



Thursday 8 September 2022

We invite you to explore and celebrate God's generosity



National Generosity Week starts on 25 September 2022, helping us all to celebrate the generous love of God. Our churches are invited to hold services, run group sessions, broadcast podcasts and distribute readings on the theme of generosity to their communities.

Generosity can be shown in many ways, through everyday acts of kindness to those in your community, helping and serving in your

church, as well as financial giving.

We would like to encourage you to have a look at the national resources available, so please visit our website [here](#).

DS Diary - Gavin Bultitude

"Last week I was fortunate enough to visit two 'Top Up' shops in Ipswich. For those who don't know, Top Up shops provide a large bag of food for a token £2 payment, shoppers then choose what they want from food, toiletries and household products and more.



At the Triangle Church the doors open an hour before the shop for tea, coffee, cakes and chat, offering a real community feeling - we even sang happy birthday to The Revd Lawrence Carey! There is prayer too, a lot of the shoppers have no background and knowledge of church, but they see what is happening, and slowly may want to be part of it. It can't be forced or rushed but when people see the love of God in action it can change their perceptions.

As the cost-of-living crisis bites, how we, as a church, respond to it matters. Whatever the new Prime Minister does, a lot of people will be facing, at best, a static income and rising costs. The crisis will affect our costs too, as fuel bills for churches and schools rise, and remember these are not covered by the price cap. Nonetheless, this is an opportunity to reach out to those who need us most, and Top Up shops are one of the many ways we are helping others.

So this week, as we look at God's generosity I wanted to reflect on how many of our parishes are generous as they reach out into communities and bring the light of Jesus to them, showing love and compassion at all times. Not only in terms of financial giving but also giving the time and energy to support and help others. So, I wanted particularly to extend my thanks to you all, for the amazing things you are doing throughout our diocese".

Are you exploring your Christian calling?

We offer a range of ministries that serve the ministry and mission of the whole church and work collaboratively at all levels. For some people their vocation can be found through authorised ministries. For others, a specific interest may lead to a pathway of a distinctive lay ministry or a supportive role. We have three courses starting this Autumn:



Youth Work Essentials is for those interested in volunteering and working with young people. This course is accessible to those starting out as volunteers, but deep enough to stretch those who are already working alongside young people. Completion of this course is a precursor for those thinking about Licenced Youth Ministry

here in the Diocese. Please email Matt Levett, Diocesan Youth Enabler matt.levett@cofesuffolk.org for more information.

CONNECT starts Saturday 24 September 2022 and it covers aspects of Children's and Family Ministry by exploring child development, spirituality and formation, new approaches to Family Ministry and by expanding personal skills to enable participants to be visionary Family Ministry leaders within the parish and across the Diocese. Please email Hilary Wordsworth-Sewell, Diocesan Children's and Families Enabler, hilary.wordsworth-sewell@cofesuffolk.org if you would like further information, dates and an application form.

Faith Empowered, is a one-year course exploring evangelism, participants come together to discuss key subjects such as how to get to know your context, what evangelism is, how to plan a missional activity and what to say when people ask big questions. Please contact the Revd Will Abbot, Lead Evangelist, Suffolk Centre of Mission on will.abbot@cofesuffolk.org.

Each of these courses and more are outlined on our website please click [here](#).

Events

Ride and Stride / Pedal and Drive 2022

Saturday 10 September 2022

Organised by Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride and Pedal & Drive sees several thousand cyclists and walkers of all ages (and drivers of vintage



and classic cars) taking part in the annual fundraising event for the repair and upkeep of Suffolk churches. The money they raise helps save this wonderful part of our history, with half going to the Trust to give out as grants for church buildings, and half to the cyclist's/walker's chosen church. More details are available from www.shct.org.uk.

Disability and Inclusion: *At the Gates: Disability, Justice and the Churches*

Tuesday 13 September 2022, 7.30pm online

Following General Synod's recent overwhelming endorsement of measures to include all with any disability in our churches (see GS 2270), the Diocesan Disability and Inclusion group are delighted to invite you to the free book launch of '*At the Gates: Disability, Justice and the Churches*' by Naomi Lawson- Jacobs and Emily Richardson. This could help your church to think about how to become more accessible and welcoming to all. To register [please click the link here.](#)

The County Harvest Festival

Sunday 2 October 2022, 12 noon for 2.30pm service

Trinity Park, Ipswich IP3 8UH



Join Bishop Mike, Dean Joe and Archdeacon Sally as they lead the County Harvest Festival service. Gates will open at 12 noon for food, drinks, children's activities, craft stalls and to meet the Suffolk Trinity livestock (Suffolk Punch, Red Poll cattle and Suffolk Sheep). Harvest Worship will include local farmers and people from different churches and chapels around our county. Bring your chairs (but if it is very wet we will make this into a drive-in event!). Bring along tins and fresh produce to place on our

straw bale altar, from where they will be distributed to local charities. For details and to book please visit: [A County Harvest Festival \(02-Oct-2022\)](#).

Choral Festival

Sunday 9 October 2022

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS



St Edmundsbury Cathedral is delighted to be hosting the 2022 Choral Festival, organised by the Suffolk branch of the Royal School of Church Music. This is the first such festival to take place in Suffolk for some years, so the RSCM and cathedral music teams are particularly excited to relaunch this annual gathering of singers from

across the county and beyond, for an uplifting and exciting afternoon of music-making in glorious surroundings!

RSCM warmly encourages choirs who would like to attend as groups, but also invites individual singers who might not be regular members of a choir to become involved. You can book a place for an individual or choir at: <http://tinyurl.com/vxvujnnc>

Preaching on the Gospel of Matthew - Bishop's Teaching Morning

Saturday 5 November 2022

What are some of the recent insights on Matthew's Gospel? How does Jesus' person and work come across in this gospel? What about the parables, the sermon on the Mount and Jesus' relation to Judaism? These are just a few of the questions the bishops will address as they look at the gospel which will be used through the lectionary year 2022-2023. For more information and to book please click [here](#).

PCC workshops on stewardship:

Tuesday 27 September, 11.00am Book here	Julie Podd (Parish Resources Manager), Grant Forrest and Catia Oldrey from the Parish Giving Scheme.	Parish Giving Scheme: Who, What, Why?
Tuesday 27 September,	Julie Podd (Parish Resources	Using the Parish Giving

2.00pm Book here	Manager), Grant Forrest and Catia Oldrey from the Parish Giving Scheme.	Scheme as a catalyst for generosity
Tuesday 11 October, 12.00pm Book here	Beccy Hills (Parish Funding & Grants Advisor) with John Bailey.	Learn more about how to get started with grants & funding

Notices

Health and Safety Volunteer: Do you have a background and interest in Health and Safety? The Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) is looking for someone to take on oversight of Health and Safety in a voluntary capacity. This would involve attending four meetings a year plus additional advice and time in the event of an incident. All expenses will be paid. If you are interested please email [Dawn Gillett](#), DBF Head of Property.

Bullying and Harassment - Dispute Advisers: We are looking for people who can listen to individuals without judgement, maintain confidentiality, deal with demanding situations including conflict, and know when to refer to other services (e.g. safeguarding). This role is subject to an enhanced DBS check. Full expenses and training/supervision are provided. For further details including application forms please email our Mission Project Officer [Helen PriorTownsend](#). The closing date for applications is Friday 23 September.

Vacancies

[Children & Families' Worker](#) | Bridge Church

[Priest in Charge](#) | Waterfront Parishes, Ipswich | 9 September

[Youth Minister](#) | The Haven at St Thomas, Ipswich | Closing date: 30 September

[Rector and Rural Dean](#) | Claydon and Barham, Great Blakenham and Henley Closing date: 3 October

[Choir Director](#) | Woodbridge

[Director of Music](#) | Eye

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