

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

# VIRAL BULLETIN

23 February 2025

2nd Sunday before Lent

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



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# 2nd Sunday before Lent

Genesis 2.4b-9,15-end Psalm 65 Revelation 4 Luke 8.22-25

## Calming the storm

What are we to make of the storms raging around us? Unjust structures driven by uncontrollable forces of climate, of autocratic power politics, of negative reactions to incipient mass migration ... and in the Church, crises of finance, of leadership, of reputation - and of simply not knowing how to relate to the surrounding hullabaloo.

There was a time when the Church seemed to have all the answers. And not just the answers. It seemed to have the power, too. In the Middle Ages the Church was God's agent on earth. Power over our eternal fate, over matters of life and death, judgement, good and evil, heaven and hell.

People could hear passages such as these from Genesis and Revelation, if they could understand Latin that is, or they could see them depicted in art if not. And there would probably be nothing in them at odds with their experience of life in a very hierarchical society.

The creation stories of Genesis, with their account of the Fall, provided the backdrop for a whole way of looking at life: an explanation of evil and sin and our need to be saved from the results of our own behaviour.

The images transmitted by the book of Revelation display God's power as a superabundance of every possible symbol of glory. Nothing there runs against life experience in the pre-modern world. In a society dominated by hierarchy, God the super-hierarch makes sense.

That powerful and princely Church of medieval Christendom still echoes down the centuries and reverberates around much of our thinking about the things of God. But successive tides of change came to sweep away much of what once could be taken for granted. Science and reason seemed to render quite obsolete the previous ways of looking at things.

But again, the enlightenment project and its ideas of rational progress are now three hundred years old and have themselves come to be questioned and rejected. So we are more than a little confused about the times we live in. We don't even know what to call them. Theorists simply say what they are not - they are not modern, modern is over, so they are post-modern.

Modern was the age of humanity's big projects to improve the world. Science. Industrial advance. Technology. Liberalism. Socialism. The list goes on of all the things people once thought of as The Answer. They've not necessarily gone away, but they are no longer The Answer. We've seen that as they bring progress, they also bring problems. And the problems somehow always threaten to overwhelm the progress.

We can see this because the technology has brought us an unprecedented, and exponentially growing, amount of information about life, the world and everything. If that melting-pot whips up a storm of boggled-ness in our heads, we are told, maybe Artificial Intelligence will help us to manage things. But no doubt that is bringing us its own new set of problems, too.

All the while the man has been asleep in the bottom of the boat. Does he not know we are adrift and in trouble? Does he not understand the fear, the urgency, the panic? Does he not care if we are overwhelmed?

It is quite possible to read the story of the calming of the storm as a great demonstration of divine power over nature by the man Jesus. But Jesus did not feel called to prove himself in that way. When we come to consider the temptations in the wilderness in two weeks' time, we will see him rejecting that course. This is one non-hierarchical God.

No, the call to calm the storm did not come from God, it came from the disciples. Now, it comes from us. It is perhaps more helpful if we read the story against ourselves.

For it is really about how the disciples felt about Jesus, how dependent they felt about him, how they needed him to bale (bail?) them out. And about how their trust in him failed when tested one windy afternoon on the lake.

Jesus's concern is not with the weather. It is with their attitude - and therefore with *our* attitude). Jesus is asking us to consider what the storm that surrounds us, that confuses us, that frightens us, means in the context of our relationship with him.

Our world is no longer one in which we can take unquestioningly what has been called a 'nature miracle'. But it certainly still is one in which disciples can feel that they are caught in a storm whilst their master slumbers. And it also still is one in which disciples are challenged, called upon and empowered to hold their nerve ... to wait until the situation clears.

That is quite a lot to be going on with, and quite awesome enough for me.

*Adrian Mann*

# Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

## SERVICES WEEK BEGINNING 23 FEBRUARY

### SUNDAY 23 February 2nd Sunday before Lent

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

### Monday 24 February

### Tuesday 25 February

6.00pm	A Quiet Space	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
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### Wednesday 26 February

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 27 February George Herbert, priest, poet, 1633

9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
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### Friday 28 February

5.15pm	Evening Prayer (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

### Saturday 1 March David, bishop, patron of Wales, c601

### SUNDAY 2 March Sunday next before Lent

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 (CW)	West Stow
10.00am	All Age Worship (CW)	Fornham All Saints
11.00am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
3.00pm	Wonder Club	Lackford

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# Big Coffee Morning and Cake Sale

All Saints Church

Park Road, IP33 3QW

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

10am to 12 noon

Coffee or Tea

Cake and Chat



Featuring Robin and his  
Street Organ



Everyone is welcome

# **CAFÉ**

**Saturday February 22nd**

**10am -12 noon**

**Culford Village Hall**

**(The village hall for West Stow, Wordwell, Culford Heath,  
Culford and Ingham)**

**Come and enjoy a freshly  
brewed cup of Fair Trade  
coffee (or tea) and some yummy  
cakes or savouries**

**Table tennis available**

**DONATIONS ARE INVITED FOR  
St Mary's Church, Culford**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

# THE CHAIRS

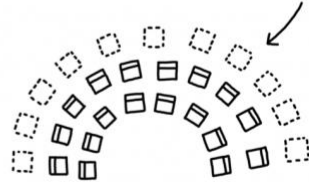
WAYS TO ARRANGE THEM

PERFECTLY  
NEAT ROWS

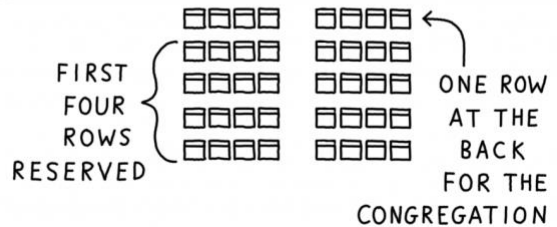


THE REGIMENTAL

EVERYONE SITS IN THE  
SECOND ROW, THEN  
ADDS CHAIRS BEHIND

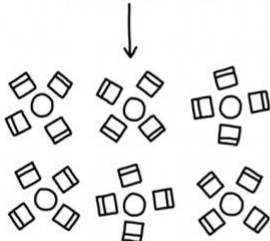


THE SEMICIRCLE

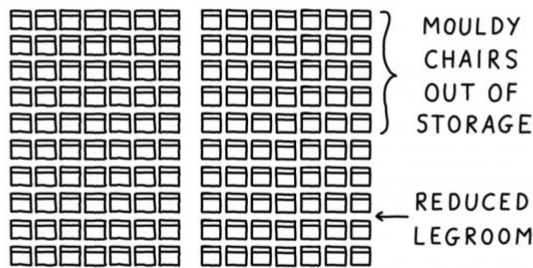


THE BAPTISM

A GOOD WAY TO  
MAKE THE PLACE  
LOOK A BIT BUSIER  
THAN IT IS



THE CAFE-STYLE



THE FESTIVAL

EVERYONE  
IN THE BACK  
TWO ROWS



THE USUAL

CartoonChurch.com

## Thingoe Deanery Evensong

The Rural Dean, Revd Andy Miller, and Deanery Lay Chair, Dr Sarah Cooledge, are planning a service of Evensong in one of our churches later in the year, possibly late spring/early summer. This will be for all Churches in our Deanery and will be accompanied by a voluntary choir from among our different congregations and friends.

Please let me know if you can offer your voice as soprano, alto, tenor or bass. Music reading skills are not essential. Kevin Slingsby, organist at Horringer church, will be our conductor. Please email me with your name and add S, A, T or B – or telephone me.

We will circulate the venue and date as soon as possible. This is a provisional request to ascertain how many people would be interested.

Michael Wilde [cormack246@gmail.com](mailto:cormack246@gmail.com) 01284 767415



# CAPTION COMPETITION RESULT



*The cream of caption competitors has been in action this time.*

Sheila wondered why it took so long to be told  
it should be jam on top.

*Valerie Wilde*

'Eat your Green's!'

*Henry Allen*

'Ah, just a little afternoon snack to tide me over  
until dinner.'

*Stephanie Gooding*

'Enough of all this Cornish or Devon cream tea nonsense.  
You can't beat a Suffolk cream tea. Sheila makes a  
fantastic Suffolk cream tea!'

*Gina Robertson*

*And the winner is NICK OSBORNE with:*

'While Charlie Haylock talks about the history of surnames,  
Sheila Green bravely tackles the age-old debate:  
cream or jam first?'

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STAGE  
COACH

Bury St Edmunds & Stowmarket

# SPRING SHOWCASE

A medley of songs, dances and cabaret acts  
performed by the students of Stagecoach  
Bury St Edmunds

**SATURDAY 1ST MARCH**  
**2PM & 5.30PM**

St Johns Church, St Johns Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1SP

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/stagecoach-bury-st-edmunds](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/stagecoach-bury-st-edmunds)



Threads of  
Lent 2025

## Calling all Crafters!

Are you wanting to have a sort-out for Lent ?  
Nurture your creativity?  
Complete a half-done project?  
Try something new?

You are welcome to our "Threads of Lent" Group  
at: St Mary's Church in West Stow  
On : Wednesday afternoons from 2pm  
Starting on: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March and then each  
Wednesday until the 9<sup>th</sup> April

Easy parking  
Tea and coffee  
Bring your own materials

Enquiries to Sarah Gull [seg30@cam.ac.uk](mailto:seg30@cam.ac.uk)

# Wonder Club

Story  
Wondering  
Craft  
Prayer  
Cake



**St Lawrence,  
Lackford**

**2<sup>nd</sup> March, 3pm**

# Coffee Morning

Donations to  
**Leukaemia Care**  
YOUR Blood Cancer Charity

Tuesday 4th March

10:00 - 11:15 am

Coffee or tea, cake and chat

All Saints Church

All Welcome

Lark Valley & North Bury Team Ministry

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



**WEST STOW  
CHURCH**

**MARCH 5TH**

**CHAT, COFFEE, TEA,  
BISCUITS**

**9.30 – 11.30**

**Donations in aid of  
RESTORE**

**(Formally BURY ST EDMUNDS WOMEN'S AID CENTRE)**

**this month**

# Lark Valley and North Bury Churches Praying Together ~ March 2025

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

- 1 S For all facing financial difficulties
- 2 S Beetons Lodge residential home
- 3 M The Presbyterian Church; Lancaster Avenue Gospel Hall
- 4 T St Olave's Road shops and residential area
- 5 W The Beacon Church (Pentecostal)
- 6 T Bridge Community Church (formerly West Road Church)
- 7 F All Saints', Bury
- 8 S *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at All Saints, Bury
- 9 S All Saints', Bury church hall
- 10 M Julie Hooton, our Benefice Administrator
- 11 T All Saints' church monthly coffee morning
- 12 W The Priors Estate
- 13 T The Priors Estate Residents' Action Group
- 14 F Kings Road & Queens Road housing areas
- 15 S Out Risbygate housing and business areas
- 16 S St Peter's House residential home
- 17 M Jankyn's Place sheltered housing
- 18 T St Andrew's, Timworth
- 19 W *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at Timworth
- 20 T All who live in Timworth
- 21 F St George's, Bury
- 22 S *Growing in God* worship, work & witness at St George's
- 23 S The Anselm Community Centre
- 24 M The Mildenhall Road Estate
- 25 T The Mildenhall Road Estate Residents' Association
- 26 W Chestnut Court sheltered housing
- 27 T Northumberland Avenue Methodist Church
- 28 F Kingdom Hall (Jehovah's Witnesses)
- 29 S West Road area
- 30 S Westley Road area
- 31 M Winthrop Road area

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025

**Friday 7 March**

A service for everyone!

Please join us at the Services:

10.30am St Mary's Church,  
Honey Hill, Bury St Edmunds  
IP33 1RT

7.30pm St Edmunds Catholic Church,  
Westgate Street, Bury St Edmunds  
IP33 1QG

**All Welcome**

**Cook Islands** *I made you wonderful*



**INFORMED PRAYER | PRAYERFUL ACTION**

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number 233242



Fridays in Lent  
at 6pm

*from*  
7<sup>th</sup> March  
*to*  
11<sup>th</sup> April

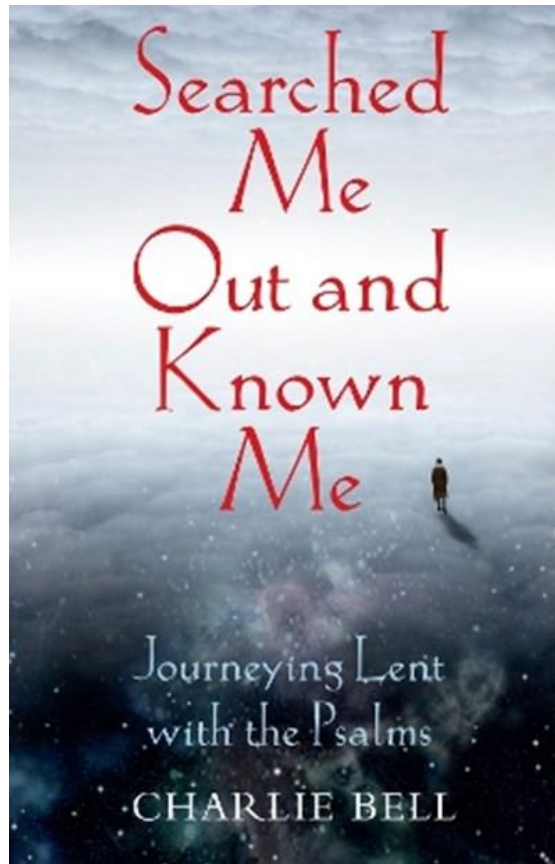
St John's Church  
Bury St Edmunds



# Stations of the Cross

Reflections following  
the narrative  
of Christ's passion  
using the pictures  
created by Iain McKillop

**LENT IN THE  
LARK VALLEY NORTH BURY TEAM**



**Every year we make our Lenten journey together – but this year we will do so accompanied by the Psalms.**

**We will be using the wonderful book,  
Searched Me Out and Known Me, by Charlie Bell.**

**You may like to purchase your own copy - not least so you can continue to use it in Holy Week - but it is not essential.**

**Don't worry if you cannot make every session.  
Come to what you can. And bring a friend while you are at it!**

**When: Saturday, 10-11.30am**

**Dates: 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March, 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**Where: St John the Evangelist, St John's St, BSE**

**Further details: Mother Ali [teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com](mailto:teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com) 01284 728714**

THE SEASON OF

# Lent

JOIN US FOR A LIGHT LUNCH

FRIDAY 14TH  
MARCH

FORNHAM ST  
MARTIN CHURCH

12 - 2 PM

LENT IS A JOURNEY, NOT A DESTINATION.  
GROWTH TAKES TIME AND EFFORT.

HOW IS LENT MEANINGFUL FOR YOU?

# Iona Workshop at the Cathedral



*Gail Bate writes:* On Saturday 15th I went to the Iona singing workshop in the Cathedral and the evensong afterwards. During the service, we were invited to place a pebble in the spiral round the cross to symbolise continuing to care about God's creation.

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## Contacts

Revd Dr Andy Miller ....	01284 728714	<a href="mailto:teamrectorlvnb@btinternet.com">teamrectorlvnb@btinternet.com</a>
Revd Ali Miller .....	01284 728714	<a href="mailto:teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com">teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com</a>
Team Office .....	01284 700400	<a href="mailto:NBTLVB@outlook.com">NBTLVB@outlook.com</a>

*We also have assistance from priests within the benefice with permission to officiate.*

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## Please 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 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.

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