for Toddler Group Leaders

Sat 9 March

9.30am – 4.30pm

Address: St Luke's, 61 Aylsham Road, New Catton, Norwich NR3 2HF

A day exploring what it means to be Christianly Distinctive as a church toddler group; what it means for toddler groups to be recognised and play a part in their church's missional strategy and how to develop ongoing links and levels of discipleship with the families who attend.

Admission: £10.

Contact: Anna Walker, 01603 882374,
anna.walker@dioceseofnorwich.org





Lent Appeal 2019

Supporting the local church of North India in tackling modern-day slavery

By Gordon Darley

Kaliyaganj is located on the border between India and Bangladesh. The local residents are illiterate and live below the poverty line, earning less than US \$1 per day, which is a major reason for trafficking in this area. People are unwittingly trafficked due to a scarcity of job opportunities, their socio-economic status and a lack of awareness about human trafficking.

The Diocese of Durgapur's Anti Human Trafficking programme focuses on creating awareness about human trafficking and helps the local residents be aware of the various ways traffickers employ to dupe people into this form of modern human slavery.

Through the Lent Appeal 2019 the Diocese has partnered with USPG, who in turn are working with the Diocese of Durgapur to support people where the need is great.

The programme your money will go towards also gives knowledge about the various steps they can take before and after trafficking (preventive and curative measures), the various organisations they can turn to, and the legal help they can take recourse to in case of victimisation.

As well as supporting the wider programme, some of your gift will specifically support the education of children living in Balhura Safe House through:



Ongoing educational

support – we want to enable the children to access normal daytime schooling by paying for their school uniforms, materials, school fees and food.



Provision of a computer lab

– computer literacy is essential for the up-coming generation and this will enable them to have access to and practice using computers within the building.



Provision of a library

– this will enable the children to have a good education and literacy skills. Your financial support will enable relevant and stimulating books to be purchased and the library to be kitted out.

A mother's story

"My husband was trafficked to another state to work and I had no news of him for months. Then the AHT team helped me file a case in the police station. With the help of the police we were able to locate him, and he returned home. But once he was home he was jobless as there was no work in our village; no harvest to reap either for a landlord. We were starving so my husband left again.

"Then the AHT programme told me about the Safe House. I put my daughter there as we don't have our own home; I stay in my brother-in-law's house and work as a maid in someone else's house. My daughter is now going to school now regularly and I feel secure that she will not be a victim of trafficking in the future."

How to give

Everyone is welcome to contribute. Your church may have a collection jam jar or Gift Aid envelopes in which donations can be placed. Alternatively, you can give:

ONLINE: visit www.DofN.org/lent

BY TEXT: Donate £5 by texting 'LENT19 £5' to 70070, or £10 by texting 'LENT19 £10'


BY CHEQUE: Made payable to 'NDBF Ltd' and sent to 'Lent Appeal 2019, 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich NR9 5ES.'

A Gift Aid form for individuals is also available online.

Resources

Visit www.DofN.org/lent to request or download resources for your church. Lent begins on Wednesday 6 March and ends on Thursday 18 April.

GIVE NOW.

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

TACKLE MODERN DAY SLAVERY IN NORTH INDIA.



LENT APPEAL 2019

With your help, we want to support local churches' Anti-Human Trafficking programme and the education of children where the need is great

EXPLORE MORE AND GIVE TODAY AT
www.dioceseofnorwich.org/lent



All donations go directly to the
Diocese of Norwich (Charity No. 249318)

Partnering with **USPG⁺**