

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

# VIRAL BULLETIN

23 August 2020

11th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to the eleventh 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](http://www.northburychurches.org.uk)

## STANDING AND SITTING



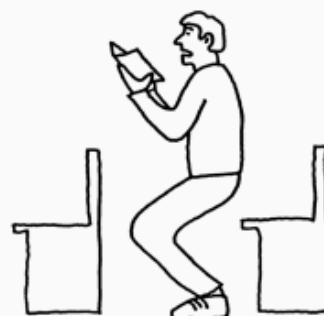
SEE WHETHER IT SAYS ANYTHING  
IN THE SERVICE BOOK



WATCH TO SEE WHAT  
OTHER PEOPLE ARE DOING



LOOK OUT FOR SUBTLE HINTS  
GIVEN BY THE CLERGY



IF IN DOUBT ADOPT  
A 'MID WAY' POSITION

CartoonChurch.com

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Summer 1883: St John's Sunday School Treat

# Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

**Romans 12.1-8   Matthew 16.13-20**

Caesarea Philippi is at the foot of Mount Hermon, where springs form the source of the River Jordan (*illustrated*). It's well north of the Sea of Galilee and then it was a pagan site associated with the god Pan. Nowadays we know it as the Golan Heights. Jesus has taken his disciples well out of the way, perhaps again seeking some peace and quiet away from the crowds. Or maybe he is making a claim about the universality of his role by asking "who do *you* say that I am?" at a place with Greek and Roman associations, with significance in the pre-eminent culture of the then known world.

Simon Peter famously answers: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God". Jesus is Israel's promised Messiah, bringing the life and presence of God to his people with new depth and power.

But Jesus sternly orders them not to tell anyone he is the Messiah. He is keen not to be misunderstood and not to give his opponents grounds to catch him out. He does not want the wrong sort of acclaim. From now on he will show them what his role really entails, and that suffering and death in Jerusalem lie this side of glory.

It is an important turning point, and it appears in Mark and Luke, as well as in Matthew. But it is only in Matthew that we have Jesus' answer to Simon Peter. He says that Simon's faith is a gift of God, that only God gives that sort of insight. From now on Simon is to be called Peter, the rock. In Greek *Petra* means stone, and *Petrus* is Peter. In Aramaic, the first language of Jesus and the disciples, the link is even more direct: the name given to Simon is *Kepha*, the exact same word that means 'stone'.

Maybe there is an element of irony here, because we know that there will be times when Peter will be anything but rock steady. Nevertheless *on this rock* Jesus will build the community he is shaping. Peter and the faith he has declared will be the base on which the Church will grow and stand, and prevail against all sorts of trials and tribulations. And Peter will be entrusted with the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

The word play on Peter's name is not there by accident. He is the rock, and the rock is his faith. He represents the every single Christian believer, including you and me. He is there for all of us, speaking for us, acting out our shortcomings and failings. He gives us a foothold in the Gospel narrative. This is rather a daunting thought, because it means that Jesus names *each one of us* and says "... on this rock I will build my Church."

But, reassuringly perhaps, it's not just an individual thing. It's also about the corporate nature of the Church. We are all in it together. So, in his letter to the Romans, Paul speaks of the corporate nature of God's people, saying that "we, who are many, are one body in Christ".

We say this as the bread is broken in our Eucharist: "though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread." We are members one of another according to the grace of God. God has given us to one another, has made us aware of ourselves and each other. We are dependent on Christ, and mutually interdependent on each other.

That is why the Christian community is not divided between those who have been given a ministry and those who have ministry done to them. No, all are members, active parts, of the body. All have gifts. All have something to offer, something they must offer. All are rocks that the Church is built upon.

You have gifts. But your gift is not to be understood as a human possession. It is rather a gifting, an enabling, provided for a particular purpose by the grace of a merciful God. So live in that light, Paul says: "present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."



He uses sacrificial language, the imagery of the sacrifices presented at the altar in the temple. But now each one of us can achieve what was once confined to the temple priesthood: our day-to-day living becomes a spiritual offering. Again we often take up this passage as we near the end of the Eucharist: "... we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory."

Our daily living is the territory of God's love and concern. So don't be conformed to this world, but be transformed. Don't follow the herd instincts of mob and marketplace. Follow the heart and mind of Christ - and make it yours. But sacrifice is a daunting concept, as Peter himself found out, so to seek the necessary strength, dwell in the Body of Christ, the worshipping community. The body that is strengthened and held together in sacramental unity, in holy communion, in the Eucharist: "We are one body."

These ideas - of unity, of community, of sacrifice - expressed so powerfully by St Paul in the letter to the Romans, are essential for us. They are part of our corporate identity, of how Christ is represented to us and how we are called to represent Christ to the world. And they are how we can be the rocks Christ needs us to be.

*Adrian Mann*

# *Lark Valley and North Bury Churches*

## ***SERVICES THIS WEEK***

### **Sunday 23rd August**

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	<b>Flempton</b>
9.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	<b>All Saints', Bury St Edmunds</b>
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	<b>St George's, Bury St Edmunds</b>
10.00am	Family Communion (CW)	<b>Fornham St Martin</b>
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	<b>St John's, Bury St Edmunds</b>

### **Wednesday 26th August**

6.00pm	Eucharist (CW)	<b>St John's, Bury St Edmunds</b>
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### **Thursday 27th August**

9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	<b>All Saints', Bury St Edmunds</b>
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### **Sunday 30th August**

9.00am	Parish Communion (BCP)	<b>All Saints', Bury St Edmunds</b>
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	<b>St George's, Bury St Edmunds</b>
10.00am	Benefice Eucharist (CW)	<b>Fornham St Martin</b>
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	<b>St John's, Bury St Edmunds</b>

## ***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](mailto:clairerose1953@gmail.com)**

## ***OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER***

<b>St John the Evangelist, Bury St Edmunds</b>	12noon-4pm daily
<b>St Mary, West Stow</b>	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)
<b>Fornham All Saints</b>	opening between 9-10 and closing between 5-6. Hand sanitising will be requested names and contact details will also be asked for. Movement around the church will also be limited.
<b>St Andrew, Timworth</b>	contact Alison Pettitt (01284 728379)
<b>St Lawrence, Lackford</b>	contact Harry Lidster (01284 728876)
<b>Fornham St Martin</b>	contact Beryl Dykes (01284 704109) or David Yates (01284 705157)
<b>St George, Bury St Edmunds</b>	contact the Revd Val Gagen (01284 361963)
<b>All Saints, Bury St Edmunds</b>	open for worship only
<b>St Mary, Culford and St Catherine, Flempton</b>	remain closed at present - contact numbers are in the porch



# SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

*The 2020 Ride and Stride is going ahead on Saturday, 12 September 2020.*



The event is being held, adapting as necessary for whatever Covid-19 guidelines advise on the day. Even though it may feel a bit different this year, and may possibly be smaller than usual, the Trust has decided to go ahead with this year's Ride and Stride, as well as its sister event, Pedal and Drive for vintage and classic cars.

Not all churches may be open for the Ride and Stride, and there may be no-one to welcome or sign you in, but two or three people cycling together in the Suffolk countryside or walking in our towns should be perfectly safe.

Churches that usually offer refreshments are unlikely to be able to do so this year and, if a church is not staffed, riders and walkers can log the name of the church themselves. Since most people are sponsored by a straight donation rather than per church, this shouldn't be a problem, and sponsorship can also be collected via JustGiving.

If you are finding it difficult to knock on doors for sponsorship this year, 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 you will get a link you can forward to your friends and family by email, Facebook or Twitter.

**Please ensure that you write on your JustGiving page, either in the "What I'm doing and why" box or in the "My Story" box, which church or chapel you would like your sponsorship money to benefit.**

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 find someone at one of our other churches who is planning to take part, and sponsor them. **If you are planning to take part, pass your contact details to the Viral Bulletin so that they can be published and potential sponsors encouraged to contact you.**

# ***Praying Together***

## ***September 2020***

*We pray for our churches and the communities we serve.  
Please use this leaflet in your prayers.*

### ***For the wider community and church – September***

- 1 T Beetons Lodge residential home
- 2 W Lancaster Avenue Gospel Hall
- 3 T The Presbyterian Church
- 4 F St Olave's Road shops and residential area
- 5 S The Christian Resource Centre (Pentecostal)
  
- 6 S** Miriam Webb and all those being ordained at the Cathedral
- 7 M All Saints', Bury
- 8 T *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at All Saints', Bury
- 9 W All Saints' Bury church hall
- 10 T All Saints' Bury Pre-School, Fellowship, Parent & Toddler Group
- 11 F West Road Church
- 12 S The Priors Estate
  
- 13 S** The Priors Estate Residents' Action Group
- 14 M Kings Road & Queens Road housing areas
- 15 T Out Risbygate housing and business areas
- 16 W St Peter's House residential home
- 17 T Jankyn's Place sheltered housing
- 18 F St Andrew, Timworth
- 19 S *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at Timworth
  
- 20 S** All who live in Timworth
- 21 M St George's, Bury
- 22 T *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at St George's
- 23 W The Anselm Community Centre
- 24 T The Mildenhall Road Estate
- 25 F The Mildenhall Road Estate Residents' Association
- 26 S Chestnut Court sheltered housing
  
- 27 S** Acorn House
- 28 M Northumberland Avenue Methodist Church
- 29 T Kingdom Hall (Jehovah's Witnesses)
- 30 W Maltward Avenue, Winthrop Road & Westley Road areas

# FORNHAM ALL SAINTS MUSIC GROUP



It was great to see Kim and her band of musicians back at Fornham All Saints on August 2nd for the first worship@fornham service since lockdown. They played reflective pieces in the "Hymn slots" and also at the beginning and end of the service. The group started off as just Kim and Emma and has grown as you can see from the photo!

*Gail Bate*

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## *Summer 1883 ~ St John's Sunday School Treat*

Many a little heart thought anxiously of the weather on Thursday, for on that day was to be the Sunday School Treat, a matter of some importance in St John's. A beautiful morning bright sunny, made the spirits of the children rise even higher than the glass, but clouds seemed at one time to threaten everything with gloom. However, St John's, with its usual good fortune, was blessed with as lovely a day as could be wished, even for a Sunday School Treat. Very punctually, the children arrived, almost too punctually.

The little children are hoisted into gaily decorated vans, the other children form a long procession, coloured with flags and banners - and the Band strikes up and away we all go through our pretty town, to Hardwick, a charming a place as England can produce. Here games of all kinds are taken in hand by the children, who require no help, nor looking after, but set to work with a will. Racing, scrambling, jumping, dancing, racing in sacks, hopping, cricket and in fact every

conceivable game seemed to be going on. About 4 o'clock the game of eating and drinking assumed very large proportions. Many a visitor had a cup of tea, which was gratefully received. The day seemed too short, "Time to go" is a sound which children don't like, but it meant buns and cheering and a pleasant walk back, stirring strains of the Band as they marched back to the Church.

An accident which might have been very serious occurred in the morning. Mr Parish and his son, were conveying the boilers and crockery to the place for boiling the water when the van completely turned over and buried Mr Parish in his own crockery. Alfred had a very nasty cut on his head and it was feared he was seriously wounded, but after being attended by a Doctor, he returned to Hardwick.

The 26th July, St Anne's day will long be remembered by old and young in St John's, as one of the brightest.

*from St John's Magazine, August 1883, with thanks to Michael Phillips*

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## V J DAY

Remember those in Burma  
and in Singapore  
Who never returned to Blighty  
To celebrate the end of the war

By August the parties were ended  
They had won in France  
V E Day was over  
But the 'Forgotten'  
still hadn't a chance

So today we've put the flags out  
And think of those days gone by  
They WILL not be forgotten  
We still hold their standard high

*Beryl Dykes*



*Fornham St Martin's church marks VJ Day*

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***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](mailto:adrian.mann@btinternet.com)***