

## 2020 Mount Bures Calendar

On sale now in Church, and from  
September at Mount Bures Connections  
or order from 01206 366930

The perfect present **£8**  
for everyone who loves our village!



### Sunday Services in the month of August

All services begin at 9:15am  
and last about an hour

**Sunday 4th August**  
**Coffee & Croissants**  
...papers & praise!

**Sunday 11th August**  
**Traditional**  
**Holy Communion**

Theme: God's promises and ours

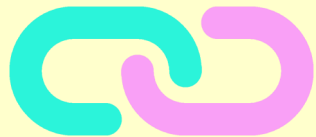
**Sunday 18th August**  
**Family Communion**

Theme: Faith and how to find it

**Sunday 25th August**  
**Family Communion**

Theme: Getting close to God

### Mount Bures Connections



We're taking a (well-earned?)  
break in August.

We restart on

**Thursday 5th September.**

Enjoy the summer break!

### Contact us

Feel free to ring or email us on any  
topic - faith, the Village,  
requests for prayer, or even to  
pose a deep question!



#### Vicar:

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#### Secretary:

Christine Morgan  
01787 227523  
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01206 855040



## What's on at St. John's August 2019

### Services & events at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Mount Bures

This month, St. John's reaches a milestone in our history, with the completion of our Hospitality Project. It's not the end of anything—just a milestone on our journey which has already spanned over 800 years! In fact, it's a start of all the things we can now do by being hospitable. We are very grateful for all the support and encouragement we have received in so many ways, and will be planning an occasion when we can say "thank you" to everyone who has contributed in any way.



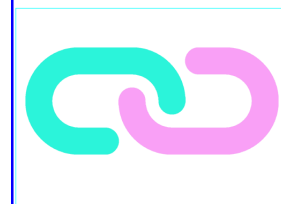
Yes, our Hospitality Project means that we are now able to welcome everyone into a Church which has modern facilities, yet retains the charm of our Norman heritage. There's a photographic record of the Project in Church, showing the 'before, during and after' of our project!



Pop in and see us - especially on any Sunday morning, and relax over a cuppa with us. On **Sunday 4th August** it's a service of **Coffee & Croissants**, an even more informal time when we can relax in each other's company as we worship. What a good way to start the day!



We have two Weddings in St. John's this month: Congratulations to **Leon Boydell & Shelley Birt** who marry on Saturday 17th August, and to **Peter Balls** and **Emma Bird** who marry in St. John's on Saturday 24th August. Please pray for their big day and their lives together.



Mount Bures Connections takes a break in August, but will be even bigger from 5th September; as well as being a distribution point for **recycling** bags & sacks, we'll have visits from Emma Powell our **Street Warden**, Alison Turner the Borough's **Digital Access Officer**, Hayley Howe our **PCSO**.... and on 5th September the **Essex County Fire Officer** is with us!



**John's Journal**  
The view from the Vicar's study

Praying hands



Many of us may have come across a drawing like this of praying hands – there are lots of similar drawings, but the original is by Albrecht Durer, an influential contemporary of Da Vinci, and it is in a museum in Vienna.

There are many theories as to why people put hands together in prayer. The most likely origin is as a sign of submission to God's sovereignty – voluntarily, but as if we were in handcuffs or chains. Many religions do the same. My mum always told me to put my hands together to pray, and to close my eyes – because it stopped me doing anything else or being distracted from my prayers. That didn't work, and still doesn't – we all know how our minds wander when we want to concentrate!

To me, the purpose of prayer is to deepen our relationship with God. We say that prayer is talking to God; yet if we pray with the expectation of a response – however that may come – then prayer is two-way; a conversation with God. And we also know that in our relationships the closer we are, the less we need to talk. Closeness is enough; and I find that's true when it comes to prayer, too. But it seems we spend most of our prayer time asking God for things, or praying for others, and here my mum had more advice for me. With my hands clasped together in front of me, they can be a reminder of all the people I should be praying for. Try it:

- Thumb: those who are nearest to us - family, friends and neighbours; all the relationships which matter most.
- Index finger: those who point the way – bosses, teachers, (Vicars!); all those who we would trust for advice.
- Middle finger: the biggest one – all the important people who have power in the world or in our lives, such as world leaders and governments, local councillors and decision-makers.
- 4<sup>th</sup> finger: the weakest one – It can't do much on its own. Pray for the poor, weak, sick, helpless, disenfranchised, minorities, the bereaved. It's also the ring finger – pray for commitment to help others.
- Little finger – and the one furthest from you right now – lastly, don't forget to pray for yourself.

But there's lots more to do in prayer, as well as saying 'please' – my mum taught me to say 'sorry' and 'thank you' too. It may be polite to do that, but it's prayer too! My prayer right now? That your prayers are enjoyable and effective.

Yours in Jesus

*John*

**Hospitality Project - We're open!**

It is with great pleasure (you can imagine) that we announce that our fully-accessible toilet and a small kitchen are now in operation!

We're planning to have tea and coffee at our services and even more than that on

**Sunday 4th August**  
when it's our  
**'Coffee & Croissants' service.**

Come along and read the Sunday papers, and turn the news into prayer and praise.  
It's a great way to start the day!



**FOOTPATH SOCIETY** **Mount Bures Footpath Society**

Next Walk: **Sunday 4 August**  
Starts from Church at 11:15am  
Then on **8th September** it's a Short walk & Barbecue!  
Contact Chairman: Ian Woodman,  
01787 227689

[imwoodman@btinternet.com](mailto:imwoodman@btinternet.com)  
or Secretary: Lynn Baird  
01787 228294  
[lynnbaird999@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbaird999@gmail.com)

**Mount Bures Village Hall**  
**Craigs Lane**



**Perfect for parties & Pilates, clubs & celebrations**

**Bookings:**  
contact Carol on 01787 228753,  
[mountburesvh@gmail.com](mailto:mountburesvh@gmail.com)

and read all about us at  
[www.facebook.com/Mountburesvillagehall](http://www.facebook.com/Mountburesvillagehall)

**The Thatchers Arms**  
**Hall Road**



Look out for the announcement of the date of **REOPENING**

and in the meantime view the sample menus at  
[www.thatchersarms.co.uk](http://www.thatchersarms.co.uk)

It's already possible to book a table by phone on  
**01787 227460**