



***for St Mary's, Burwell with St Etheldreda
and the Holy Trinity, Reach***

Being Associate Priest in Burwell with Reach

It doesn't seem possible that in August it will be 10 years since I started training for ordained ministry, and that in early October I look forward to celebrating the 4th anniversary of my licensing as Associate Priest here in Burwell with Reach, but here we are!

The 6 years between those dates were filled with 3 years of part-time study, as I was still in paid work when I began training, and then 3 years as curate, just as Virginia is with us now. Early in my curacy, when normal circumstances would have encouraged exploration of my distinctive ministry, wide-ranging challenges were brought to us all by the outbreak of Covid-19, the subsequent pandemic, restrictions and lockdowns. It is only recently, with Eleanor's encouragement and the blessing of a growing ministry team, that I have returned to that exploration of distinctive ministry.



Paula at Refresh Café

For me, there were always 3 equally strong threads to my calling: ordination, Burwell/Reach and Cambridge Regional College (where I then worked). It was only when I stopped trying to work out how on earth these things might fit together that God put chaplaincy in front of me; there was a definite 'light bulb' moment! A chaplain is a priest who serves in a distinct setting, rather than as a parish priest. That setting could be a hospital, prison, emergency service, school, university, workplace or somewhere like the farming community or on the waterways. In that place, we meet people where they are on their personal journeys and offer compassionate listening and guidance.

Initially, my chaplaincy was with the students and staff at Cambridge Regional College. It then took me to Cambridgeshire Army Cadets and a Cambridge industrial workplace. Now, I am Honorary Chaplain to Ely Diocese Mothers' Union, a Day Chaplain at Ely Cathedral and a trustee of Cambridgeshire Workplace Chaplaincy, and I feel a strong call to bring chaplaincy into our village communities.

As Associate Priest I am licensed to work alongside and support Eleanor in the total pastoral work of the parish, to grasp opportunities which reflect our Mission Action Plan. As a self-supporting ordained minister (SSOM) I do not receive a stipend, but gift a number of hours each week to the parish. It is within those that I am working to strengthen and widen relationships across our village communities, drawing alongside people where they are. I ask for your prayers and encouragement in this distinctive ministry as we continue to walk together with Jesus, here in Burwell and Reach, joining in what God is up to.

Rev'd Paula Spalding, Associate Priest, Burwell with Reach
27 June 2025

(Photo taken at Refresh Café on 27 June)

From the Parish Registers Wedding



We congratulate

Cat Chambers and Will Viner

Confirmations

We congratulate

Arthur Jackson

Milana Winningham

*Confirmed at St Vigor's Church Fulbourn
on 14th June*



Cat, Will and Charlie



Arthur, Milana and Bishop Dagmar



Fete Thank You

The dire weather forecasts of high winds and thunderstorms on Saturday June 7th led to contingency plans being made to hold the fete under cover, and hopes were not running high for a successful day. Against all the odds, however, the day turned out dry and bright, the atmosphere inside the church was cheerful and welcoming and the people all came.

We were delighted with the money raised (over £2000) which will help with rising costs, but the fete is about much more than money and this year's was a success on all levels. It was wonderful to see families and people of all ages enjoying the games, stalls and refreshments and to receive positive feedback from so many people.

So a **very big thank you** to everyone who worked so hard to make it happen and to everyone who came, but especially to Jo Proctor, who co-ordinated the whole thing. Well done!

Connect Café

A connecting space for families

Wednesday 9th July

3.30 - 5.00pm

St Mary's, Burwell



Refreshments

Board Games

Table Football

Activities

Crafts

*Connect with each other
and with God*

Summer Bible School Wednesdays 30th July, 6th August, 13th August 7.30pm, drinks from 7.15pm In Guildhall or St Mary's (TBC)

From Eleanor: I've recently attended a study day on the Nicene Creed at Cambridge University Divinity Faculty, and have come back enthused! I'm planning three Summer Bible School sessions, as we did before Covid. The format will be drinks from 7.15pm, then an hour from 7.30-8.30pm. Venue either in St Mary's or the Guildhall, TBC. It's 1700 years since the Council of Nicaea, and the Creed remains just as relevant to our faith today. We'll be looking at historical background, theological issues, and referring to the series 'We believe', available as booklet or app. You don't need this, but it may help and encourage you to go deeper in your own time. All very welcome!



Booklets £3, if you are able to contribute. Twenty have been ordered. The App is free.


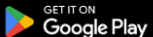




Everyday Faith app

Develop a daily connection with God with the Everyday Faith app. Journey daily with reflections to inspire, equip and encourage you in your everyday faith.

Everyday Faith is available to download for iOS and Android.

CentrePeace

38a The Causeway, Burwell



A shop selling good quality second hand books and jigsaws, and a selection greeting cards for every occasion. We also offer our customers tea or coffee and a space to sit and chat.

We are open every morning except Sunday and Monday and also open Wednesday afternoon.

Opening Times

Tuesday	10.00am—12.30pm
Wednesday	10.00am—12.30pm 2.00pm—4.00pm
Thursday	10.00am—12.30pm
Friday	10.00am—12.30pm
Saturday	10.00am—12.30pm



20 JULY

16.00 - 17.30

Picnic & Play

22 Isaacson Road, Burwell
or at St Mary's if wet

Afternoon Tea At the Vicarage

3rd August 2025
3.00 - 4.30 pm
RSVP

22 Isaacson Road

Heating St Mary's - boilers and carbon net zero

The PCC is inviting any interested parties to an open meeting on **Wednesday 23rd July, 8.00pm at St Mary's**, to discuss two significant issues facing us: a failing boiler, and the challenge to get to carbon net zero by 2030.

Carbon net zero by 2030

There is a climate emergency. This has been recognised by the Church at all levels, through the Call to Action of the Environmental Working Group, through the General Synod motion of February 2020, and through a number of diocesan and deanery climate emergency motions. General Synod has called upon all parts of the Church to draw up an action plan to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions year-on-year, achieving net zero by 2030. This sits alongside a crisis in biodiversity; we know we need to protect the biodiversity within church grounds and church land. Every time we turn on our boiler or install a new kitchen, we are using the Earth's resources, and we are called on to manage our buildings in ways that ensure we are not wasting these precious resources. In the main, churches and cathedrals are currently heated by burning oil and gas, the very fossil fuels which are contributing to climate change.

Net zero carbon: what does it mean?

For the Church of England, being net zero carbon means that the carbon emissions of our buildings and travel will be reduced, to less than 10 per cent of our baseline levels. The remaining emissions will be offset in verified schemes that reduce carbon. That means overall, our buildings and travel will not contribute to rising carbon emissions: their contribution will be 'net zero'.

Why does reducing carbon emissions matter for the whole Church of England today?

Responding to the climate crisis is an essential part of our responsibility to safeguard God's creation and achieve a just world. Climate change hits hardest on the poorest countries and poorest people of the world.

Meanwhile, the widespread destruction of the natural world is a crisis for creation. Tackling climate change also supports our local mission. It witnesses to our communities that we are people who care about climate justice, now and for the future. Also, many of the steps needed to reduce energy use will make our buildings warmer and more welcoming, so they are suitable to be used more often by more people, and can save us money on our running costs.

Text taken from 'Cathedral and Church Buildings Division Statement on Sustainability and the Environment' (2020); 'Net Zero Carbon by 2030 - An introduction and milestones for Churches' (2022)

St Mary's Boiler

As Kathy Ogilvie wrote in April's Contact, the gas boiler and heating system is now aging and prone to being unreliable. A significant amount of electricity is used to keep the pump from seizing up, and the system is now running on a back up pump, as the other pump has failed, with the estimated cost of a replacement pump nearly £6500. We have to decide if and when we may need to replace one of the pumps, if the remaining one fails.

A group of PCC members has been looking at how to move from gas to electricity as a fuel for heating the church. The aims are to bring down carbon costs to Net Zero, to lower the financial cost if possible, and, of course, to provide warmth for people in St Mary's.

A survey has been carried out which suggests that radiant electric heating may be the best long term solution, to move from gas to electric heating. Radiant heating works in a similar way to the sun, in that it heats people, rather than just air. The current heating system heats the air. As warm air rises, most of the heat ends up near the ceiling, rather than around the people at ground level.

Electric heating can easily be Net Zero if we use renewably produced electricity, which is what we already use at St Mary's. Examples of possible radiant heat systems are shown in the following photos of Herschel Halo heating.



For more information, see these links.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-ZI0IDcWro> about St Michaels, Aynho, Northamptonshire – 9 mins 10 secs long
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqnZF2uYMz4> Advert for Herschel Halo heaters – 3 mins long
<https://www.herschel-infrared.co.uk/heating-heritage-buildings/churches/>

What next?

There are clearly significant decisions to be made, and many steps to go through. The PCC would very much like to involve the congregation and community to help us move forwards.

OPEN PCC MEETING
Wednesday 23rd July
8.00pm
In St Mary's
All very welcome

Environment Matters

The recent BBC Gardeners' World Live horticultural show included a campaign called Make a Metre Matter. It encouraged people to transform just one metre of outdoor space for the good of the planet. The intention was that, if every gardener did this, it would make a significant impact.

This is a simple idea and there are many ways you could try it. For example, you could grow a few vegetables to cut down food miles, as well as giving you delicious home-grown produce. Many fruit and vegetables like strawberries, tomatoes, potatoes, salad crops and beans, can be grown in a small space or even a pot.

You could sow a small wildflower bed to attract bees and butterflies and enhance your garden with colourful flowers, or provide a wildlife habitat like a hedgehog corner, bee hotel or nestbox.

A pond is always a brilliant way to encourage wildlife, and it can be as small as a large tub. Always make sure there are shallow areas to enable birds and small mammals to get out when they go for a drink.

It may be too late to enter the BBC competition, but it's never too late to implement one—or more— of the ideas that you can find on the website: [Make a Metre Matter - BBC Gardeners' World Live](#)



What's Involved in being on the coffee rota

Would you be willing to join the team of volunteers to serve refreshments? This involves the people serving coffee after the 10:00am service and before and after the Café Church service which is held on the first Sunday of the month. Usually two people work together, but at Café Church three people are needed to serve refreshments. Mostly the services are at St Mary's but occasionally the 10:00am communion service is held in Reach.

If you are on the rota, you have to arrive a bit early before the service, to set up the cups etc and stay at the end to clear away after everyone has finished. Those on the rota usually take turns to supply milk and biscuits. Simple training in how to make the coffee and food hygiene is given on the job and Basic Safeguarding awareness is usually covered by an online course.

The rota is prepared at least one month in advance after I have checked with you your availability. At present, each person is on duty about once every 6 weeks, but if more people join the rota, it will be less frequently. The coffee rota is often viewed as a good first step for people new to church to join in and a way to meet new friends. If you feel able to join the team, or would like more information, do contact me by email a.plume@ntlworld.com. I look forward to hearing from you! Avril



Burwell Branch News June 2025

Doesn't time fly – already we are half way through the year and by the time you read this we will have had our June Branch meeting, a visit to Burwell Museum and Windmill. We are looking forward to our July meeting which is our annual bring and share Garden Party (with enrolment) at Mill Bungalow. Anyone who identifies with the objectives of the movement is welcome to join and this event would be a perfect way to meet us informally and find out what we do.

Our next fellowship lunch after Holy Communion in St Mary's will be on Wednesday 9th July and, as usual, it is open to all our friends in St Mary's. Please let me know by Sunday 6th July if you would like to join us.

If you are not a member, but interested in the work of the Mothers' Union here in the UK and around the world, and would like to know more, please contact me (or Hazel). We welcome men and women who support our aims, which relate to the Christian support of families and family life.

Philip Baker (16th June 2025)



SEPTEMBER 13TH 2025

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust (CHCT), supports churches of all denominations in the county with their repair and improvement costs and Ride and Stride for Churches is their main annual fundraising event. This year it takes place on September 13th. You can take part by biking, walking or riding around the area, stopping off at as many churches and chapels as you can along the way and seeking sponsorship for the number you visit. You can go alone, or as a family, or perhaps we could enter a team this year. Many churches will be open, with forms for you to sign to show you have visited and welcomers present to sign your form. You could, therefore also support the campaign by being a welcomer in our church.

The money raised is split between CHCT and the local church of your choice. If you'd like to take part, more information is available on the CHCT website www.camhct.uk or contact Eleanor if you'd like to take part as a team.

What's on this month

10.00	Sunday 29th June Trinity 2 St Etheldreda's Service at Reach	Wed 2 Thurs 3 Fri 4 Sat 5	10.30 9.00 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at St Mary's Morning Prayer at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers at Village Green Coffee Shop
8.30 10.00	Sunday 6th July Trinity 3 Holy Communion at Reach Café Church at St Mary's	Wed 9 Thurs 10 Fri 11 Sat 12	10.30 9.00 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at St Mary's Morning Prayer at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
10.00	Sunday 13th July Trinity 4 Holy Communion at Burwell	Wed 16 Thurs 17 Fri 18 Sat 19	10.30 9.00 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at Reach (also at Ness Court) Morning Prayer at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers.
8.30 10.00 16.00	Sunday 20th July Trinity 5 Holy Communion at Burwell Baptism service at Burwell Family Tea at the Vicarage	Wed 23 Thurs 24 Fri 25 Sat 26	10.30 20.00 9.00 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at St Mary's Open PCC at St Mary's Morning Prayer at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
10.00	Sunday 27th July Trinity 6 Holy Communion at Burwell	Wed 30 Thurs 31 Fri 1 Aug Sat 2	10.30 19.30 9.00 10.00 9.00	Holy Communion at Reach (also at Ness Court) Summer Bible School (drinks 19.15) Morning Prayer at St Mary's Refresh Café at St Mary's Village Green Pray-ers
Please check the weekly news sheet for updates or our website. Refreshments are served after the 10.00am Sunday service and our Wednesday midweek service. Café Church is usually on first Sunday of month, beginning with refreshments, activities for all ages, then a short service. Most weeks, we aim to live stream the Sunday 10.00am service on Facebook, apart from Café Church or when there is a baptism.				

WEEKLY GATHERINGS: We have a number of small groups meeting during the week, including:

Monday 7.30pm St Mary's Bellringers meet to practice most weeks (check pew sheet)

Friday 10.00am Refresh Café and lunch for babies, pre-school children and their grown-ups

Saturday 9.00am A Prayer Group meets at Village Green Coffee Shop

Please speak to Eleanor if you would be interested in joining a bible study group

Facebook Videos

During the Pandemic, a small group posted videos of prayers and short services, to support our spiritual life, when we were not able to meet together in person. Many of the videos are still on our Facebook page, going back to March 2020.

Facebook has now notified us that any videos over 30 days old will be removed from 8th July 2025. You can still view or download them from the church page before then.

I would like to say a huge thank to those who contributed and faithfully shared this very special ministry with me, day after day, for many, many months: Sue Evans, Jo Proctor (sometimes with Rob Proctor), Paula Spalding and Janine Stewart, and to Rob for the tech support.

Eleanor Williams



Burwell Food Support Group
working together
to support our local community

Pop-Up Pantry has changed
We have moved
to the first Friday of month
for a trial period
Next Pantry 4th July
2.00-3.00pm
at Burwell Day Centre
Ely Foodbank
still every Friday

Pop-Up Pantry is working towards reducing waste and offers short life food and more as is available. Anyone in financial need is welcome to access support to help them get back on their feet. **Pop-Up in the Porch at St Mary's** available as advertised. Donations towards the Pantry are gratefully received and can be dropped off at the Day Centre. Voluntary contribution of £2 helps towards running costs. **Citizen Advice** join the Foodbank team 1st Friday of month. If you require help from the Foodbank please ring 01353 468626 or email info@ely.foodbank.org.uk



Supporting St Mary's and St Etheldreda's

Could you support the work of our church by making a donation? There are various ways to do this.

At one of our services or events, you can give cash or a cheque, made payable to 'Burwell PCC' or use the card reader.

Alternatively, go to our website www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/donate

for information about how to make a single or regular donation by credit or debit card. You can also download forms to set up a Standing Order or a Gift Aid declaration.

For more details, please see our website or speak to our Gift Aid Officer, Ian Richards or Email:

administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Vicar

Rev'd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams

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vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Associate Priest

Rev'd Paula Spalding 07849 936085
associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Duty days Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

Curate

Rev'd Virginia Moggridge 07566 773020
curate@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Day off Tuesday (on placement June/July)

Priests in retirement

Rev'd David King

Rev'd Dr Roger Williams

Licensed Lay Ministers

Jo Proctor

Kevin Powell

Churchwardens

Wendy Smith 01638 741888

Sue Reynolds

Churchwardens' Assistants

Stephen Martin 01638 742667

Caroline Smith

We're also on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell>

Keeping in Touch

We send the weekly pew sheet and monthly Contact magazine by email. There are usually a few spare paper copies in church.

Both the pew sheet and Contact are also available to download from our website:
www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/about-us/newsletters/

**QR code for
church website
home page**



We welcome your contributions to Contact. Please do keep sending them!
Send to Pat Chalmers, Contact Editor at pat@patchtcs.co.uk

To join the circulation list please fill in a Keeping in Touch form available in our churches or on our website