

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

10 November 2024

3rd Sunday before Advent

Remembrance Sunday

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



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3rd Sunday before Advent

Remembrance Sunday

Jonah 3.1-5,10 Psalm 62.5-end Hebrews 9.24-end Mark 1.14-20

Going Fishing:

Baptism, Confirmation, and the Call to Follow

Last weekend we celebrated the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls, a heady mix of tones: peace and joy, sorrow and comfort.

All of it predicated on grace.

Grace.

A word I chucked about a lot last week when I preached All Saints.

Saints – the who's who of 'famous' holy people but also the ordinary folk too, yet in either category recognising the complexity each life contains.

Complexity as flawed but blessed individuals called by God.

Something our hardworking fishermen, Simon, Andrew, James and John knew only too well.

Saints – all those who God's light shines through, radiating grace – and the many graces of God at that.

Grace.

In the Collect last week, we asked God to grant us grace so to 'follow the blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living'.

Grace which has the power to bring transformation to people, places, situations.

Grace that fuels the Kingdom of God and turns things upside down.

Repent and believe the Good News and make space for grace.

Grace which sees us perfected into holiness by God's love, though this is a work of a lifetime ... this life and on into eternal life.

Grace, proffered by Jesus across his earthly life whatever and whoever came his way.

Grace responded to at the lake.

'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.'

Grace of courage sees rough and ready Simon and Andrew dump their nets and walk after Jesus.

Grace of trust sees James and John climb out of their boats and walk away from their jobs, from their father, and follow.

Grace sees them fishing still, but for people so that in turn they may respond to the call to follow and even fish too (in their own ways, of course, part of the unique gifting and graces each of us receives, all to further the Kingdom).

As they follow Jesus,

Simon, Andrew, James, and John will learn something of living a life of grace and also the promise of eternal life to come.

Spoiler alert: it is not always easy!

They will learn this the hardest way as dear friends of Jesus: through witnessing his persecution and his death; yet they will also experience the glorious resurrection, and receive the Holy Spirit.

Giftings, fruits, graces, to enable them to do the work Jesus has tasked them to do.

Grace filled words and actions – true for the Fishermen now Fishers of people. True for us all.

At the end of St Matthew's Gospel, the Fishers and the rest of the disciples are commissioned by Jesus, to make new disciples and to baptize:

'In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

It is through Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, which we are baptized into, that we are birthed anew in grace – in fact it is how we journey in grace and how we taste grace.

Grace speaks to mystery and when the Holy Spirit gets involved, then the gifts of Baptism and Eucharist emerge.

Water splashing in the font and the sound of lives being transformed in Christ.

Bread and wine are body and blood.

We are graced by His presence.

And it is Real.

Betwixt the font and altar, another dance of grace, gifted to us at any age.

Confirmation.

Which speaks into that continuing journey into faith, amid a growing awareness and acknowledgement of Christ's constant pull on the heart: 'Follow me.'

The Way to transformation.

Time to let go of one thing and pick up something else. Like the Fishers.

What this will be may be felt and known in an instant or will be slowly revealed.
Radical change or a slowburn.

Either way: it is all the work of the Holy Spirit.

As John Cosin wrote, 'Come Holy Ghost our souls inspire'.

Grace pours down on each head through the laying on of hands and prayers.

Holy oil and the scent of heaven; a reminder we are accompanied by the invisible saints and angels.

Sealed with the Spirit and lit by 'celestial fire', the presents are unwrapped.

Gifts of: wisdom, understanding, counsel, inward strength, knowledge, Godliness and a sense of delight in the fearful wonder of God.

Gifts the Fishers knew and used: living holy lives, building up holy communities, and spreading the Good News.

Each new believer a grace filled candle of hope.

And they will shine.

Yes our world, across time, has known dark days and will continue to know dark days.

But at baptisms, at confirmations, we add to our number.

We add to our number those radiating grace and light.

Each light shines and pierces the gloom with flickers of God's glory.

Rays of light and glints of gold:

each time we break bread and we pray

each time we resist evil or, when we fall, repent

each time we proclaim the Good News in word and action

each time we seek and serve Christ in all people

each time we love God and love our neighbours as ourselves

each time we join in God's mission with humility and openness

each time we acknowledge Christ's authority in the world

each time we defend the weak and seek peace and justice

each time we live out the beatitudes

each time we accept the call to follow and do any of these ...

We shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

And it may be costly ... (ask the Fishers, remember Remembrance),

But it is the work of amazing grace.

Amen.

Ali Miller

Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES WEEK BEGINNING 10 NOVEMBER

SUNDAY 10 November 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Remembrance Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Culford and All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	St George's and All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Lackford
10.15am	Service of the Word	Fornham St Martin
10.55am	Act of Remembrance	Fornham All Saints, Fornham St Martin, Flempton, Culford and St John's Bury St Edmunds
11.00am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
4.00pm	Benefice Confirmation with +Graeme Knowles	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Monday 11 November Martin, bishop, c397

Tuesday 12 November

6.00pm	A Quiet Space	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
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Wednesday 13 November Charles Simeon, priest, evangelical divine, 1836

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 14 November Samuel Seabury, bishop, 1796

9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Adoration and Benediction	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Friday 15 November

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

Saturday 16 November Margaret, queen, philanthropist, 1093

Edmund Rich, archbishop, 1240

SUNDAY 17 November 2nd Sunday before Advent

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Thanksgiving Sunday Communion (CW)	St George's, Bury St Edmunds
9.30am	Mattins (BCP)	Timworth
10.00am	Eucharist (CW) gathering at 9.15am	West Stow
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham All Saints
10.30am	All Age Worship	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
11.00am	Thanksgiving Sunday Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE!

Deadlines: To be sure of inclusion in the Viral Bulletin, please submit items to adrian.mann@btinternet.com no later than the Tuesday evening prior to publication.

Advertising events: When submitting advertisements or details of events, please indicate dates of the two editions of the Viral Bulletin in which you wish the item to appear.

Thank you.

Scarlett's Placement

We are pleased to welcome **Scarlett Blacker**, an ordinand from Westcott House, who will be on placement with us across the Lark Valley and North Bury Team. Scarlett will be required to reflect on her experiences in the benefice as part of her academic work.

The work will be marked and seen only by examiners. All names and identifying details will be changed. If you have concerns about this or would rather that they didn't reflect on any encounter with you, please contact Scarlett and/or their supervisor, Revd Ali Miller.

Sarah's help with Eco Church Awards

As you know we are also pleased to have **Sarah Gull** with us as curate on placement - Sarah has an interest in helping churches to obtain their Eco Church awards. If you would like a conversation with Sarah about this, then email Sarah directly on seg30@cam.ac.uk or contact Revd Ali Miller on teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com

All Saints-tide Wonder Club at Lackford

Ali Miller



At Wonder Club, we listened to the Parable of the Good Shepherd and enjoyed plenty of wondering together.

Afterwards we had prayers and crafts that were mostly All Saints themed - we made St Brigid crosses, decorated

glass tealight holders (remember a Saint is someone whom the light of God shines through!), created sheep pictures, and lit candles for our loved ones who have died.

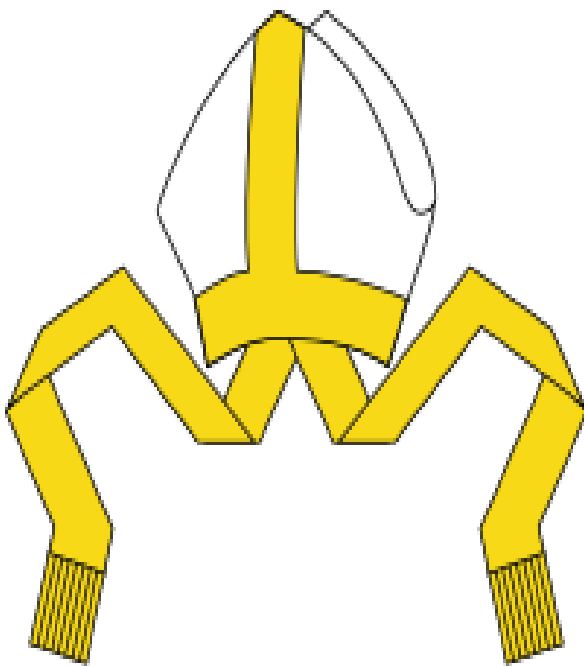
Afterwards we ate pumpkin cakes and bonfire toffee flapjacks, plus had an All Saints pick'n'mix with different sweets related to saints.



Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

**Benefice
Confirmation
Service**

**with
+Graeme Knowles**



**Sacrament
Thanksgiving
Celebration
Prayer
Cake**

**St John the Evangelist,
Bury St Edmunds
Sunday 10 November at 4pm**

Dick Whittington

by Janet Groom



Here's a photo of the cast of an All Saints' Sunday School production of Dick Whittington, November 1957 (thus the rather poor quality ... surprised it's not sepia!). The little girl on the right is me and the black cat crouching on the floor is John.

This is probably the 1st official photo of us together ... 67years ago!

It's the bazaar season and thought this bizarre memory would bring a smile!



Thanks to Ali Miller for this photo from the

All Souls' Day Sung Eucharist

at St John's on 2 November,
showing (from left to right):

Revd Julia Mann (Deacon),

Revd Rob Parker-McGee

(Preacher)

and Revd Dr Andrew Miller

(President)

Fornham St Martin Church



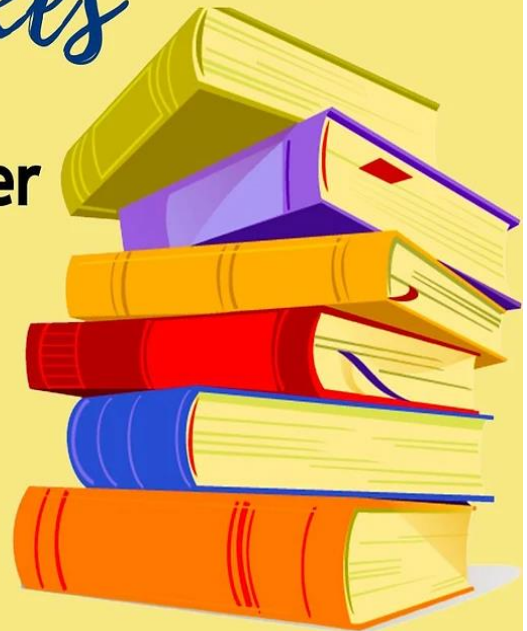
Book Sale, Christmas Stall, Coffee & Cakes



Saturday 16th November

10:00am - 3:00pm

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



All Welcome



**Saturday 23rd November at 11.30am
till 2.30pm at the Anselm Centre,
Anselm Avenue, Mildenhall Estate, IP32 6JZ**

GRAND CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Ho! Ho! Ho!

Proceeds in aid of St George's Church

Charity no: XN 42173

Parkin Examen 'O taste and see'

Ali Miller writes: This is an examen I wrote during the Pandemic and after indulging in some autumnal baking. When I was a child, Parkin - growing sticky and more delicious in the tin, the longer it was left - was always a feature around Hallowtide and Bonfire Night.



Parkin Examen

Be aware of God's loving gaze.

Pray Our Father.

Recall your day.

Notice:

Oats, flour, butter

– what sustained you?

Sugar and syrup – what was sweet?

Treacle – what gave depth?

Ginger – any heat in the day?

Parkin – what brought comfort?

Glory be.

Please see the next (final) page for the Parkin recipe, for which many thanks.

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We also have assistance from priests within the benefice with 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 photos are always very much welcome.

Parkin Recipe

Handwritten, located in my recipe folder, and therefore I have absolutely no idea where it came from ... but it is tasty

Ingredients:

1 large egg
3 tbsp milk
175g golden syrup
100g black treacle
85g light muscovado sugar
225g unsalted butter
100g porridge oats
250g plain flour
2 tsp ground ginger
2 tsp bicarbonate of soda

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 160C/Gas Mark 3
2. Grease and line a deep 23cm square tin.
3. Beat the egg in a small bowl. Stir in the milk. Put to one side.
4. Put the syrup, treacle, butter and sugar in a pan, and heat gently until the butter has melted and the sugar has dissolved. Remove from the heat.
5. Mix together oats, flour, ginger, and bicarbonate of soda. Stir in the contents of the pan, followed by the egg and milk. Combine well.
6. Pour the mixture into a tin. Bake for approximately 50-60 minutes till the cake is firm and crusty on top (though cover with foil if necessary).
7. Leave to cool in the tin. Once cool, turn out and remove the paper, wrap with clean greaseproof paper and foil and leave for at least three days to grow sticky and soft ... if you can.