

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

# VIRAL BULLETIN

19 June 2022

1st Sunday after Trinity

*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](http://www.northburychurches.org.uk)



*Andy judging the Platinum Jubilee Bake Off at West Stow.  
It is the winning one as it turns out! Won by Fran. Photo: Ali Miller*

### *In this issue:*

1st Sunday of Trinity: Adrian Mann \* Worship in church and online this week  
Platinum and Pentecost at All Saints', Bury \* Evensong at Wordwell  
Flempton Churchyard Walk and Talk \* Volunteer Fair at The Old School Café  
All Saints', Bury Quiz Night \* Churches Together Summer Celebration, Abbey Gardens  
Bury St Edmunds U3A Choir Concert on July 1st  
Christian Aid Week 2022 in the Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

# 1st Sunday after Trinity

*Isaiah 65.1-9 Galatians 3.23-end Luke 8.26-39*

In today's collect, we ask this of God:

'give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God.'

This is a wonderful vision of what the Christian religion is all about, telling us that our faith is very different what what people often think *being religious* actually means. It's not about what St Paul calls being 'imprisoned and guarded', nor about all the 'thou shalt nots' people get so hung up about. That's all far too negative. No. 'Now that faith has come', Paul says, everything is different. Life isn't just about avoiding try things you shouldn't do. Now it's all much more positive.

Now we are free to act out of love, the love that Christ has shown to the world. Now we have the glorious liberty of the children of God, and now we can dedicate that freedom to God's service. Now we are free to love God and neighbour, with old divisions cast aside: 'There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all ... are one in Christ Jesus.' It is a wonderful insight, and it is St Paul's great gift, not just to the Church, but through the Church to the whole of humanity.'

But it is a difficult insight, a huge challenge, and not so easy to live up to. Easier by far - much less risky and dangerous - to get the rule book out again and put the freedom of God's love back in the box and nail the lid down. Think of all the times the Church has allowed itself to be used as an instrument of social control, laying heavy disciplinarian burdens on people, rather than the gift of compassionate love.

Even St Paul had trouble putting his own insight into practice. He spent a lot of time making sure that Jew and Greek had equality in the Church. But slave and free? Male and female? Reading some of the other letters Paul wrote tells us that he too found it difficult at time to really take on board everything Christ has done. Christ has done for everyone the one

thing that needed to be done. He has lived for them and died for them, and his love lives on even beyond death.

Compassionate love is untidy. It overflows, spilling out from whatever container you try to hold it in. Even flooding out of the grave, it crosses all the boundaries we make. Jew or Greek: boundaries of faith or race or nationality. Slave or free: boundaries of wealth or class or status. Male or female: boundaries of gender or sexuality. These are the boundaries of our smallness of mind, of our hardness of heart, of our lack of vision - not of the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Where, I wonder, are the boundaries in our lives, which we put up and which separate us and those around us from the glorious love of God which we are called upon to give to others because we have already received it ourselves?

Jesus came to fulfil the law and the prophets, but we know he could cross boundaries if love bade him to do so. Think of those times when he healed on the Sabbath and got into very hot water for doing so. And how he would always seem to respond positively when people transgressed the rules of polite or respectable society to seek him out in their need.

Jesus crosses the boundaries in today's story from Luke's gospel. He is not in Jewish territory at all. It is, after all, a place where they seem to farm pigs. The location is the Decapolis, the area to the south east of the Sea of Galilee, a pagan territory, marked by, and named after, ten fine Greek cities. And here he makes a vivid demonstration of love, bringing healing and salvation to a deranged outcast.

The man exists outside all civilisation. He wears no clothes. His behaviour is unmanageable and seems to be controlled by demons, so many demons he is called 'Legion'. Even when people chain him up he breaks free, and scrambles off into the desert. When he is liberated from all of this by Jesus, the power that held him in its grip is strong enough to decimate a large herd of swine.

I shouldn't think the farmer was best pleased. This would have been a colossal economic disaster in a subsistence economy. But everyone is

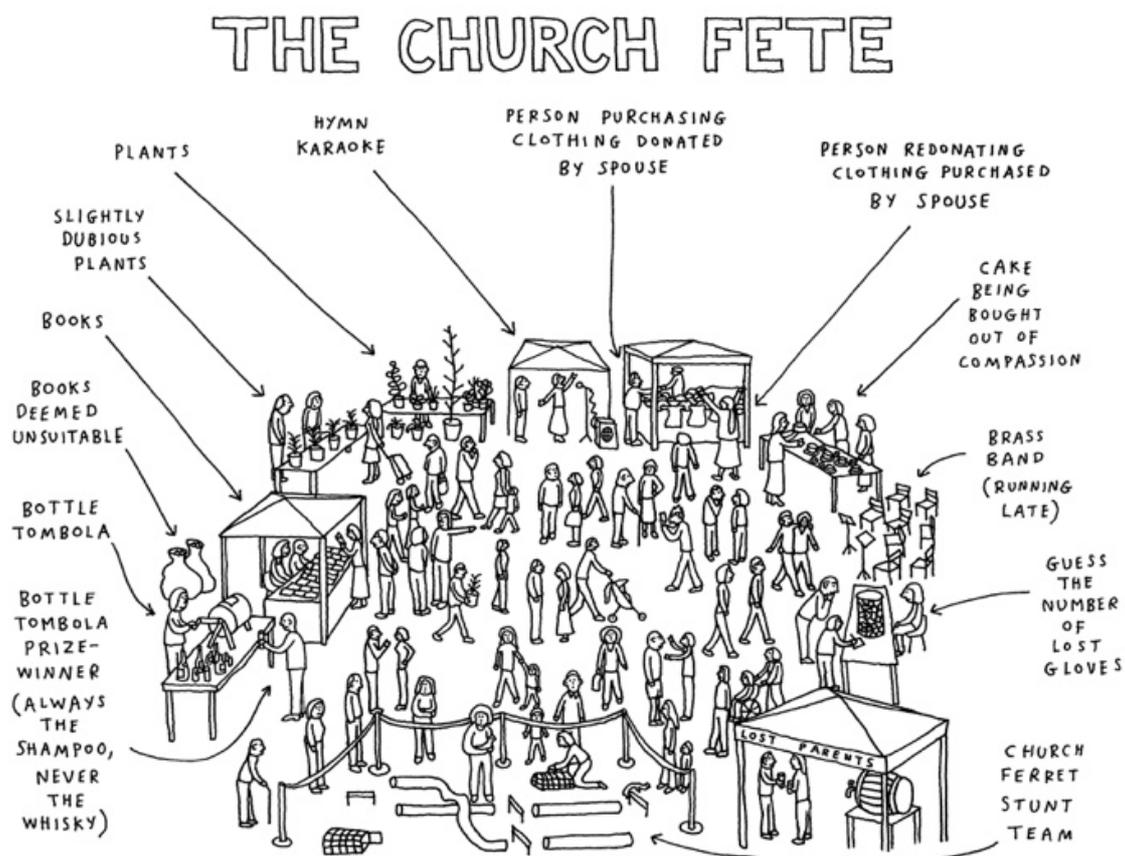
too frightened by these forceful events to do anything about that other than to ask Jesus to leave.

So what has happened? Jesus has crossed over into pagan territory., and here he does what he usually does - he deals with the forces of destruction and evil. What he has to offer is available in that alien culture, too. The offer of liberation is not contained within borders, and Jesus is the Saviour of all.

Jesus's work of healing - curing sickness, suffering, poverty and misery - is in fact series of prophetic actions. Actions which tell us what is really going on and which point beyond themselves, which point to the person of Jesus in whom and through whom we are all God's children. Jesus tells the man to go home and to declare all that *God* has done for him, but he doesn't do that. He goes off all around the city, proclaiming what *Jesus* has done for him.

The captive is free. His chains are broken. Let us be free to break a few chains, too.

Adrian Mann



## SERVICES WEEK BEGINNING 19 JUNE

### 1st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 19 June

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Lackford
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Matins (BCP)	Timworth
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham All Saints
10.00am	worship@fornham	West Stow
10.30am	worship@allsaints with Holy Baptism	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	Wordwell

### Tuesday 21 June

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

### Wednesday 22 June Alban, first martyr of Britain, c250 Ember Day

8.30am	Morning Prayer (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
5.00pm	Evening Prayer (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds

### Thursday 23 June Etheldreda, abbess, c678 Ember Day

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

### Friday 24 June Birth of John the Baptist

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

### Saturday 25 June Ember Day

### 2nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY June 26

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)	Fornham St Martin
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Culford
11.00am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
12 noon	Holy Communion (BCP)	Flempton

## LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP

The **Parish Eucharist** is usually live-streamed from St John's on Sundays at 11am on Facebook [@StJohnsBSE](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsBSE) and is later posted onto our website [www.northburychurches.org.uk](http://www.northburychurches.org.uk)

## CHURCH on ZOOM

Our **Zoom Service** is at 11am on the second Sunday of each month. All are welcome. Please email [clairerose1953@gmail.com](mailto:clairerose1953@gmail.com) to receive the link.

## Platinum and Pentecost at All Saints', Bury



We celebrated the Platinum Jubilee with prayers for the Queen and singing the National Anthem, followed by cake and bubbly. *Claire Rose*

## All Saints' Church, Wordwell

Wordwell, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP28 6UN

# Evensong

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm

# All Welcome

# Eco Church

## Flempton Churchyard Walk and Talk



*Photo: thanks to Ali Miller*

## Caring for God's good creation: *where the environment and churchyards meet*

On Wednesday 8th June, a fascinating 'Walk and Talk' in the churchyard was guided by Mark Prina (*3rd from right in the photo above*), Ecologist and Author at A Rocha UK, and Reserve Manager at their Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve.

The evening concluded with Compline in the church.

**VOLUNTEER**

**FAIR**

**OLD SCHOOL CAFE  
ST JOHNS STREET**



**SATURDAY 25TH JUNE**

**10AM - 2PM**

**DROP IN, FIND OUT MORE**

**CONNECT WITH**

**NEW PEOPLE, NEW IDEAS**

**AND NEW SKILLS**

# All Saints' Quiz Night

All Saints' Church, Park Road, Bury St Edmunds

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June

7.00 for 7.30pm

Bangers, beans and baked potatoes .. and a vegetarian option. Bring your own drink.

**£10 per person**

*Contact Sheila on 01284 762774*



**ABBEY GARDENS  
SUMMER CELEBRATION**  
"More in common than divides us"  
Bring a picnic to share with family, or friends and enjoy  
an afternoon of music, songs and worship.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
1.30pm to 4.30pm

**Songs of Praise Service at 3.30pm**  
(To finish 4.30pm)  
All Children under 16 must be accompanied

**ALL WELCOME**

 Churches Together  
in Bury St. Edmunds and District

# U3A CHOIR CONCERT

**Friday 1st July, 7.30pm**

**All Saints Church**

**Park Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3QW**

**Tickets £7 on the door**

**includes supper in the interval**

**with wine or soft drinks**



## Christian Aid Week 2022

*Jim Stott* reports that donations and collections in Lark Valley and North Bury churches have totalled over £2,200 this year. Many thanks to Jim and to all our donors and collectors.

---

### Don't forget

to let Julie Hooton [NBTLVB@outlook.com](mailto:NBTLVB@outlook.com)

and the 'Viral Bulletin' [adrian.mann@btinternet.com](mailto:adrian.mann@btinternet.com)

have details of events which have happened  
and events coming up at your church.