

Lark Valley and North Bury Team Ministry

VIRAL BULLETIN

17 August 2028

9th 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



St Andrew's, Timworth

With thanks to Steve Robertson for the photo

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9th Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 23.23-29 Psalm 82 Hebrews 11.29-12.2 Luke 12.49-56

There seem to have been a lot of scams doing the rounds lately. Some of these include schemes saying that if you invest in a certain account paying an extraordinarily high rate of interest, you will make a lot of money. As we know deep down, if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Such scams also remind us that we should be cautious of those who tell us things that we want to hear – it may lead us into a false sense of security. That's what is going on in our first reading from Jeremiah. He tells the people that they are being misled by false prophets who are telling the people agreeable things that they like. Such false prophets are saying that all is well and that everything will all right. They are not being truthful – and the people don't want to hear the truth, they would rather be deceived.

The truth is spoken by Jeremiah. He says that God is not pleased with the behaviour of his people. They have taken to worshipping Baal rather than their own true God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

At the moment we hear all kinds of messages, especially online. It is often very difficult to discern what is true and what is not. Who are the true prophets and who are the false ones in our own day? Who is being truthful and who is just feeding us on things that they think we want to hear?

In the reading from Jeremiah, God asks what has straw in common with wheat, the answer being that wheat is nutritious and straw is not. So we might ask today's prophets what is likely to build up and nourish our communities and what will destroy them and lead to ill feeling and discord?

We note how Jesus says in our gospel reading that we can interpret the signs of the weather and know whether or not it is going to rain or be very hot. In the same way we need to learn to interpret the signs of our times to discern who are the good prophets of our own day. That's why now more than ever we need to pray for our leaders that they may do what is right and good for our country and our world at this time.

Then in our Gospel reading we find Jesus turning our ideas of so-called Christian family life completely upside down. He says that because of him, households will be divided with family members against one another. It sounds a bit like a domestic civil war.

Yet we know that this does happen because sometimes people who become Christians and take following Jesus seriously find that their nearest and dearest just don't get it - and there is pain and distress on all sides. Perhaps some of us have had similar personal experiences in our own families.

The first Christians certainly knew about this conflict between family members. When Luke's gospel was being put together, many Christians were disowned by their families for following Jesus. In some places in the world, this still happens.

All this reminds us that those who try to speak the truth are often most unwelcome, and their message is rejected by those who don't want to hear it. Jeremiah found this out. The words which he spoke came from God and these words were not what the people wanted to hear. Jeremiah was treated very badly indeed because of what he said.

Some Christians have also been treated very badly and many have given their lives rather than abandon their faith in Jesus. This still happens in parts of the world where in the eyes of the authorities being a Christian is a dangerous, subversive thing to be.

This reading from Hebrews reminds us that being true to our faith is not an easy option. It can be dangerous or even life threatening to suffer in the cause of righteousness and of being faithful to Christ.

These readings surely make us ask ourselves, how far are we prepared to go to follow Christ, even if it causes us distress or pain? How far are we prepared to go in speaking the truth and perhaps acting as a prophet in our own place, within our families and wider community? It may be that this is part of what we are called to do as we run the race of our Christian life - but we know that Jesus has gone that way before us and so we look to him to give us strength to do what is truthful and right.

Julia Mann

Lark Valley and North Bury Churches

SERVICES WEEK BEGINNING 17 AUGUST

SUNDAY 17 August 9th 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	Matins (BCP)	Timworth
10.00am	Eucharist (CW) <i>gathering for breakfast at 9.15am</i>	West Stow
10.00am	Eucharist (CW)	Fornham All Saints
10.30am	All Age Worship	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
11.00am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Monday 18 August

Tuesday 19 August

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

Wednesday 20 August Bernard, abbot, teacher of the faith, 1153

William and Catherine Booth, founders of the Salvation Army, 1912, 1890

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 21 August

9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints', Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Adoration and Benediction	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Friday 22 August

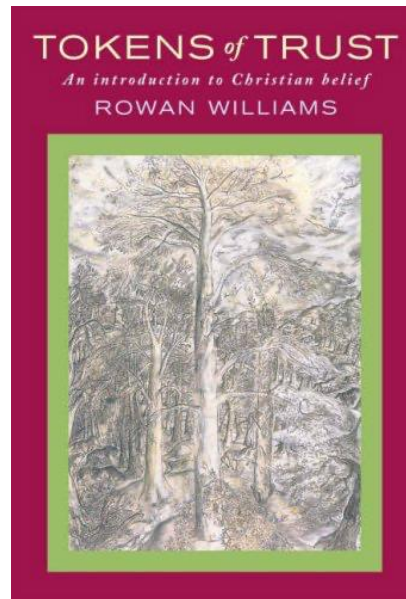
5.15pm	Evening Prayer (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
6.00pm	Eucharist (CW)	St John's, Bury St Edmunds

Saturday 23 August

SUNDAY 24 August 10th 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) Bartholomew the Apostle	St John's, Bury St Edmunds
12noon	Holy Communion (BCP)	Flempton

Summer Book Club



**2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of
the Nicene Creed.**

**It states what we believe as Christians –
but what is this?**

**Get a copy of *Tokens of Trust* by Rowan Williams and let's find
out together!**

Read the relevant chapter before each session.

Chapter 1 - 17th July - *Who Can We Trust?*

Chapter 2 - 24th July - *The Risk of Love*

Chapter 3 - 31st July - *A Man for all Seasons*

Chapter 4 - 7th August - *The Peace Dividend*

Chapter 5 - 14th August - *God in Company*

Chapter 6 - 21st August - *Love, Actually*

We will be meeting in Edmundo's, 7.30pm

To express interest, contact Revd Ali Miller

teamvicarlvnb@btinternet.com

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE



Thanks to Linda Cleverly for sending in this copy of the certificate received by Fornham All Saints for participating in the Churches Count on Nature this year.

CAPTION COMPETITION RESULT



The judges tried hard to get the point of this week's entries:

"Can you hear me at the back?"

Henry Allen

"Decide what you want me to celebrate!
Today's Festival or Trinity 8."

Michael Wilde

The Team Rector never missed an opportunity to preach.
Even on his days off.

Gina Robertson

"This is the very finger which picked out the right t-shirt to match
the colours in the flower arrangement below."

Henry Allen

That's me in the corner.

That's me in the spotlight.

But I'm not losing my religion.

Steve Robertson (with thanks to R.E.M.)

"And I tell you, furthermore, this is a very tall building."

Henry Allen

But the winner is **Gina Robertson** with:

Some people test drive cars, priests like to test drive pulpits.

The poster features several decorative illustrations: a butterfly with orange and yellow wings in the top left; green leaves in the top right; a pink rose with green leaves in the bottom left; and a cluster of white and pink roses in the bottom right. The background is a light cream color with faint, larger-scale floral patterns.

BENEFICE

Bash

SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST

THE RECTORY, WEST STOW

6PM-8PM

Drinks and nibbles
provided

An informal occasion and a chance for all our
congregations to get together

Please bring a chair or rug to sit on

Park at the church

Open Garden

Sunday 31st August

Peter and Claire welcome you
to their garden at 7 Meadow Close
Bury St Edmunds IP33 3LE

2 to 4.30 pm

All welcome

Cake, Cuppas and Chat

Donations towards
a new boiler for
All Saints Church
Bury St Edmunds



News from West Stow

SEPTEMBER IS CANCELLED! Janet and Ann are having September off. So there will be no coffee morning on 3rd September at West Stow. Normal service will resume on Wednesday 1st October.

Fornham St Martin Church

*Book Sale,
Coffee & Cakes*

Saturday 6th September

10:00am – 3:00pm

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

All Welcome





**The Bury St Edmunds Youth
Concert Band Presents**

PROMS IN THE PARISH

**Saturday 6th September 2025 at 2:30pm
St Mary's Church West Stow, IP28 6ET**

**Tickets priced at £10 for Adults U18's £5
and U10's go Free.**

Light refreshments included in ticket price

**Available from 01284 728714 or
teamrectorlvnb@btinternet.com**

Wonder Club

Story
Wondering
Craft
Prayer
Cake



St Lawrence
Lackford

7th September
3pm

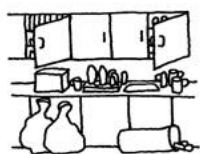
CAPTION COMPETITION



A choice of fairtrade wine or chocolate awaits the person who can contribute the winning caption for this photograph of Mary McGuire, taken at the Summer Book Club in Edmundo's, kindly provided by Steve Robertson.

Please send your entries by Tuesday 19th August to the Viral Bulletin at adrian.mann@btinternet.com

ANY OTHER BUSINESS



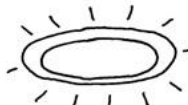
PLEASE
LEAVE
KITCHEN
TIDY



NIGEL
SAID
HE'S
LEAVING



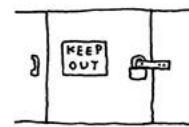
NEED
LOTS
MORE
HELPERS



WHERE
IS
MY
PLATTER?



SOME
HYMNS
ARE
UNKNOWN



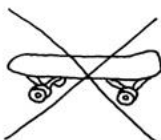
THAT
ISN'T
YOUR
CUPBOARD



KIDS
MADE
SOME
NOISE



WHEN
IS
THE
FETE?



CAN
WE
BAN
SKATEBOARDS?



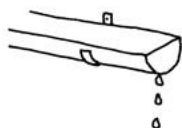
I
HATE
THE
COFFEE



CHURCHYARD
IS
LOOKING
UNKEMPT



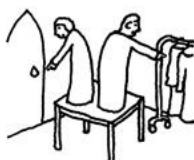
NO
PROGRESS
ON
WIFI



QUOTE
NEEDED
FOR
GUTTERING



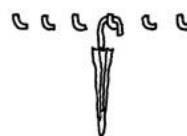
CROCKERY
HAS
GONE
MISSING



MICE
LIVE
IN
VESTRY



YOUTHS
BROKE
TODDLER
TOYS



WHOSE
IS
THAT
UMBRELLA?



HAS
ANYONE
SEEN
ELSIE?

CartoonChurch.com

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 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.