

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

26th September 2021

A home for all

17th 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



In this issue:

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity: Julia Mann

Details of worship, live-streaming and Zoom meetings this week

Caring for Creation: study groups for the Season of Creation

Praying Together: October * Culford Café is back in business: Gail Bate

Chutney at the Church * Coming up - diary of events

17th Sunday after Trinity

Season of Creation 2021 A home for all

Praying for our home planet and its people

Numbers 11.4-6, 10-16, 24-19 James 5.13-end Mark 9.38-end

Our readings for this fourth Sunday in the season of Creationtide remind us of the importance of prayer. And prayer is something that all Christians are called to do – it is not an optional extra, neither is it something so specialised it is only for the extra holy among us! And in this season, we are all invited to pray and to care for the earth – and praying for our earth and its changing climate involves us all.

Sometimes we get tired of hearing about the climate emergency and wish we could go back to the good old days when this was not an issue of importance. It is very easy to indulge in a fit of nostalgia about this – but actually climate change has been an issue for quite a long time but was often quietly sat on by those in positions of power because of its inconvenient nature. It is only now when things have become critical that we are forced to take notice.

Our reading from Numbers tells of a fit of nostalgia afflicting the Israelites when the only food they had to eat was manna – and they were bored with this diet. They reminisce about the lovely things they had to eat when they were slaves in Egypt – fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. And of course, they lay the blame on Moses, who is clearly suffering from the stress of leading these ungrateful people.

Moses is deeply distressed by their reaction and he prays very hard to God and in so doing gives God a piece of his mind. We might like to think how often we pray like this – are our prayers too respectful to God? Do we tell him exactly how we feel and what we think? Do we beat on the heavenly door and demand that our sick earth be healed? And if so, what does God want us to do to help? If we pray, we might find out.

Then our reading from the letter of James tells us of prayers for the sick. The writer of the letter tells us of Elijah (see 1 Kings 17.1-18.46) and his dealings with drought and then rain. For the farmers and people of the time, there must have been great hardship when the expected rain did

not come. This is still happening today when farmers experiencing big changes in the weather do not know when to plant their crops and starvation looms. Do we pray for poor people who find themselves in these circumstances? Do we pray for those with power and authority who will be attending the COP26 Climate conference and whose decisions will affect those with no voice? Such decisions may well be unpopular, especially if it means change for the comfortably off.

How do we feel about forgoing the pleasant things we take for granted (the equivalent of the more palatable food longed for by the Israelites) and instead having the restrictions of more limited lifestyle (a diet of manna)?

And then our gospel reading warns us of the dangers of causing others to stumble by our own attitudes to the climate emergency. Jesus speaks of 'little ones' and he is usually thought of as referring to children – but everyone who lives on this earth is a 'little one' because we are part of the natural world and are all dependent upon it. We are creatures, only able to function if the good Earth given to us by God is able to support us.

Jesus uses extremely strong language in telling us to amputate the part of our body which causes us to sin against these 'little ones.' So in our prayers we might like to consider what needs to be cut out from our lives in order to preserve the wellbeing of others – especially those of future generations - in a time of climate emergency.

If we in churches do not pray and act to play our part in helping in this time of climate emergency, what sort of message does that send out to the world? Our inaction may lead others to fall away from Christianity or even to think that our faith is not for them.

May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marvelled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To reflect God's glory in creation.

(CTBI Eco-Congregation programme)

Julia Mann

Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES WEEK BEGINNING 26 SEPTEMBER

17th Sunday after Trinity 26 September

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Harvest Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Culford
10.00am	Eucharist for Harvest (CW)	Fornham St Martin
11.00am	Harvest Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
12 noon	Holy Communion (BCP)	Flempton
3.30pm	Evensong	Timworth

Tuesday 28 September

8.30am	Morning Prayer	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Meditation	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Wednesday 29 September Michael and All Angels

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

Thursday 30 September

9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
--------	----------------	------------------------------

Friday 1 October

7.30am	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
--------	----------------	----------------------------

18th Sunday after Trinity 3 October

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Timworth
9.30am	Harvest Parish Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
10.00am	worship@fornham - Harvest	Fornham All Saints
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	West Stow
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
3.00pm	Harvest Family Service	St George's, Bury St Edmunds

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

CHURCH on ZOOM

The **Church Zoom Gathering** will be at 11am on Sunday 26 September. Now that our churches are open we have decided that from October the Zoom service will only be once a month. This will be at 11am on the second Sunday of each month, which in October is Sunday 10th. As usual everyone will be welcome and if you wish to join the Zoom service please email clairerose1953@gmail.com to get the link.



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

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.

Food collected at West Stow's open-air harvest gathering on Sunday 19th September, led by Ali, safely delivered to the foodbank.

Fruit and vegetables went to Still Good Food.



Sally Nice finishing this year's Ride and Stride in aid of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.

She thinks she has only missed one year since it started in 1982.

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

Praying Together ~ October 2021

For the wider community and church

- 1 F For all affected by coronavirus
- 2 S Homeless people; Tayfen House & Britannia House

- 3 S All who work in and visit the King's Forest
- 4 M For our initiatives in dealing with the climate change emergency
- 5 T Lark Valley farms and all who walk on the Lark Valley Path
and St Edmunds Way
- 6 W All Saints' Church, Wordwell (Churches Conservation Trust)
- 7 T All who live in Wordwell
- 8 F Moseley's Farm Business Centre
- 9 S All who live in Fornham St Genevieve

- 10 S Hall Farm Business Park
- 11 M Park Farm Business Centre
- 12 T All who take care of the fabric of our churches
- 13 W All who visit our churches as tourists
- 14 T All those whose baptisms or marriages have been postponed
- 15 F All whose funerals have taken place recently
- 16 S All who mourn

- 17 S West Stow Country Park & Kings Forest Caravan Park
- 18 M West Stow Club
- 19 T St Mary's Church, West Stow
- 20 W *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at West Stow
- 21 T All who live in West Stow
- 22 F Sports clubs & golf courses
- 23 S Fullers Mill Garden; Chimney Mills Gallery

- 24 S *The Suffolk Wildlife Trust* at Lackford Lakes
- 25 M St Lawrence's Church, Lackford
- 26 T *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at Lackford
- 27 W All who live in Lackford
- 28 T All our Clergy, our Reader & Lay Elders
- 29 F For vocations to the ordained and other ministries
- 30 S That our congregations may grow in faith and numbers

- 31 S For our ministry of healing and reconciliation

Gail Bate tells us that Culford Café

is back in business at last !!



Culford Café was set up 6 years ago (which really surprises me) to get the people together and to promote neighbourliness in the village. I am glad to say that it has played a part in the various initiatives in place here and that we do now welcome people from far and wide. I'd like to stress that we are open to everyone.

Every 4th Saturday a local charity is chosen to receive any donations made for coffee, tea, cakes etc. Occasionally we raise money for running costs.

The plan for the rest of this year is as follows:-

25th September, running costs

23rd October, Give a Heart – a charity that makes and donates cushions to people who have had breast surgery

27th November, Operation Christmas Child and another local charity (to be decided).

Sorry there's no café on Christmas Day !!

You are welcome between 10am and 12 noon at the Village Hall on 25th September and subsequently. Bring a friend for homemade snacks and any conceivable kind of tea or decaf or ordinary filter coffee.



CHUTNEY AT THE CHURCH

Jams Marmalade Chutneys

Refreshments

And More!

10am-2pm

Saturday 2nd October

At

St Martin's Church

Fornham St Martin



Coming up ...

SEPTEMBER

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 Festival 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 church's history 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