

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

5 September 2021
A home for all

14th Sunday after Trinity
Season of Creation 2021

Please forward this to anyone you know who might not be in our Google group.
For links to information about us please visit: www.northburychurches.org.uk



Sunshine showers and shadows at Fornham All Saints

With thanks to Jonathan Hart

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14th Sunday after Trinity

Season of Creation 2021 A home for all

Isaiah 35.4-7a Psalm 146 James 2.1-17 Mark 7.24-end

Hebrew Dream

Our readings today are about divisions. St James deplores the division between rich and poor at the Eucharist. In our gospel Jesus is in Gentile territory and the division between Jews and Gentiles was enormous – a division which he overcomes by his acts of healing. When we turn to the Old Testament, as shown in our psalm, we get a different picture – a dream, in which the Lord gives justice to those who are oppressed, food to those who hunger, lifts up those who are bowed down and cares for the stranger.

“Any dream will do”, sang Joseph in the musical. He was wrong. It is the Hebrew dream that matters. It is a dream of *shalom*. The word implies peace, but not just an absence of conflict, but the presence of justice – the harmony of a caring community informed at every point by its awareness of God – at every point implies a wholeness because every aspect and every corner of ordinary life is included.

In the Bible the book of Deutero-nomy (Greek for “the second law”) interprets the ethic of the wilderness tribes for the settled life of Canaan. Of course, we live in a different age, and cannot apply these teachings literally, but we can look at the intention behind the law and apply it to our own conduct.

Take, for example, the law about building a house (Deut 22.8). “When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, otherwise you might have blood-guilt on your house if anyone should fall from it.” In this country and at this time we do not generally build houses with flat roofs, but the core of this command is that we take care not to endanger others by our actions. So we must think carefully about the effect we have on others, in the way that we act and in the way we cultivate and use the world’s resources.

Then there is the law of gleaning. The Hebrew farmer must not reap to the edges of his fields. He must not strip his vineyard or gather the fallen fruit. What is left is for the widow, the orphan and the foreigner who has no land. In that law God is saying: “Remember the kind of God I am; remember the human and ecological relationships in which you enjoy through your covenant with me. Enough is enough and the less fortunate can be provided for with what is left”. God’s fortunate minority must take as its standard a way of life that is caring for God’s less fortunate minority.



Then there are the ways of caring for the earth. There is the law of limited cropping. The soil must not be over-planted, the vines are quite enough for the vineyard to nourish: there must be no planting between the lines. Again, “for six years you may sow your land and gather its produce; in the seventh year you shall let it lie fallow and leave it alone. It shall provide for the poor of your people.”

The same pattern of the seventh is applied to human and animal energy. “Six days you shall do your work, but on the seventh day you shall rest, so that your ox and your donkey may have relief, and your home-born slave and the resident alien may be refreshed.” The earth and its resources are yours to exploit and develop, but there is a time for the earth to re-gather its strength and there are others than yourself to be considered.

At the beginning of August some of us celebrated “Lammas” – the offering of the first fruits. The Israelites were commanded to bring the choicest of the first fruits of the ground into the house of the Lord God. To offer to God what was *left over* or unwanted was lacking in their duty. God and his commands come first. So, our care for the earth, what we do and how we limit our excess is a priority.

We are made in God’s image and humanity was given dominion over the other creatures of the earth and the produce of the earth for our food. Being in God’s image our dominion must be a caring dominion. God set Adam in the garden to till it and care for it. Only in our total awareness of God is our technology safe. In being answerable to God we are answerable for our fellow creatures and for the soil of the earth.

We must not be arrogant about this. Dr E F Schumacher wrote 50 years ago: “The aid givers simply assume that they have the appropriate knowledge to help the poor. . . But what makes them think that they know how to help

destitute villages, when they have no such villages in their own countries? What makes them think that they can teach poor people how to use their labour power with virtually no capital, when the entire experience and education of these experts derives from societies where labour is secure and capital plentiful?"

It is our duty, our duty as God's creation, to work out how our own individual use of resources, our use of plastics, of fossil fuels, our diet, our building, can slow down and halt the global warming that we are warned about so often in the media.

Sylvia Bareham



Season of Creation

In some denominations, September signifies the start of the annual **Season of Creation** (1 September - 4 October) and the recognition of it is growing. What started as an initiative by the Catholic and Orthodox churches, and was then joined by the Anglicans, is becoming a welcome month of focus on creation for many Christians of diverse denominations around the world.

(Photo: Lavender at All Saints', Bury)

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

8 AugustAmber Denby.....St John's, Bury
22 AugustShayne Smith, Darcey-Ann Smith and
Ronnie Mason Smith.....Culford
29 AugustEverleigh-Rayne Storm Swarbrick-Smith.....All Saints', Bury

Weddings

7 AugustAlice Page and Tom Driscoll.....Culford
14 AugustDavid Venables and Katie Dalton.....Culford
21 AugustToni-Louise Gidney and Will Whiteside.....Fornham All Saints

Funerals and Memorial Services

13 August 'Bob' Eric Leslie Crane.....West Suffolk Crematorium (St George's)
19 AugustRobin David Osborne.....All Saints', Bury
23 AugustSally Pettitt..... St John's, Bury

Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES THIS WEEK

14th Sunday after Trinity 5th September

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Eucharist (BCP)	Timworth
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	West Stow
10.00am	worship@fornham	Fornham All Saints
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Tuesday 7th September

8.30am	Morning Prayer	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham St Martin
6.00pm	Meditation	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Wednesday 8th September Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8.30am	Morning Prayer	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Thursday 9th September

9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
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Friday 10th September

7.30am	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
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15th Sunday after Trinity 12th September

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Culford
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Lackford
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham St Martin
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
3.00pm	Holy Baptism	Fornham All Saints

CHURCH on ZOOM

Everyone is welcome to join our **Church Zoom Gathering** at 11am on Sundays

Please email Claire for the link at clairerose1953@gmail.com

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP

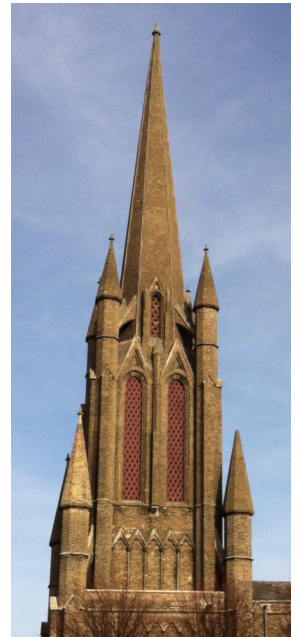
The **Parish Eucharist** is live-streamed from St John's every Sunday at 11am on Facebook and is later posted onto our website

[@StJohnsBSE](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsBSE)
www.northburychurches.org.uk

St John's swift boxes - the story so far

Several years ago St John's church in Bury St Edmunds sought advice from swift expert Dick Newell. Dick concluded that it would be worthwhile to install swift boxes behind the cedar lattice work in the large windows of the tower beneath the tall spire.

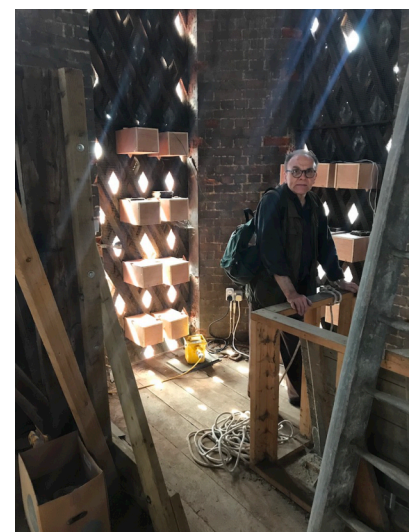
The configuration of the lattice work required the boxes to be specially designed. Initially three boxes were installed, recordings of swift calls were played and, various modifications later, the first breeding took place in 2016 with 2 pairs.



An additional 9 boxes were then added for 2017, with 9 pairs. This led to 48 further boxes being added for 2018, with 25 pairs in the resulting 60 boxes. The numbers rose to 29 pairs in 2019 and 39 in 2020. In 2021 the numbers reached 44 pairs, including speculating non-breeders - swifts will often line a nest with feathers in the year before eggs are laid (*see bottom left*). By the end of the 2021 breeding season, 186 chicks had been ringed and fledged.

The church is very grateful for the invaluable help of local ornithologist Simon Evans in planning and developing this project and in undertaking the recording and ringing of the birds.

Simon now hopes to install 20 more boxes during the winter of 2021/22 in time for the breeding season which will begin in May 2022.



*Photos: Stephen Ranson (top)
and Simon Evans (others)*



Three healthy young swifts in a church nest box, Summer 2021 St John's, Bury St Edmunds
The beak of one bird can be seen on the left and of the two others on the right



A Concatenation of Clergy at All Saints' Bury St Edmunds for the Installation of Andy and Ali Miller
l-r: Max Osborne (Rural Dean of Thingoe); Andy Miller (Team Rector); Bishop Graeme Knowles;
Ali Miller (Team Vicar); Joe Hawes (Dean of St Edmundsbury); David Jenkins (Archdeacon of Sudbury)



*As COP26 approaches
our course for the
Season of Creation
September 2021
is*

Caring for Creation

Written by Brian Davis

Our course is now under way. With extreme climate events now hitting the headlines with unnerving regularity, and with the world's attention soon to be focused on the COP26 gathering in Glasgow, this gives members of our churches the opportunity to think and pray about this hugely important topic. **You can pick a time and a venue which suits you, and you can join in and move around the different groups as you wish as each session is free-standing.** The groups will be led by members of our staff team, and Andy and Ali Miller will be joining in the meetings as they are able so as to meet as many people as possible.

Meetings will be held in churches across the benefice.

Just turn up on the day, or make contact as shown.

At Fornham St Martin on Tuesdays at 11am contact Sylvia on 724899

At St John's, Bury St Edmunds on Wednesdays at 7pm

contact Julia and Adrian on 753984

At All Saints', Bury St Edmunds on Thursdays at 2.30pm

contact Bob and Marianne on 752075

At St George's, Bury St Edmunds on Saturdays at 10am

contact Val on 361963

“an informative course ... Caring for Creation digs deeper into issues, and is particularly good at calling out misplaced Christian attitudes” (*Church Times*)

The human race is facing its greatest challenge:
simultaneous threats to biodiversity and accelerating climate change.

Faith in our Creator God should urge and enable us
to see what is actually happening, and strengthen us to respond.

Coming up ...

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 12 LACKFORD

Harvest Festival 10.00am

Monday 20 ST EDMUND'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CRYPT

Churches Together in Bury St Edmunds and District

Annual General Meeting 7.30pm

Sunday 26 ST GEORGE'S, BURY ST EDMUNDS

Harvest Communion 9.30am

FORNHAM ST MARTIN

Eucharist for Harvest 10.00am

ST JOHN'S, BURY ST EDMUNDS

Harvest Festival Eucharist 11.00am

OCTOBER

Sunday 3 ALL SAINTS', BURY ST EDMUNDS

Harvest Communion 9.30am

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS'

Harvest Festival 10.00am

ST GEORGE'S, BURY ST EDMUNDS

Harvest Family Service 3.00pm

Sunday 17 TIMWORTH

Harvest Festival Evensong 3.00pm

Saturday 30 ST MARY'S, WEST STOW

Tea, Talk and Tunes 4.30pm onwards

Late afternoon entertainment in aid of St Mary's church funds ~ beginning with tea and featuring Clive Paine on the history of the church and a performance by the Suffolk Church Singers.

NOVEMBER

Saturday 13 ST GEORGE'S, BURY ST EDMUNDS

Grand Christmas Fayre 11.30am -2.30pm

refreshments *including* hot food and drink ~ a grand raffle ~ terrific tombola ~ win a bottle of wine game ~ 'new and unwanted' gift stall ~ homemade cakes and preserves and much more ...

**Don't forget to let the 'Viral Bulletin' have details
of forthcoming events at your church.**

DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOS ... ?

... of your church and people which you can submit

(with permission from anyone depicted) as an email attachment?

Items for the VIRAL BULLETIN are very welcome
and can include photographs and illustrations.

Please send them to Adrian Mann:

adrian.mann@btinternet.com