

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

6 September 2020

13th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity edition of the *Viral Bulletin*.

Please forward this to anyone you know who might not be in our Google group.

For links to information and worship during the coronavirus restrictions

please visit: www.northburychurches.org.uk



SEASON OF CREATION

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Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity: Bob Torrens * We pray for Miriam

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Tools with a Mission: Changing your computer?

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 18.15-20

Has any other word ever become so loaded with negative associations as the word Church ?

It harks back to an era of power exercised by bishops, priests, councils and synods: power to regulate and to control, admit or exclude, condemn or exonerate, and rule the spiritual lives of its members. It seems strange that Our Lord is said to have referred to the Church when there was no Church. The word only occurs twice in St Matthew's Gospel, and nowhere else in any Gospel.

Jesus says to St Peter, "Upon this rock I will build my Church," and in today's passage advises a person with a grievance against a fellow believer to tell it to the Church.

Jesus spoke Aramaic and the Gospel is written in Greek, which has no special word for Church. The Greek word "ecclesia" simply means a gathering of people.

All the earliest English translations used the word congregation or assembly, and "Church" didn't arrive until the Authorised Version. Today's NRSV (New Revised Standard Version) has kept it.

Perhaps all this may look like nit picking; and yet, how different would the popular perception of "Church" be, had the translators stuck with congregation, or even Friends, as the Quakers have it?

The advice which Our Lord gives in today's passage clearly assumes a fairly small group such as the congregation of an Anglican parish church, a local community in which the members know and relate to one another, even when they are obliged to wear masks. Notice that his advice is addressed, not to the church {congregation} but to an individual who feels wronged by another within the fellowship.

The goal is to achieve reconciliation through discreet meetings with a few chosen members of the community, who may as a last resort decide to share it more widely. Only if this fails is he to cut himself off from his neighbour.

Well, that's what the scripture says: but it's strange advice from one who was at ease when eating and drinking with the outcasts of society .

Surely this is St Matthew's strong attachment to Jewish tradition getting the better of him. Jesus, the Lord of the Church, never abandoned anyone.

So long as his people remain non-judgmental there is always the prospect of return to the fellowship. And the Church should look at its own shortcomings before excluding certain categories of "sinners" and denying them the sacraments.

One of the fathers of the Eastern Church said, "Sin is not an evil to be punished, but a sickness to be cured."

We are all in need of that cure and should never be afraid to seek it – we know that we shall never be turned away.

Bob Torrens

Please pray for all those to be ordained this Trinity 13, and among them

Miriam May Webb

To be made priest by

Martin, Bishop of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich,

In his Cathedral Church of St James, Bury St Edmunds on

Sunday 6th September at 12.00 noon.

Pray also for the Clergy and people of the Lark Valley and North Bury Team ministry with whom Miriam will continue to serve. Also, for her first celebration of the Eucharist on Thursday 10 September, 09.30am at All Saints Church, Park Road, Bury St Edmunds.

Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday 6th September

9.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Timworth
10.00am	worship@fornham	Fornham All Saints
10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)	West Stow
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Tuesday 8th September (Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham St Martin
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Wednesday 9th September

5.30pm	Evening Prayer	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Eucharist	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Thursday 10th September

9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
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Friday 11th September

7.30am	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
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Sunday 13th September

8.00am	Holy Communion	Culford
9.00am	Parish Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
10.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Fornham St Martin
10.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Lackford
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Benefice Evening Prayer	Timworth

CHURCH ZOOM GATHERING

Everyone is welcome to join our Church Zoom gathering at 11am on Sundays.

To do so, please email Claire for the link at clairerose1953@gmail.com

OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

St John the Evangelist, Bury St Edmunds 12noon-4pm daily

St Mary, West Stow 8.45-10.45am on Wednesdays and 9.15-11.15am on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

For access at other times please contact Ian Hobley (01284 728745) or Paul Luke (01284 729654)

Fornham All Saints open every day

St Andrew, Timworth contact Alison Pettitt (01284 728379)

St Lawrence, Lackford contact Harry Lidster (01284 728876)

Fornham St Martin contact Beryl Dykes (01284 704109) or David Yates (01284 705157)

St George, Bury St Edmunds contact the Revd Val Gagen (01284 361963)

All Saints, Bury St Edmunds open for worship only

St Mary, Culford and St Catherine, Flempton

remain closed at present - contact numbers are in the porch



SEASON OF CREATION

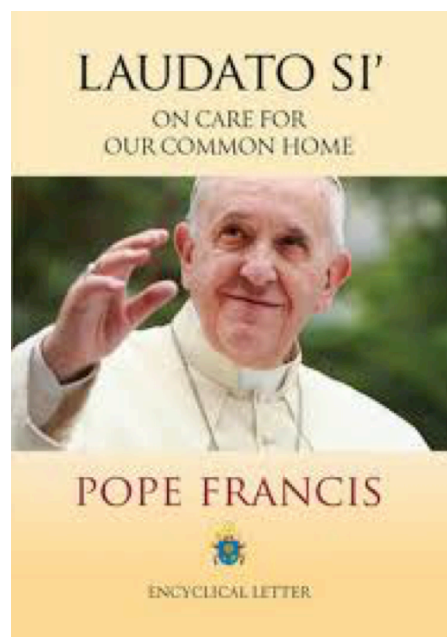
Christians in Creation

Last year in September, for the first time across the Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry, we kept the Season of Creation. In it we consider and give thanks for God's creation and then seek to deepen our Christian understanding of caring for our environment, bearing in mind that this is one of the Five Marks of Mission. And it does us no harm to consider this because the coronavirus pandemic may have caused us to take our eye off the environmental ball.

The Season of Creation, or *Creationtide*, owes much to the collaboration between Pope Francis and Bartholomew, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople. Anglicans and many other Christian denominations have been inspired by the example of these leaders of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches. Archbishop Justin Welby has affirmed "Reducing the causes of climate change is essential to the life of faith. It is a way to love our neighbour and to steward the gift of creation."

Five years ago Pope Francis published *Laudate Si': on care for our common home*. This derives from '*Laudate Si' mi' Signore*' meaning '*Praise be to you, my Lord.*' This is a reference to the '*Canticle of Creation*' by St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of all who have a concern for the environment, whose feast day on 4th October marks the end of *Creationtide*.

Pope Francis addresses people of all faiths or none because the earth is our common home which we all share. He reminds us of the links between politics, economics, globalization and climate change, the depletion of natural



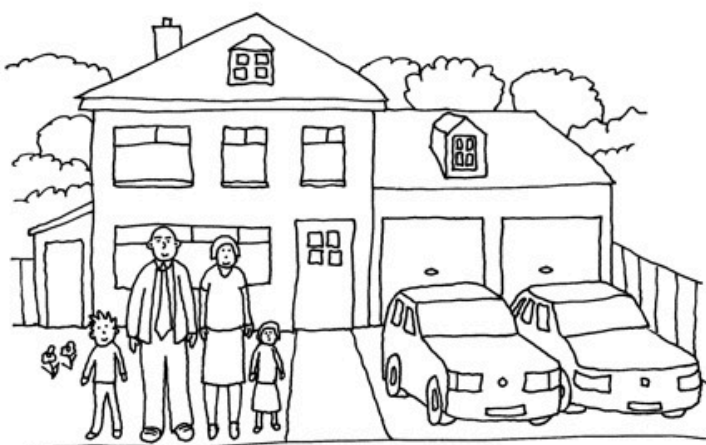
resources including water, and the loss of biodiversity – all of which lead to inequality of peoples and poverty for many. It is the poorest in the world who are the ones most likely to be affected by climate change.

Pope Francis also focuses on the theology of the gospel of creation and on how this is expressed in our scriptures. Our faith challenges us to follow Jesus who lived in harmony with creation. We are called to live with less and to curb our consumerist desire for the benefit of others. Perhaps this is something which the pandemic is teaching us.

There is much more in this encyclical for Christians to consider as we all try to live our Christian lives in what is increasingly being called the 'new normal' which affects us all. If we feel daunted these words of Pope Francis can encourage us: 'In the heart of this world, the Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present. He does not abandon us, he does not leave us alone, for he has united himself definitively to our earth, and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward. *Praise be to him!*'

Julia Mann

CLIMATE CHANGE



MOST RESPONSIBLE

LEAST VULNERABLE



LEAST RESPONSIBLE

MOST VULNERABLE

Have you sponsored anyone yet?

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

The 2020 Ride and Stride goes ahead on Saturday, 12 September 2020.



The churches have never needed our help more than this year, so please support this free annual event. Half your sponsor money will go to the Trust to be given in grants for church repairs, and half will go to the church of your choosing. If 'your' church doesn't have its usual cyclist/walker, do please sponsor someone at one of our other churches:

* **John Grinham** plans to cycle for **Fornham All Saints** in what he thinks will be for the 33rd year with one year off, and members of the Hurrell and Stocking family will also be cycling. Sponsorship would be appreciated and John can be contacted by email at grinham@hotmail.co.uk or by phone at 07990 834078 and his address is 26 Pound Meadow, Fornham All Saints IP28 6JL. The church, John hopes, will also be open but there cannot be any refreshments.

* **Rod Allard** will be walking for **Timworth**. In previous years he has visited both town and country parishes, totalling about 20 churches. Contact details are phone: 01284 752781 or address: 19 Minden Drive, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3RZ.

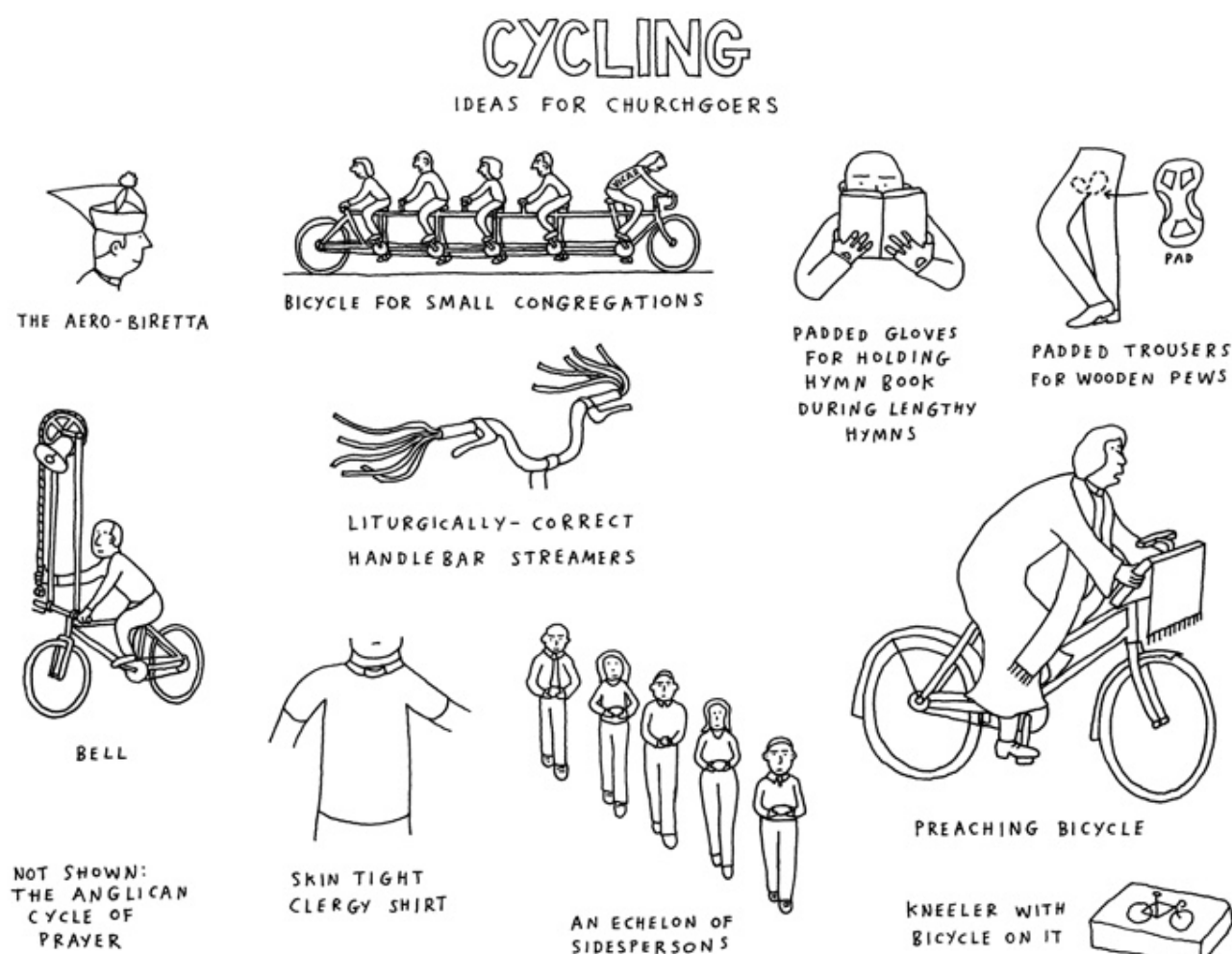
* **Val and Philip Gagen** plan to be riding on behalf of **St George's**, and would really appreciate your support. Click here to donate to Val's JustGiving page: https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/val-gagen?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=val-gagen&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=83049d9f6dc74964a65a8c71032e4d5a.

* **Dave Turner** will be riding for **All Saints', Bury**. His phone number is 01284 735784, or email messages will be passed on by Lesley Langley at la.langley@btinternet.com.

* **Valerie Wilde** will be striding forth on behalf of **St John's** - you can contact her by email at cormack246@gmail.com. And **Chris Turner** will be cycling in the same cause - he can be contacted on his mobile phone at 07816 843778 or by email at clturner147@googlemail.com.

It is easy to set up your own online JustGiving page and you can then provide your potential sponsors with the JustGiving link. Enter the SHCT JustGiving site [here](#), either sign in to your JustGiving account or set up a new account, then select "Fundraise for us", then "Taking part in an event". By choosing "Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride 2020" from the list you will then be able to set up your own collection page and get a link to forward to your friends and family by email, Facebook or Twitter.

Please ensure that you write on your JustGiving page which church or chapel you would like your sponsorship money to benefit.



TWAM

Tools with a Mission

Changing Your Computer?

If you are then please don't take the old one to the tip.

The charity Tools With A Mission (TWAM) can send some of the parts out to Africa where they will be well used.

They are very keen to have working computers that operate from and including Windows 7 onwards. Cables are also in short supply. They overwrite hard disks to UK government specification.

Useful parts would include:

- printer
- printer cables
- sets of earphones
- ethernet cables
- USB cables
- power cables

If you are able to help,
please email Valerie Wilde
cormack246@gmail.com



***DO YOU HAVE any photos of your church and people which
you can submit (with permission) 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***