

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

28 June 2026

4th Sunday after Trinity

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

For information about us please visit: www.northburychurches.org.uk



Worshippers enjoying cool refreshments after the midsummer Evensong at Wordwell on 21st June.

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4th Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 28.5-9 Psalm 89.1-18 Romans 6.12-end Matthew 10.40-end

Cartoons and Curacy

You may well wonder why I have titled my article 'Cartoons and Curacy'. Well, the first bit, 'Cartoons', harks back to a snatched few days away after the rigours of both Holy and Easter week. A quick trip to London, saw me and the Rector head to the V and A museum for the very first time (being scientists, we'd normally make a beeline for the Natural History Museum). Knowing absolutely nothing about what the V and A contained, we stumbled into a gallery, known as Raphael Court.

This gallery has the same dimensions as the Sistine Chapel, and because it was very late in the day, it was practically empty of people. We gazed in stunned silence: wide eyed, jaw dropped open in wonder at the seven large Cartoons on the walls. 'Cartoon' is from the Italian for *Big Paper* and these Cartoons are the immense full-scale painted designs by the artist Raphael for a set of tapestries, commissioned by Pope Leo X in the 16th century. There are 10 tapestries, but only 7 designs, or Cartoons, remain. The tapestries now hang on rotation in the Vatican Museum, and on special occasion, back in the Sistine Chapel.

And their theme? Various scenes from the lives of Saints Peter and Paul, concerning their callings and ministry. Utterly captivating. One of them is titled *Christ's Charge to Peter*. In this picture, Jesus stands before Peter; one arm is outstretched towards him, while the other arm gestures behind towards a flock of sheep. The disciples are close by, with Peter at the front, holding a set of keys while kneeling before Jesus.

This Cartoon blends two Gospel stories. Firstly, the scene in Matthew's Gospel whereby Jesus gives to Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven (after telling him that he is the rock on which he will build his church). And secondly, a resurrection story from John's Gospel, in which Jesus meets the disciples on the beach and gives his charge to Peter: he tells him to 'feed my lambs,' 'tend my sheep', and again 'feed my sheep'. In other words, Jesus has



charged Peter with looking after the faithful, the flock. Peter does not let Jesus down! He is pivotal in the beginning of the early Church and is known as the first Bishop of Rome (and Pope).

Gazing on this Cartoon, and meditating on Peter's calling, reminded me of my own calling and hearing the bishop's charge (choice words concerning the responsibilities and tasks that come with being ordained) the night before my own ordinations. Which brings me to the second part of the title of this piece: Curacy.

Well, it is June, and the clock is ticking on the countdown to Petertide, which falls on the 29th June, and is kept as a feast day to recall St Peter alone or for both Saints Peter and Paul. The Church of England finds itself in quite a state of excitement around this time of year, for Petertide (and the days around it) is traditionally the peak season for ordinations.

Ordination services are held up and down the country in our cathedrals. At these joyful, solemn and holy services, family and friends gather as bishops ordain the many women and men who have responded to this specific call of God. After much discernment and offering themselves for ministry; after time spent learning in lectures, and putting it into practice while on placements; after one final massive report; after an interview with the bishop where hopefully a 'yes' emerges ... well then it is time for a last few days of prayer and preparation on retreat, before donning clerical wear for the first time and entering the cathedral, ready for a life-changing service.

Here, a centuries old ritual is enacted, and through prayer and the laying on of hands, those who have been called are ordained into the diaconate (hence a first year curate is known as a deacon); after a year, or thereabouts, they are ordained to the priesthood (hence, priest). And so the curacy begins ...

The freshly minted curate has tasks to do. Curates are not a spare pair of hands on whom to dump children's work (the old stereotypes prevail); yes, curates come with their own giftings, but it is crucial to remember that first and foremost a curacy is a training post. And prayer is essential. Curates arrive in a parish or benefice to learn what ministry is about and how to take services (deacons cannot celebrate the Eucharist, before you ask), how to care for the flock, how not to break the church (good governance is part of this), how not to drop the baby at a baptism (I jest) and they are allowed to make mistakes. The truth is, formation is an ongoing thing, and ultimately, it is about servant ministry!

At the Ordination, the bishop says the following of a deacon: a deacon's life is one of 'visible self-giving. Christ is the pattern of their calling and commission; as he washed the feet of his disciples, so they must wash the feet of others.' How feet are washed will be different in each parish – context is everything – but ministry to the diaconate is about servanthood.

And even those of us who are priested are still deacons which means our ministry operates out of the heart of being a servant, and our priestly authority derives from having the heart of a servant. Keeping it real through humility. Back to the Cartoon: small wonder Peter is pictured as kneeling when he receives the keys and his charge!

I tell you all this because, rather excitingly, we prepare to receive a curate into our benefice, Jonathan Boast, who will be ordained to the diaconate on Saturday 27th June, 11am, St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Please keep Jonathan in your prayers as he finishes his last few days of retreat before the big day itself. Come along and support at the Cathedral if you can, but also come along to a service of welcome for Jonathan (followed by bunfight) on the afternoon of Sunday 28th June at 4pm, in All Saints, Bury St Edmunds.

Mother Ali

Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES WEEK BEGINNING 28 JUNE

Saturday 27 June *Cyril, bishop, teacher of the faith, 444* Ember Day

11.00am **Ordination Service**

The Cathedral

SUNDAY 28 June 4th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham St Martin
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Culford
11.00am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
12noon	Holy Communion (BCP)	Flempton
4.00pm	Welcome Service for Jonathan Boast & family	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds

Monday 29 June **Peter and Paul, Apostles**

6.00pm Solemn Eucharist (CW)

St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Tuesday 30 June

6.00pm A Quiet Space

St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Wednesday 1 July *Henry, John and Henry Venn, priests, evangelical divines, 1797, 1813, 1873*

8.30am Morning Prayer (CW)

St John's, Bury St Edmunds

9.30am Solemn Eucharist (CW)

St John's, Bury St Edmunds

5.00pm Evening Prayer (CW)

St George's, Bury St Edmunds

Thursday 2 July

9.30am Eucharist (BCP)

All Saints', Bury St Edmunds

Friday 3 July **Thomas the Apostle**

5.15pm Evening Prayer (CW)

St John's, Bury St Edmunds

6.00pm Eucharist (CW)

St John's, Bury St Edmunds

SUNDAY 5 June 5th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Timworth
10.00am	Eucharist with Baptism (CW)	West Stow
10.00am	All Age Worship	Fornham All Saints
11.00am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
3.00pm	Wonder Club	Lackford

In-betweeners at All Saints'



Breakfast is served between the two morning services at All Saints', Bury St Edmunds, on the third Sunday of each month.



With thanks to Ali Miller for the photos

CREAM TEA
on Saturday 4th July
from 3-5pm

in the Anselm Centre garden
IP32 6JZ

In aid of the
Bury Drop-In Centre and St George's Church



Everyone welcome
£6.00 per Adult £3.00 per child
To include scones, cream and jam
unlimited tea, coffee or cold drinks

To book your place contact either:

Wendy on 01284 768714 or

Maz on 01284 767758 or

Email: maz.callaby@btinternet.com

The Wonder Club

Story
Wondering
Craft
Prayer
Cake



**St Lawrence
Lackford
SUNDAY 5 JULY
at 3pm**

In memory of Ray Clarke

Philip Orchard writes: Lynn Clarke has raised the money for a guide dog in memory of Ray, and the puppy has now been born and named accordingly.



Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

Praying Together ~ July 2026

For the wider community and church

- 1 W For all those in financial difficulty
- 2 T Moyse's Hall Museum
- 3 F The Arc shopping centre & the Apex venue
- 4 S The town centre shops

- 5 S** St Edmundsbury Cathedral
- 6 M St Edmund's Place sheltered housing
- 7 T Northgate Lodge sheltered housing
- 8 W Cryspen Court sheltered housing
- 9 T The housing, shops and businesses in and around St John's Street
- 10 F The Society of Friends
- 11 S The Salvation Army

- 12 S** St John's church
- 13 M *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at St John's
- 14 T The Centre in St John's Street
- 15 W The Old School Café
- 16 T King Edward VI School
- 17 F St Edmundsbury CEVAP School
- 18 S Sexton's Manor School, our *Open the Book* ministry there

- 19 S** Thingoe Lodge housing for independent living
- 20 M All who live in Fornham All Saints
- 21 T Fornham All Saints church
- 22 W *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at Fornham All Saints
- 23 T Fornham All Saints Centre for Creative Learning
- 24 F Fornham All Saints Community Centre
- 25 S Fornham All Saints Village Hall

- 26 S** Heath Farm Business Centre
- 27 M For all refugees & asylum seekers; Suffolk Refugee Support
- 28 T For all belonging to other faiths
- 29 W For better understanding between different faiths
- 30 T For those facing religious persecution
- 31 F For those with no faith

WEST STOW CHURCH

JULY 1ST

**CHAT, COFFEE, TEA,
BISCUITS**

9.30 – 11.30

**Donations in aid of
CHURCH FUNDS
this month**

Donations to 

Coffee Morning

Tuesday 7th July
10:00 - 11:15 am

All Saints Church

Coffee or tea, cake and chat

All Welcome



Lark Valley & North Bury Team Ministry www.northburychurches.org.uk

Fornham St Martin Church

Book Sale, Coffee & Cakes

Saturday 18th July

10:00am - 3:00pm

Over 2000 books and lots of
cakes, scones and pastries.

All Welcome



Lark Valley & North Bury Team Ministry www.northburychurches.org.uk



Hymns and Pimms

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS CHURCH
SATURDAY 25TH JULY
6:30PM FOR 7:00PM

Come and sing 10 hymns - one chosen
by each parish in the LVNB Benefice

Enjoy a glass of Pimms or a soft drink

Free entry





Don't miss the



Benefice BASH

at The Rectory, West Stow

Sunday 16th August

6pm - 8pm

Contacts

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Revd Ali Miller 01284 728714 teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com
Team Office 01284 700400 NBTLVB@outlook.com

We also have assistance from our Assistant Priest, Sarah Gull, and from priests within the benefice who have permission to officiate.

Please don't forget ...

to let Julie Hooton NBTLVB@outlook.com
and the 'Viral Bulletin' adrian.mann@btinternet.com
have news and details of events which have happened
as well as events which are coming up at your church.

And your photographs are always welcome, but please don't forget to ask permission of those who may therefore appear in the Viral Bulletin.
