

News from around the Diocese of Ely

WHAT'S ON

February 23rd 7.30pm - 9.30pm.
Ministries Fair at St
Wendreda's Church, March.

**February 25th 7pm. Circles of
Support and Accountability
meeting** at Bishop Woodford
House, Ely.

**March 2nd 6pm - 9pm. Open
Evening** at the Diocesan
Resources Centre, Barton Rd, Ely.

March 6th 10am - 4pm.
Vocations Quiet Day at St
Mary's, Ely. Details overleaf.

March 6th, 6pm and 8pm at
Great St Mary's and March 7th,
6pm and 8pm at Cambridge
Corn Exchange. **Dr Tim Keller**,
author of bestseller *The Reason
For God – belief in an age of
scepticism* will be speaking as
part of the "A Passion for Life"
nationwide initiative.

March 10th 7.30pm - 9.30pm.
Ministries Fair at St John's,
Hills Road, Cambridge.

Go to [www.ely.anglican.org/
news_events/events.html](http://www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/events.html) for
more details of all events.

TRIP TO JORDAN

5th - 12th October 2010

Following the success of last
year's Pilgrimage to the Holy
Land, Malcolm Raby is leading
a Diocesan trip to Jordan this
autumn. For a brochure and
further details contact the Revd
Malcolm Raby, 01954 230329,
mission@ely.anglican.org or go
to <http://tinyurl.com/jordan-trip>

LITTLE ST MARY'S CD

The Choir of Little St Mary's,
Cambridge has made the the
first recording of a major cantata
for Passiontide by the early
twentieth-century English
composer, Sir Arthur Somervell.
For details go to
<http://tinyurl.com/lsm-choir>



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Image: Bishop Anthony laying down his pastoral staff
Photo © Phil Sharkey 2010

'Goodbye ... and thank you' from Bishop Anthony

Ely Cathedral was packed as hundreds came to hear the Rt Revd Dr Anthony Russell preach his last sermon as the 68th Bishop of Ely on 23rd January. Tributes were given for his ministry, leadership and outstanding contribution to diocesan life during his ten years of being pastor and leader, overseeing the affairs of the Diocese. His wife, Sheila, was also thanked for her support, friendship and hospitality.

Following the service, Bishop Anthony sent this farewell message to all in the Diocese: "Saying goodbye anywhere is very hard, but particularly here after ten years in the Diocese, which Sheila and I have greatly enjoyed, and which we are very sad to leave. Leaving the cope and mitre on the altar, and placing the pastoral staff there for the 69th Bishop of Ely was a moving moment, both for me and, as I understand it, for many other people.

Sheila and I were astonished by your kindness and generosity in the wonderful gifts which we received during the service. These will help us settle into our

retirement home, to which we will take so many happy memories of our time here, and of the people who have given us support, affirmation and encouragement at every stage of the way.

Any bishop will be aware that he is only one in a line of those who have made a contribution to the ongoing life of the Diocese. I have had the particular privilege of serving here during the 900th anniversary. It has been a great privilege to be part of so many events around the Diocese, including the walk to Cambridge, the Queen and Prince Philip's visit to the Cathedral, and a large number of other occasions in parishes and in schools, with which we have marked the 900th anniversary.

Thank you for a wonderful ten years, and for your very kind and generous presents. We retire in the knowledge that there is a strong staff team who will look after the Diocese in the immediate future, as we await the appointment of the 69th Bishop of Ely."

For photos and more about the Farewell Service go to <http://tinyurl.com/bishop-ely>

Bishop's Lent Appeal

For the Bishop's Lent Appeal 2010, the Rt Revd David Thomson is asking parishes to support two international charities with local connections, Christian Blind Mission and Street Child World Cup.

75% of the proceeds of the Appeal will go to the work of Christian Blind Mission whose headquarters are in Oakington, with the remaining quarter supporting the work of Street Child World

Cup, an imaginative initiative linked to the Football World Cup to be held in South Africa.



Bishop David will launch his Appeal during a short act of worship at 10am on Ash Wednesday, 17th February, in the Lady Chapel, Ely Cathedral. Each of the charities will give a short presentation on their work.

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/lent10> for more details.



'Say One For Me'

After the Lent Appeal launch service on Ash Wednesday, 17th February, Bishop David will be outside Ely Cathedral from 11am - 12noon to collect prayers from those around as part of the national 'Say One For Me' initiative. 'Say One For Me' began last year when the former Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Revd John Inge, Bishop of Worcester collected prayers from outside the Job Centre in Worcester.

Walk for Uganda to raise £50,000

The Revd Canon Richard Darmody, Team Rector of The Ramseys and Upwood is aiming to raise £50,000 to help towards building a dormitory and other buildings for The Bishop's School in south-west Uganda. Richard was inspired to take action to help the lives of those he has met on trips to Uganda.

To raise the money he, and a small group, are walking from Ely Cathedral to Norwich. They will be waved off from Ely Cathedral (where Richard is an Honorary Canon) on 1st March

Church attendance in the Diocese continues to rise

The Diocese of Ely saw an increase in average weekly church attendance in 2008 for all types of congregation - Adults, All Age, Children and Young people. The average Sunday All Age attendance rose by 7% and Adult attendance by 8%.

These latest local church attendance figures from the Church of England also show a 3% increase in 2008 of Children and Youth

The day of small beginnings

A Vocations Quiet Day is being held on Saturday 6th March from 10am until 4pm at St Mary's Church, Ely. The day will be led by the Revd Canon Dr Adrian Chatfield and Katy Wehr of the Simeon Centre, Ridley Hall.

This day offers an opportunity to step aside and focus on what God is calling you to be and do – to consider afresh who you are in God's eyes and how best you can be a disciple of Christ. You may never have considered this before or you may be considering a change of direction or wish to recommit yourself in God's

Small grants available from Children in Need

Children in Need have now got a Small Grants Programme, aimed at Third Sector organisations which included churches. They will consider funding work with disadvantaged

Bishop David will take all the collected prayers to the 12.10pm Holy Communion service in the Cathedral where he will pray them all silently, supported by the congregation. All are welcome to join him at this service.

If you would like Bishop David to 'Say One For You' go to www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/news_items/sofm.html for more details.

by Bishop David and met at Carrow Road, home of Norwich City Football Club (of whom Richard is a fan) by Delia Smith, TV Chef and Director of Norwich City FC on Saturday 6th March. Delia has given the group free tickets for the match against Yeovil that day and a meal in the exclusive Gunn Club.

An incredible £30,000 has already been raised towards the £50,000 target. For more details, to donate and a link to Richard's blog go to <http://tinyurl.com/walk4uganda>

attendance at churches in the Diocese of Ely.

This is the third consecutive year that Ely has seen a growth in its weekly attendance figures for all types of congregation, in contrast to the general situation nationally.

For more details, a graph and to see the national statistics published by the Church of England go to <http://tinyurl.com/ely-stats>

service. This day will give you these opportunities as you are led into a variety of prayer and reflection by experienced guides. In addition, Vocations Advisers will be available to talk with if you would like some support or further information.

There is no charge for the day but please bring a packed lunch, other refreshments will be provided. Please also bring a Bible. To book contact Kate Aylmer, vocations@ely.anglican.org, 01223 871084 by 21st February. Further details at <http://tinyurl.com/vocations-day>

children and young people 18 years and under, living in the UK. The next deadline is 15th April 2010. For more details go to <http://tinyurl.com/small-grants>

CONGRATULATIONS TO

The Revd David Male on his election as a member of the prestigious College of Evangelists. David is the Diocesan Adviser for Fresh Expressions and a tutor in Pioneer Mission at Ridley Hall and Westcott House.

The College of Evangelists was set up by the Archbishops in 1999 to recognise and affirm evangelists whose ministry is nationwide or at least beyond the confines of any diocese, and is a support and resource group for its members.

David will be commissioned on 21st April at a service at St Martin's in the Bullring, Birmingham, led by the Rt Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Aston.

AND TO . . .

The Bishop's Press Officer, the **Revd Canon Owen Spencer-Thomas**, MBE on being awarded with an honorary degree, Doctor of Letters, by the University of Westminster for services to broadcast journalism.

AND ALSO TO . . .

The Revd Dr Will Adam, Rector of Girton and Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, on being awarded a doctorate by Cardiff University. His thesis, entitled 'Dispensation and Economy in the Law Governing the Church of England', examined the development of concepts of legal flexibility in the eastern and western branches of the church and showed how these have been applied in the Church of England and in the law of England more generally.

LAY PASTOR COMMISSIONED

On 24th January, Gordon Slinn was commissioned as the Lay Pastor for Upwood. Gordon will be the local presence within the village, the first point of contact for anyone wanting pastoral help.