



### ABBEY 1000 – THE CATHOLIC CONNECTION

In 2020, Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk will celebrate the founding of the Abbey of St Edmund by King Canute 1000 years ago with a year of celebrations, many of which are shown on the website <https://www.visit-burystedmunds.co.uk/abbey-1000>

One of the intentions of Abbey 1000 is to raise money for good causes – St Edmund’s Catholic Church is intending to raise £1000 for this purpose in a way that will provide fun and encourage closer ties between our communities. The normal parish events that throughout the year will still be staged, whilst some of these will have an Abbey 1000 connection they will not detract from our usual fundraising/social events.



The programme on the following pages has been set out to indicate what is planned. You should note that some events are intended by the group coordinating Abbey 1000 **(A)**; some are the efforts of our parish towards raising £1000 for good causes) **(SEF)**; some are raising funds for parish needs **(PAR)**; others will be held in the town **(O)**. In some instances events are reliant on finance which has yet to be realised, therefore, as shown they will be subject to confirmation. The programme therefore will be subject to change as and when events are confirmed or added so please regularly check what is on offer.

Any queries regarding Abbey 1000 and the fundraising events can be answered by John Saunders 01284 767894, e-mail [jes767894@btinternet.com](mailto:jes767894@btinternet.com)

Where booking is required, please do so as a matter of urgency because places will be limited. Payment will be required at the time of booking and will be non-refundable.

**Month Code Event**

**Feb**

- A** 1000 Years Mosaic community art project at the arc shopping centre – open until November.

**Mar**

- 07 PAR** Ceilidh – fundraising event for Lawshall (details advertised at Churches) – more details to follow.

**Apr**

- 03 SEF** Guided tour '*Eds and Tales of the Abbey*' by John Saunders a qualified guide. An interesting tour lasting 90 minutes which views St Edmund's Catholic Church and explores how Catholics post-reformation have revered their patron Saint and made claims relating to his relics and body. Past tensions between town and abbey are revealed as we stop at the Guildhall. Your opportunity to imagine the final stages of a pilgrim's journey to the Abbey results in arrival at its ruins and the experience of a monastic and spiritual aura.

Starts at 11 am, cost £7 per person – tickets on a first come, first served basis must be booked from John Saunders [jes767894@btinternet.com](mailto:jes767894@btinternet.com) or 01284 767894. Please note that if you undertake this tour and '*Habits of a Lifetime*' (see 15 May) you can also include a tour of St Edmundsbury Cathedral tour at a cost of £15 for the three tours (a saving of £4).

- 04 SEF** Guided tour '*Eds and Tales of the Abbey*' – details identical to those shown at 3 April.

- 05 SEF** Guided tour '*Eds and Tales of the Abbey*' – details identical to those shown at 3 April but the starting time will be 2 pm.

- 06 SEF** Guided tour '*Eds and Tales of the Abbey*' – details identical to those shown at 3 April.

- 21 SEF** Quiz to be held in the Crypt commencing 7 pm with an interval when chips and fish, chicken or veggie burger will be served; a bar will be available. The quiz will include questions on local and general knowledge but you do not have to be knowledgeable or an expert quizzier because each question has the choice of 3 answers. Monetary prizes will be awarded and the top teams will be invited to participate in a grand final on a date to be announced.

You need to form a team of no more than 4 members and book and pay the sum of £50 per team to John Saunders [jes767894@btinternet.com](mailto:jes767894@btinternet.com) or 01284 767894 – only the first 20 teams to register will be accepted. You will be invited to pre-order wine/beer to avoid bar queues.

- 22 SEF** Quiz – details identical to those shown at 21 April but the starting time will be 2 pm.

- 23 SEF** Quiz – details identical to those shown at 21 April.

- 24 SEF** Quiz – details identical to those shown at 21 April.

- 25 SEF** Quiz – details identical to those shown at 21 April.

## May

- 15 SEF** Guided tour *'Habits of a Lifetime'* by John Saunders a qualified guide. An interesting tour lasting 90 minutes. For more half a century Benedictine monks wearing black habits lived in the great Abbey. This is a chance to find out about their daily regime, living conditions, education and obedience to rules. Hear how they were devoted to St Edmund and committed to helping others in the community.
- Starts at 11 am, cost £7 per person – tickets on a first come, first served basis must be booked from John Saunders [jes767894@btinternet.com](mailto:jes767894@btinternet.com) or 01284 767894. Please note that if you undertake this tour and *'Eds and Tales of the Abbey'* (see 3 April) you can also include a tour of St Edmundsbury Cathedral tour at a cost of £15 for the three tours (a saving of £4).
- 16 SEF** Guided tour *'Habits of a Lifetime'* – details identical to those shown at 15 May.
- 16 O** Bury Bach Choir – Handel's Messiah (part of Bury Festival).
- 17 SEF** Guided tour *'Habits of a Lifetime'* – details identical to those shown at 15 May but the starting time will be 2 pm.
- 18 SEF** Guided tour *'Habits of a Lifetime'* – details identical to those shown at 15 May.
- 20 O** St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra (part of Bury Festival).
- 22 A** Pilgrims who started from St Benet's Abbey, Hulme on 17 May and from Ely Cathedral who started 20 May arrive at St Edmundsbury Cathedral for Evensong in the Abbey Ruins (weather permitting). For information regarding these pilgrimages contact Canon Philip Banks [precentor@stedscathedral.org](mailto:precentor@stedscathedral.org) or 01284 748724.
- 23 A** Gathering of Anglican and Catholic Benedictine monks and nuns at St Edmundsbury Cathedral for lectures and workshops.
- 23 A** Exhibition of Abbey Manuscripts in the Treasury of St Edmundsbury Cathedral – open until 17 July.
- 30 A** Pilgrimage of Song from Chevington
- A** Abbey 1000 sculpture exhibition in the Abbey Gardens until November.

## Jun

- 7 PAR** Concert at Lawshall – more details to follow
- 12 O** The 73rd Aldeburgh Festival Opening Night at St Edmundsbury Cathedral.
- 18 SEF** A talk commencing 7.30 pm in St Edmund's Church by Dr Richard Hoggett one of the best and most knowledgeable presenters on the heritage of St Edmund's Abbey. Tickets for this include cheese and wine in the Crypt afterwards and cost £7. Demand for this event be high and early booking is essential. Tickets from John Saunders [jes767894@btinternet.com](mailto:jes767894@btinternet.com) or 01284 767894.

27 O Kings and Queens – a weekend celebration in arc Shopping Centre until 28 June.

**Jul**

A Artisan and Pilgrimage Exhibition - Moyses's Hall – open until November.

11 A Community events organised by West Suffolk Council in the Abbey Gardens until 12 July.

**Oct**

16 A Performance of Noyes Fludde in St Edmundsbury Cathedral – will involve St Benedict's School.

17 A The Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership and Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History 2020 Millennium Conference at St Mary's Church.

24 O Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra Concert.

**Nov**

19 A In the evening there will be the switch-on of Christmas lights in arc and Butter Market followed by a lighting spectacular in the area of the Great Churchyard and Abbey Gardens. The lighting spectacular will continue until 22 November.

21 A Millennium Edmund Lecture at St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

22 A St Edmund's Church will host civic and Church dignitaries at 10.30 am Mass. Further details regarding this and an intended lunch will follow when known.



