

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

16 August 2020

10th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to the tenth 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



Graham Portlock

Lady Chapel, St John's Bury St Edmunds

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Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 15.10-20

Defilement

The Pharisees from Jerusalem have come to confront Jesus and to complain that his disciples are not following the rules laid down by tradition. They are setting a bad example. “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders?” they demand, “for they do not wash their hands before they eat.”

Nowadays we tell our children to wash their hands before a meal for purely practical reasons, and indeed in recent months we have all been washing our hands as often as possible, but I think the Pharisees are probably talking about ritual washing. However, as usual they have missed the point altogether, and Jesus observes, “They are blind guides ... and if one blind person guides another, they will both fall into a pit.”

The real crux of the matter is this:

*“It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person,
but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.”*

Peter asks for an explanation and Jesus elaborates. Food passes through the body and is expelled. It may have nutritional value, but it is of no moral or spiritual significance. However, what comes out of the mouth – speech – is profoundly significant because it represents what is in our hearts.

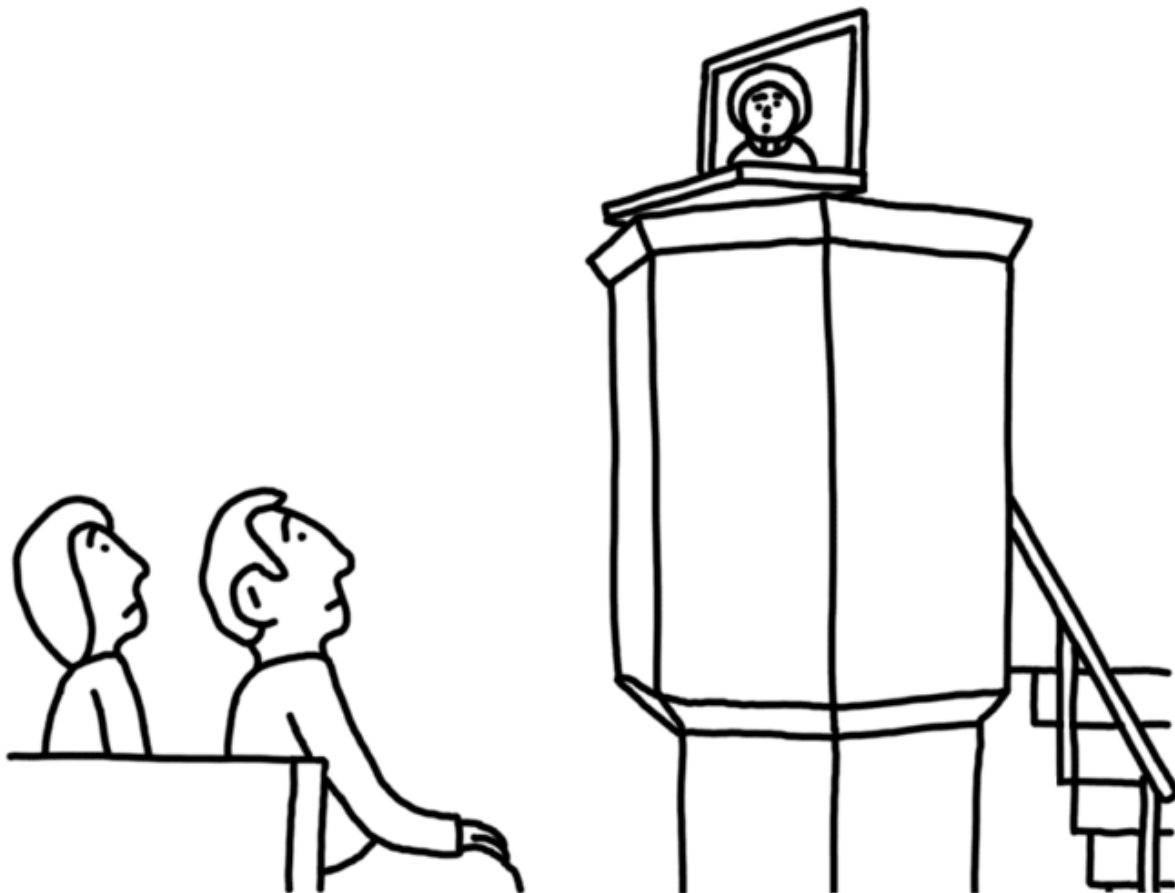
Sometimes we say things on the spur of the moment which, upon reflection, are inaccurate, inappropriate or simply unkind, and it is a sad truth that words, once spoken, cannot be retracted. We can say what we like in apology, but the damage has been done. Nevertheless, at the moment of speaking, our words reveal our true intentions. And not just words, even the inflection of the voice can indicate impatience, intolerance, sarcasm.

I was walking along the street recently when a young man just ahead of me started shouting abuse and swearing. It was quite disturbing, because there was so much anger and hatred in his voice, although it was impossible to guess the target of this attack – there was no one else in the street and he

wasn't looking at me, nor did he have a mobile phone. So much anger and hatred ... and I am reliably informed that there is an awful lot of really nasty stuff on social media. It is not uncommon for people to threaten death to those of different opinions ... or those of different ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender etc, not to mention different political views. Celebrities, sports personalities, public figures – all receive hate mail, as well as very ordinary people minding their own business. If anything defiles a person it is the hatred he feels for others.

We may be good at keeping the rules on food – halal, kosher, fish on Fridays (and no treats during Lent), even veganism – but what we say to others is far more important than what we eat.

David Crawley



Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday 16th August - The Blessed Virgin Mary (transferred from 15th)

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Lackford
9.00am	Parish Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Morning Prayer	Timworth
10.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Fornham All Saints
10.00am	Worship @ West Stow	West Stow
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Tuesday 18th August

10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham St Martin
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Wednesday 19th August

6.00pm	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
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Thursday 20th August

9.30am	Eucharist (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
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Sunday 23rd August

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

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 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.

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

ANDREW BRADSTOCK AND DAVID WILBOURNE IN CONVERSATION

**3 SEPTEMBER 2020
7.30 - 9.00 P.M. • ON ZOOM**

Join **Andrew Bradstock** and **David Wilbourne** as they discuss the remarkable lives of **David Sheppard** and **John Habgood**, and the art of writing a biography.

TO REGISTER FREE, VISIT:
tinyurl.com/y6adv749



***Professor Andrew Bradstock** is author of the recent biography of Bishop David Sheppard, **Batting for the Poor**. In 2019 he worked with Dr Gabriel Byng to research the history of St John's, Bury St Edmunds, which can be seen on a touchscreen in the church or at <https://stjohnsburystedmunds.co.uk> He writes:*

This is to invite you to a **free Zoom evening on Thursday 3 September** when **Bishop David Wilbourne** and I will be in conversation about our respective books and their subjects.

Bishop David is author of [Just John](#), the authorized biography of John Habgood, Archbishop of York from 1983-95. +David was Archbishop Habgood's chaplain for 4 years. The event is being hosted by our publisher, SPCK.

You can register for the event via this link -

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Q-hcUvMtQdq-SP9aiNby2Q
- or the shortened URL in the graphic above.

Bishops Sheppard and Habgood had much in common. As well as careers beyond the church – science in Habgood's case and cricket in Sheppard's – they shared a number of passions, including ministry in the inner-city, ecumenism, opposing apartheid in South Africa and women's ministry. Both also shared Margaret Thatcher's opposition to their being appointed Archbishop of Canterbury!

+David's book is a fascinating and insightful study, and he is a highly engaging and amusing speaker. Since meeting virtually, he and I have developed a good rapport, so we're hoping for a lively, entertaining and informative evening. Importantly there will be lots of opportunity for questions and discussion.

Does your church have a Lady Chapel?

Many churches keep the summer festival of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 15 August. She has huge importance in the story of our redemption when she said 'yes' to the Angel Gabriel and accepted her vocation to be the mother of Jesus. This has meant that many of our churches have a Lady Chapel dedicated to her. This chapel is often used for services with small congregations.

The Lady Chapel will often have a statue, icon or stained glass window or other depiction of Mary. This may show her being visited by the angel Gabriel telling her that by the power of the Holy Spirit she would be the mother of Jesus.



Other scenes might show her adoring her new-born Son as he lies in a manger, or the time when he was presented in the Temple. Mary is also often shown standing at the foot of the cross with St John the Evangelist as they contemplate the crucified Jesus.

The Lady Chapel in a church reminds us of the Incarnation, that is, of God becoming a human being, God in flesh, the Word made flesh and dwelling with us. Mary's Son is Son of God. Her boldness, obedience and trust in God is an example to all Christians. She is often thought of as being the first of all the saints and we give thanks for her life and her witness to her dear Son Jesus Christ. We remember her message at the Wedding at Cana when she said 'Do whatever he tells you' to the servants. May we also do whatever her Son tells us to do.

Julia Mann

The Queen honours Rev'd Canon Faez Jirjees of St George's, Baghdad

Celebrating with Faez Jirjees and his family and honouring his inspirational work in Iraq, across religious boundaries



Faez in St James's Park, London last autumn and at St George's in Baghdad

The Rev'd Canon Faez Jirjees of St George's, Baghdad has the award of an MBE conferred on him by the Queen. The citation makes reference to his 'services to the Anglican, Christian, and local community in Baghdad'. Faez has now been recognised by both the British and Iraqi governments for his service and ministry at St George's Church and clinic. Through Faez's extraordinary reconciliation and humanitarian work, he has developed excellent relationships across religious and civic sectors.



St George's in Baghdad

"I want to express love and appreciation to her Majesty the Queen for honouring me with the MBE award for the humanitarian and spiritual work done in Iraq and the reconciliation among religions and different ethnic groups in Iraq, also for decreasing sufferings of others. This work has been done with the support of my Church, St. George Anglican Church and I would take this opportunity to thank the Most Reverend Archbishop Michael Augustine Owen Lewis, Bishop of the Diocese of Cyprus and Gulf for his moral support.

"I also want to thank all the donors who donate towards the work of St. George's and the clinic through FRRME. I have a great respect for them. The donors have an

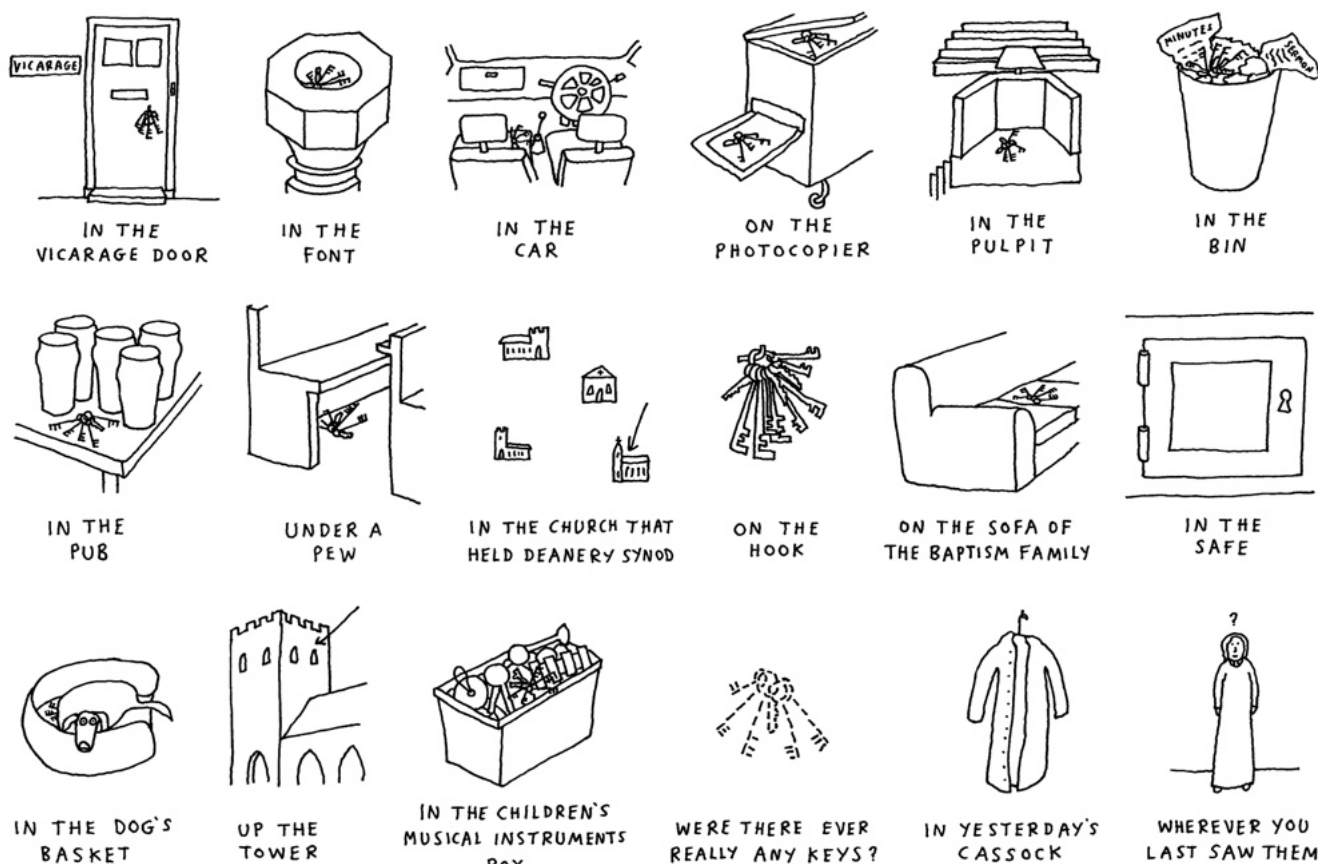
essential role behind the scene to make that work recognisable. With your help we are able to respond to the crisis taking place in Iraq because of the bad administration which leads us to having one of the worst healthcare systems in the world."

The Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME) is one of the charities supported by St John's PCC. FRRME provide the funding for the St George's medical clinic and the church's family relief programme. All the work at St George's comes under the auspices of the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf.

Visit www.frrme.org

WHERE ARE MY KEYS?

A GUIDE FOR CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICIALS



Cartoonchurch.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***