

# WEEKLY

# NEWSLETTER



Sunday 7 June	10.00 am	Holy Communion, St. Greg's
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30 am	Prep. Group re SoS Weekend, St. Greg's
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	11.00 am 12.00 noon	Holy Communion, St. Greg's Ministry Team Meeting, St. Greg's
Thursday 11 June	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Choir Meditation
Friday 12 June	10.00 am	All Saints Church / Benefice Service
Saturday 13 June	See Ad	See Ad Below

## Archdeacon's Visitation 24<sup>th</sup>

June at St. Lawrence, Grt. Waldingfield

## The Churchyard trees

will be surveyed by professionals week beg. 8<sup>th</sup> June

**Prayer Breakfasts 8-9.30 am for light breakfast, a time of fellowship and a time for prayer.** Do join if you can. You will be most welcome, whether you have never been before, or have not been for a couple of years, or are a regular! Next dates: 13 June Suffolk Road Church, 20 June All Saints' Church & 27 June St Catherine's, Long Melford.

**St Gregory's Fellowship** extend an open invitation to fellow Church members/newsletter recipients. Would you like to join them for either or both of their Summer Afternoon Outings?

**Thursday July 16<sup>th</sup>** – An afternoon visit to Liston Church followed by refreshments in Long Melford. No charge for church visit, although a modest donation would no doubt be welcomed. Pay on the day for the refreshment of your choice at the café. Please contact Irene on 07790 145987 for details and to book your place.

**Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup>** – Afternoon Tea at Painters @ The Angel, Friars St, Sudbury, 2.30pm. Enjoy choice of tea/coffee, little sandwiches, scone, cake and savoury. Cost is £12.50 per person, pay on the day, booking essential.

Please contact Avril to book your place (& let me know any dietary requirements) on 01787 377406, 07733 303364, or [avrilg@btinternet.com](mailto:avrilg@btinternet.com)

**If you have signed up to help prepare for the Simon of Sudbury weekend**, an initial working group meet-up will be in Church this Tuesday at 10.30 am. Further preparation plans will be made then.

**Wooden or copper/gold coloured bowls** or platters are needed for our Banquet. If you can lend any, please bring to Church with your name on the bottom. Thank you.

It only happens every ten years, and demand is already building. The famous Oberammergau Passion Play in the beautiful Bavarian alps is scheduled to run May to October 2030. Tickets and accommodation for this historic event sell out years in advance, so Premier Travel of Sudbury are putting together an early interest list to secure prime spots. They will let St. Gregory's know more when their information pack is ready.

**St. Greg's Dates for 2026:** Simon of Sudbury Weekend 12-14 June / Rectory Garden Party 5 July 3pm / Harvest Sunday & Harvest Lunch 20 September / Children's Light Party 30 October / Hospice Light Up A Life Service 3.00 pm 29 November / Christmas Through the Key Hole 25-28 November

**Hillside Special School in Sudbury** is looking for governors to join their board.

No specialist knowledge required, just a couple of hours a month and a desire to support the work of this wonderful school. Please email [katedoarks@gmail.com](mailto:katedoarks@gmail.com) or call her on 07808929910 for more information, or contact the school directly.

**The Rectory Garden Party** is Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 3.00 pm and this year St. Greg's are providing the savouries. Look out for the sign-up list in Church after 14<sup>th</sup> June.

**A Memorial Service for Roger Main** will take place in St. Gregory's on 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 2.00 pm.

## Simon of Sudbury Weekend in St Gregory's Church

**Friday 12 June:** the Medieval Banquet is sold out.

**Saturday 13 June:** Exhibition.

Bellringers and handbell ringers in the morning.

Light refreshments from 12 noon.

2pm – Two short talks:

Roger Green: Simon of Sudbury's time in Avignon, and

Phyllis Felton: Simon's time in Sudbury.

**Sunday 14 June:** Exhibition.

Light refreshments from 12 noon.

2pm – Two short talks, repeated from Saturday.

Free entry, donations invited.

**Christian Aid Week** - A total of £2,197, excluding Gift Aid, was received up to 26 May through envelopes in Sudbury, Newton, a few roads in Great Cornard and at Little Cornard Church. Late donations will increase this amount. In addition, the Sudbury online scheme has received £443, including Gift Aid. In Glemsford, the coffee morning raised £131.88. A separate collection in Lavenham brought in £918. Thank you to everyone concerned.

## TODAY Pentecost Sunday

First Reading  
Genesis 12: 1-9

Second Reading  
Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

Children's work:

Junior Church will be meeting in the Vestry / Creche in the North Aisle

QR code to give to the work of the church



## Contacts

Church Administrator  
Claire Walker

[parishsecretary@stgregspcc.uk](mailto:parishsecretary@stgregspcc.uk)  
07776955306

**Andrew and Claire** will be available this coming Wednesday, 12.00 noon in Church.

**All contributions for the Newsletter** to be received by Thursday at 9am email [stgregsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stgregsnewsletter@gmail.com)

## Simon of Sudbury: Victim or Villain?

At St Gregory's Church we are preparing to honour one of Sudbury's most remarkable — and most controversial — sons:

Simon Theobald, better known to history as Simon of Sudbury. Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Chancellor of England, pastor, scholar, diplomat, and ultimately a man whose life ended violently in the Tower of London during the Peasants' Revolt of 1381.

Was Simon a victim of political fury, scapegoated for decisions far beyond any one man's control? Or was he a villain, too closely tied to the machinery of power in a turbulent age?

On Friday 12th June, St Gregory's will be transformed for the Medieval Buffet (which is now sold out!), complete with a menu crafted by Michelin-trained chef Carl Shillingford.

After dinner, we will hear from Alfred R. J. Hawkins, Curator of Historic Buildings at the Tower of London, who will guide us into the world of the White Tower in the tense days before the revolt — a world of prayer, politics, fear, and faith.

And yes, Simon's own preserved head, will be displayed with care and reverence, illuminated for those who wish to reflect on the cost of leadership in a broken world.

Across the weekend, we have free short talks at 2pm on Simon's years in Avignon and his deep roots here in Sudbury, where the Theobald family rose from clothiers to national influence.

Their insights help us see Simon not as a distant figure in a history book, but as a local boy shaped by the same streets, fields, and water meadows.

Our pop-up coffee shop will serve freshly baked cakes and single origin coffee direct from the foothills of Mount Elgon, Uganda to help raise money for a flushing toilet for our link school there.

Banners, songs, and displays around the church tell Simon's story in ways accessible to all ages. It is a chance not only to learn, but to belong — to gather, to wonder, and to ask the big questions together.

Should politics and religion mix?

Simon's life forces us to wrestle with that tension — a tension still alive today. As Christians, we are called to seek justice, peace, and the common good. Yet we are also called to humility, compassion, and truth. Simon's legacy invites us into that conversation with honesty and grace.

THE CURIOSITY CARAVAN - 5th July 2026 at Old Buckenham Hall School in Brettenham, Suffolk,

An event in the manner of the ANTIQUES ROADSHOW in aid of The Rural Coffee Caravan. Bring along your antiques and collectables to be valued by a team of experts.

On the day there will be: \* valuations of your antiques and collectables by a team of experts from the BBC's Antiques Roadshow and Reeman Dansie Auction House. A LIVE auction of four very special lots \* a painting by renowned Suffolk artist Maggi Hambling \* a week's stay for two in a riad in Marrakesh \* a guided tour of Euston Hall and luxury B&B stay \* an Anya Hindmarch designer bag.