

News from around the Diocese of Ely

WHAT'S ON

Wednesday 15th February, 7.45pm. Core Skills - Module 3. Brampton Church Hall

Monday 20th February, 10am. Open the Book. Ely Cathedral Centre

Thursday 23rd February, 7.45pm. Core Skills - Module 1. Wisbech St Augustine Church

Saturday 25th February, 10am. The Great Journey of Life. Ridley Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 25th February, 10am. Mini Pilgrimage - Chesterton St Michael (Peterborough), Haddon St Mary, Orton Goldhay Christ Church, Alwalton St Andrew
Further details from Bishop David (01353) 662137

Tuesday 28th February, 7.45pm. Core Skills - Module 5. Brampton Church Hall

Thursday 1st March, 10am. Mini Pilgrimage - Denver, Downham Market, Wimbotsham, Downham Market (cars back to Denver)
Further details from Bishop David (01353) 662137

Monday 15th March, 10am. Mini Pilgrimage - Cambridge St Botolph, St Martin, St Andrew's Chesterton, Great St Mary
Further details from Bishop David (01353) 662137

Wednesday 21st March, 10am. Mini Pilgrimage - Swaffham Prior, Burwell, Reach, Swaffham Prior
Further details from Bishop David (01353) 662137

Saturday 31st March, 10am. Mini Pilgrimage - Foxton, Shepreth, Barrington, Foxton
Further details from Bishop David (01353) 662137

IMAGINING THE FUTURE:
A CONVERSATION TOGETHER



I have now been your Bishop for almost a year. As you will know, I have been spending much of my time visiting clergy in their homes and getting round each deanery. I have also visited a significant number of our schools. I have been listening carefully and reflecting upon what I have heard. I do not claim that I yet know the Diocese intimately; but I have been learning fast and working to build relationships of mutual affection and trust. At the same time, in sermons, talks and video presentations I have been seeking a conversation with you about what a rich future might look like. I have written a document which will be coming out for discussion across the Diocese during Lent and Eastertide. Bishop David will be engaging in six short pilgrimages in Lent to frame the conversation.

Other members of the Bishop's Staff will be meeting people in other ways and I shall be meeting groups, too.

Imagining the Future is not a strategy document. It is describing what I see about us now and a vision of what we might become together. I have said repeatedly already that the Kingdom of God is growing in our midst. We have confidence in the God who transforms lives and brings hope and acceptance to individuals and communities.

Strategies and policies will follow from our vision of

God. God is in charge. So much of what we hope for is not set by structures or a long string of initiatives, but by culture and tone.

We turn to Christ to get a life as adventurous disciples. I have been talking about our life together being framed by prayer and parties. Everything is rooted in our growing into the character of Christ, being cross-shaped people who have a joyful and playful trust in the risen life of Christ. Now is the time to reclaim the rich fullness of our faith by putting down deeper roots in prayer, study and celebration so that we can all hear the call of the Christ who comes to us, stays with us and sends us.

When I share the cure of souls with the clergy, this is not primarily about hierarchically delegated responsibility, but about the distribution of authority around and among those called to exercise it for the sake of God's mission.

Therefore it is all our calling is to find out what God is doing in our midst and then to join in. We are confident in the fullness of God's power and the abundance of His mercy as we embrace the challenges of being a growing diocese.

The paper and supporting questions to prompt discussion will follow soon. It is an invitation to join in and imagine the future together.

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David Evans, Rector of Hilgay with Ten Mile Bank and Southery

We were all saddened to learn of the death of the Revd Canon David Evans who died at his home on 3 January 2012 after being diagnosed with cancer last October.

Canon Evans had served in Ely Diocese since 1990 having previously been Rector of Somersham, Pidley and Old Hurst, and acting Priest-in-Charge of Wretton with Stoke Ferry and Whittington. He was ordained and served in Southwark Diocese prior to his move to Ely. He

was licensed as Rural Dean of Fincham and Feltwell Deanery in 2009 and was installed as an honorary Canon of the Cathedral in December 2011.

David was a devoted and much loved parish priest. He is survived by his wife Jean and their three children Ian, Daniel and Heloise.

His funeral was held at All Saints Church, Hilgay on 18 January 2012

Where are the children in 2012?



Growing Younger...

A New Year offers us the opportunity to reflect as churches upon our vision and work among the children and families within our community.

This year there are a number of events being organised to support and resource you in this vital area of ministry. Whether it is training, networking or worship and celebration we hope that you will be encouraged and inspired to take God's love to children and their families.

Core Skills courses – Brampton Church Hall (15 February, 28 February & 6 March) & Wisbech St Augustine (23 February, 1 March, 8 March, 15 March, 22 March & 29 March)

Regular network meetings for children's workers

February 20 - 'Open the Book' training day for church teams



Learn new skills, equip your church and deepen those relationships with children and their families in your parishes. The relationships and our work with children in our communities is an excellent way for churches to become actively involved in their local primary schools through lively and engaging presentations of Bible stories.

Open the Book uses drama, simple props and costumes, following a programme of themed and dramatised 10 minute Bible stories, designed to suit primary school assemblies.

May 5 - Cathedral Praise Party for children and their families

June 16 - Bishop's 'Thank you' Children & Youth Worker lunch

September 15 - Our first ever... 'Messy Cathedral'

October 13 - Children's Worker Day Conference 'Train -Up'

If you would like to know more about any of these events or would like advice or support regarding children's work, contact: Julia Chamberlin 07837 699016 julia.chamberlin@ely.anglican.org or Diocese of Ely website www.ely.anglican.org - [The Diocese of Ely - Education - Home](#)

Six mini-pilgrimages for Lent with Bishop David

Bishop David invites you to join him on one of six mini-pilgrimages this Lent, to walk, talk and listen to one another, God and God's world around us, and to let our hearts be warmed as they were for the first disciples on the Emmaus Road.

Each day will begin with a short service using a meditation from Bishop David's *Listening in Lent* booklet.* We will then walk to a second church, talking as we go about how we *Imagine The Future*, in response to Bishop Stephen's paper

After a second service and talk we will set off for a third church, lunch and a third service, before our third walk and a final service and talk (sometimes ending back in the first church, sometimes close by, sometimes with a lift back to it). The three walks will be under an hour long each and on as firm a terrain as we can manage. Please bring your own food: drinks will be provided. All the days will begin at 10am and finish around 4pm. You are welcome to join in part of the day if that is all you can manage, and/or to use cars if you need to. Dates are listed under What's On?.

Further details from Bishop David's Office 01353 662137 or email bishop.huntingdon@ely.anglican.org.

*Copies of the booklet with meditations and worship resources, a collect and two hymns, and a flier, are downloadable from the Bishop's Blog <http://bpdtd.wordpress.com/lent-2012/> and are on the diocesan website http://www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/news_items/lent12-pilgrimages.html

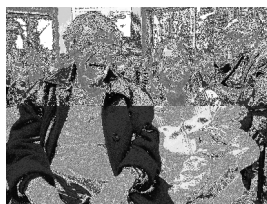
Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight starts on 27 February. The Fairtrade Foundation website has plenty of ideas about what activity your church could be involved in. You can download a free Church Action Guide, as well as other helpful resources at: www.fairtrade.org.uk. Join with other faith groups and individuals up and down the UK to raise awareness of fairtrade to make a big difference to the lives of farmers and workers around the world.

I would like to hear about your church's involvement with Fairtrade and any activities you have planned during Fairtrade Fortnight or in the months ahead. Write to me at david.potter2012@btinternet.com.

David Potter
Bishop's Adviser on Fairtrade Matters

100th Birthday celebrated at All Saints Milton



Rose, baby Gabriel and Mum Lois

Mrs Rose Easy celebrated her 100th birthday on Sunday 8th January. During the service, Happy Birthday was sung and thanks to God was given for her long life. There was a celebration cake in the hall after the service, where Rose met six-day old Gabriel Kim, who was attending church for the first time, with his mum Lois, dad Dave and brother Isaac. It was a joyous occasion.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

The Revd Stephen Betson, Priest in Charge of Stanground has been appointed to the post of Priest in Charge of St Mary with St Paul in Cray in the Diocese of Rochester. Stephen's last Sunday will be 12 February 2012.

The Revd Robert Mackley currently Assistant Chaplain at Emmanuel College, Cambridge has been appointed Vicar of Cambridge St Mary the Less, Cambridge. Date to be confirmed.

The Revd Nick Devenish Priest in Charge at Hampton has been appointed to the post of Team Vicar of Cartmel Priory and Field Broughton in the benefice of the Cartmel Peninsula Team in the diocese of Carlisle. Nick's last Sunday was 2 February 2012

The Revd Anthony Chandler will retire as Rector of St Peter's church and St Mary's church in March with effect from 30th April 2012. Anthony will take on the role as Priest in Charge (non stipendiary) of St Mary's March until the completion of the restoration project.

For more details see www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/media/announcements/