

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

7 June 2026

1st 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



At RSPB Minsmere in June

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1st Sunday after Trinity

Hosea 5.15-6.6 Psalm 50.7-15 Romans 4.13-end Matthew 9.9-13,18-26

The great story from Advent Sunday through to Trinity Sunday is now to be followed by the so-called 'long green afternoon of the Church's year'. But the Collect, or summarising prayer for this day (and week) is the same that has been prayed in this country at this time for nearly five centuries, ever since being collected and translated by Cranmer from far earlier sacramentary sources in Rome or France.

This prayer brings us back to the bedrock of our relationship with God. The channel of prayer must be kept open, with the will to keep God's requirements, together with a humble acknowledgement of our own inadequacy and the openness to receive God's grace offered to us.

This is how we live, or try to, although it is human to have lapses. We forget, we omit, or even get carried away in a wrong direction, as whole communities have sometimes done. The Old Testament records many instances where the people, who were the first in relationship with God, fell away from it. They were chided by the prophets, but often resented or ill-treated the messenger.

The reading from Hosea today gives utterances as of God speaking, sandwiching speech of the people in their attempt to regain favour and restoration (interestingly naming 'the third day'). But they are not sorry enough! Simply going through the motions of offering sacrifices will not do if your attitude generally is unchanged. First you must show steadfast love and a reverent knowledge of God. Sacrifices may follow from that, but should be sacrifices of thanksgiving. (The word 'Eucharist' means 'thanksgiving').

Today's psalm makes it clear that one cannot offer any part of the material Creation to God that is not his already. All-important is the attitude towards God, which then reaches out to his Creation. We need to give thanks in the right way, allowing faith to grow in strength.

St. Paul's words today, from the great epistle to the Romans, are about faith, or trust, using the story of Abraham as example. It is human to know what is or is not reasonably possible (though knowledge of facts has developed over time). For Abraham and Sarah knew in their advanced old age that no legitimate heir could now be born to them. But word came from God that it would happen, and would herald a host of descendants. At that time, without a belief in an after-life, it was thought a man only lived on in his descendants. So Abraham was being promised life, not death, and he believed, despite the apparent impossibility. Such trust, or faith, is attached to many other Biblical miraculous events, notably the crossing of the Red Sea under Moses in the exodus from Egypt, never to be forgotten. And Jesus himself said that with faith anything was possible. (This has had some misunderstood and even tragic consequences. There is an Arab saying, 'Trust in God, but tie up your camel').

Being human, we have our limitations. It is easy to think that everything in this world can be somehow seen, or heard, and measured by us, but it's a fallacy. There is so much that humans can never know, or understand. Some of it is known by other living beings on earth, which we should acknowledge and respect. God is made known to us in terms we can relate to; we anthropomorphise. When that apparently was not enough, there came the Incarnation, the great story with its denouement of giving people a direct link with the life of heaven.

Today's Gospel shows the life-giving power of God in two unconnected parts. In this account the tax-collector called to follow is named Matthew, but in Mark and Luke he is Levi. All versions have the dinner at which 'many tax-collectors and sinners' happily sat with Jesus and the 12, scandalising Pharisees who 'saw' it. The guests, either by their moral conduct or their profession, were considered unclean, or social outcasts. The Pharisees, religious authorities, by contrast rigorously kept to the Law, and thought no learned Rabbi could or should associate with riff-raff. Jesus' response to them echoes Hosea: 'Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice"'. Punctilious, outward observance is worth nothing if the heart is not fully compassionate. It remains true now that casual perfunctory service is not service, certainly not loving service.



The Calling of St Matthew

Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio

The second part of today's Gospel passage, (also found in Mark and Luke) interweaves narrative about two separate people of negligible social importance, but who are both blameless and desperately afflicted. They are both miraculously made well, apparently on the same day, the only other link being the number 12, with its many symbolic connections largely lost to us. The woman had suffered 'uncleanness' for twelve years; the little girl was twelve years old. However, in both we see a seemingly impossible full restoration of life. The woman had tried everything; Mark says she had spent all she had on long, painful treatment from different doctors, but was worsening, while any normal life was denied her. At the home of the official (Jairus) everyone knew the finality of death had come for the child. But the father's faith had brought Jesus; the sick woman's faith had not even needed Jesus' conscious attention.

The power of God unmistakably and amazingly to restore life from that last enemy, death, is here shown, and prefigures the Easter story, which is our support in all our lives. With all our limitations, we must still give thanks.

Marianne Atkinson

Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES WEEK BEGINNING 7 JUNE

SUNDAY 7 June 1st 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 (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

Monday 8 June Thomas Ken, bishop, nonjuror, hymn writer, 1711

Tuesday 9 June Columba, abbot, missionary, 597
Ephrem, deacon, hymn writer, teacher of the faith, 373

10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham St Martin
6.00pm	A Quiet Space	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Wednesday 10 June

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 11 June Barnabas the Apostle

9.30am	Eucharist (CW)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
6-7pm	Adorate! with Benediction at 6.50pm	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Friday 12 June

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

Saturday 13 June

SUNDAY 14 June 2nd Sunday after Trinity

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Culford
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)	Lackford
11.00am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds



St Mary's, Culford cake stall at the triathlon held at Culford School on Sunday 31st May ~ a very successful event.

Freda Murdoch

St George's

BINGO

at The Anselm Centre, Anselm Avenue,
Bury St Edmunds, IP32 6JZ

Saturday 6th June
6.30pm for 7.00pm start

£8.00 per person which includes
entry fee and bingo cards,
(extra cards can be purchased on the night)

Hot drinks and snacks will be on sale
in the interval

although you may bring your own

To book your place please ring
Wendy on 01284 768714
or Maz on 07746 058179

Charity Number: XN42173



Lark Valley and North Bury pilgrims seek the shade along with others in the Abbey grounds at Whit Monday's National Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk.



**Churches
Conservation
Trust**



**THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

All Saints' Church, Wordwell

Wordwell, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP28 6UN



Midsummer Team Evensong

Sunday 21st June

6:00pm

All Welcome

Elderberries u3a Summer Concert



The Elderberries would like to make sure you've added Friday 26th June to your diaries, when they'll be performing their Summer Concert at All Saints' Church, Park Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3QW starting at 6.30pm. Tickets are £7 (£4 under 16s) and only available on the door (cash only) so get there early.

You will be entertained with a very varied programme, arranged in chronological order, from 1500s to the present day. So you will hear everything: classical and pop, sacred and secular, jazz and romance.

And in addition, you will be treated to a lavish buffet in the interval - provided by the choir at no extra cost.

We are bigger and better than ever before and have been working hard over the last three months to put together this programme, so we'd love you to come and appreciate our efforts. See you there!

Karen Norris

Plantlife

May might be over, but the No Mow Movement is still well underway, and it's not too late to join - welcome to **Let it Bloom June!**

While May is a great time to start the Movement, letting your lawn grow through June can be great too - and every little space adds up to huge gains for nature. All you need to do is mow less and create space for nature to thrive. In return you lock up more carbon, help your garden deal with the heat and give pollinators and other wildlife with a vital lifeline.

Let it Bloom Your Way

The No Mow Movement isn't about throwing away the mower altogether - it's about trying to replicate some of those lost meadows at home.

How you choose to continue (or begin) the Movement is up to you:



Go Wild - go all in and let your lawn grow like a mini hay meadow through to the end of July.



Create a Mow-saic Mix - think short paths, flowering lawn patches and longer areas with taller wildflowers and grasses, variety is the spice of life!



Beautiful borders - leave some space around your border to bloom and see what wildlife takes sanctuary in the tufts of grasses.

With the hottest May temperature on record this year, there has never been a better time to help our wildlife.

The benefits of less mowing are brilliant. You'll boost biodiversity, provide safe and cooler spaces for insects and animals and protect your lawn from drought.

Thank you.

Charley Adams, Plantlife Nature Editor
www.plantlife.org.uk

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

WONDER CLUB

Wonder Club is our monthly All Age afternoon benefice service, using Godly Play

We meet at St Lawrence, Lackford, 3pm

Expect stories, wondering, craft, cake



2026 dates

7th June

5th July

August - Break

6th September

4th October

1st November

December - tbc

What does Godly Play offer?

Ways to be community - Building trust and exploring together

Ways to create sacred space - Making a place to wonder, and taking time to reflect

Ways to get inside stories - Discovering the languages of word, gesture, symbol and silence

Ways to search for meaning - Supported by community, story and space, deepening spiritual meaning in our lives

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



Caption Competition Result



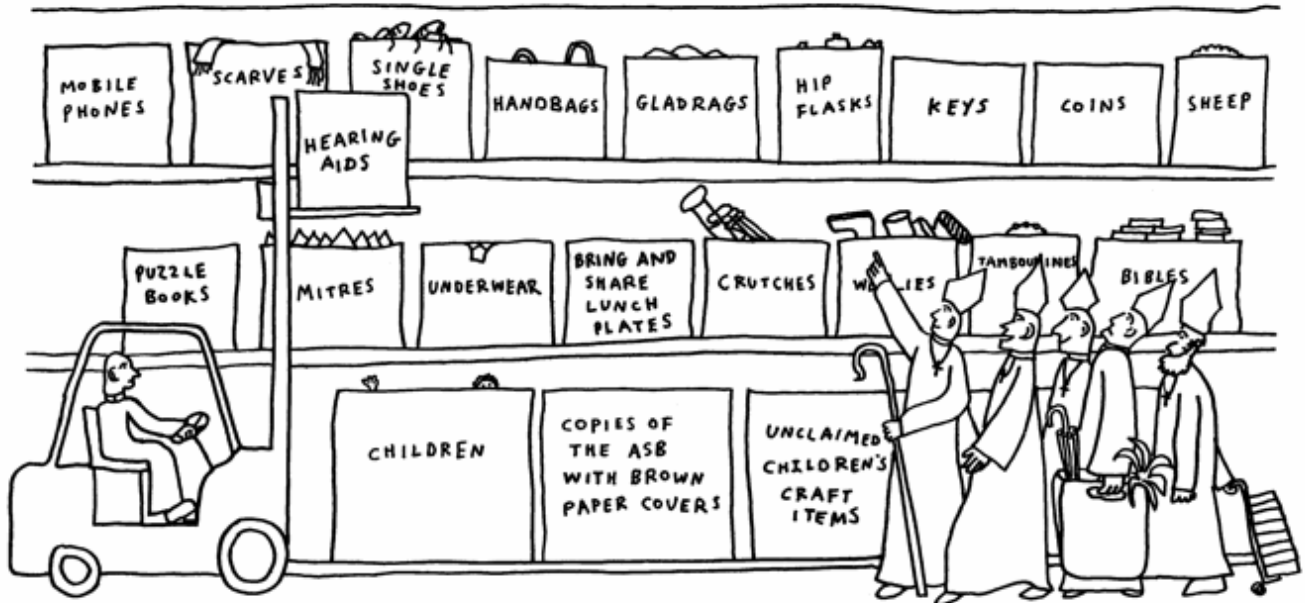
This week's only entrant and therefore the sure-fire winner is:

It was weird, each time the V Sweeper was used a Vicar appeared. Perhaps the clue was in its name.

Gina Robertson

LOST PROPERTY

THIS IS COLLECTED BY THE CHURCHWARDENS AND RETAINED FOR A WEEK OR TWO BEFORE BEING SENT TO A GIANT CENTRAL WAREHOUSE DEEP IN THE VAULTS OF CHURCH HOUSE



EVERY FEW MONTHS THE BISHOPS ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE A WANDER ROUND AND CAN HELP THEMSELVES TO THE CHOICEST ITEMS

CartoonChurch.com

Contacts

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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.
