



Welcome to  
**St Stephen's Church**  
**Elton Bury**  
Sunday 11th December 2022

| <b>This Week</b>   |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| <u>Today</u>       |                |
| 8.30               | Holy Communion |
| 10.00              | Family Service |
| 6.00               | Evensong       |
| <u>Next Sunday</u> |                |
| 8.30               | Holy Communion |
| 10.00              | Holy Communion |
| 6.00               | Carol Service  |

**Collect for Third Sunday of Advent**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Post Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

**In our Prayers**

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Adlington Close, Dearden Street, Grange Road and Kingston Close.

We pray for the healing and comfort of those who are sick, especially today for Lynne Mullane, Joseph Atwell, Kath Wells, Ian Francis, Rev. Derek French, Gloria Beecraft, and Phylis Le Fevre.

We pray today for all who mourn the recent loss of a loved one and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. We especially pray for our dearly beloved friend, Marjorie Atkinson, her daughters, Sylvia, Julie and Wendy and all her family.

As part of Churches Together in Bury we pray for our brothers and sister at Bolton Road Methodist Church, especially their priest, Rev Kathy Selby.

**This Week's Readings**

|        |                    |         |     |
|--------|--------------------|---------|-----|
| 1st    | Isaiah 35: 1 - 10  | OT page | 673 |
| 2nd    | James 5: 7 - 10    | NT page | 228 |
| Gospel | Matthew 11: 2 - 11 | NT page | 10  |
| Psalm  | 146: 4 - 10        | OT page | 593 |

**Flower Donations**

**Christmas Poinsettias**

If you would like to place a poinsettia in church over Christmas to remember a loved one please give their name and £5 to a member of the Flower Team.

If you would like to celebrate an anniversary or commemorate a loved one by placing flowers on the Altar, Lady Chapel, lectern or Book of Remembrance please speak to a member of the flower team, or contact June Berry on 0161 761 2643.

**Children**

There is a creche area at the back of the Lady Chapel on the left for you and your parents to use during our services. We also have a Junior Church for 5 year olds and upwards in the Centenary room during the 10.00am service, when there isn't a family service. There are songs, readings and crafts for all ages.

Please join us in the Centenary Room after the 10.00am service for refreshments and fellowship.



### **700 Club**

We have five spare numbers. Please speak to Anne Broadrick if you are interested in joining. Remember, December is the big annual draw with the winner receiving £75, 2nd £15, 3rd £10 and 4th £5, so if you don't have a number now is the time to join.

### **Christmas Cards**

We would like to ask you to consider giving a donation to this worthy charity rather than sending Christmas cards to all your friends at church. The board at the back of church will be available for you to send a single card or a star to people at church and a donation box for your gift. Heather Cauldwell has further details about the charity.

Also, our annual joint card with Bolton Road Methodist church is ready for distribution. Please can you speak to Paul if you can help with our portion of the deliveries? Many thanks.

### **Gaudete Sunday -(Rejoice) Magnificat (The Song of Mary)**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed; the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

He has mercy on them that fear him, from generation to generation.

He has showed strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember his promise of mercy.

The promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Follow us on twitter **@StStephensElton**

The news sheet can be found on our website  
@ [www.ststephenelton.com](http://www.ststephenelton.com)

### **What's on**

Wednesday 14th

10.00 - 1.00 Warm Wednesday  
1.00pm Midweekers - Christmas Outing  
7.00pm Games evening

Thursday 15th

7.00pm Drama Group

### **Diary Dates**

#### **Advent & Christmas Services**

**Wednesday 14th - 6.00pm - Christingle**

Sunday 18th - 6.00pm - Carol Service

Saturday 24th - 6.00pm - Carols around the Tree

Saturday 24th - 11.30pm - Christmas Eucharist

Sunday 25th - 10.00am (only) - Christmas Eucharist

### **Warm Wednesday**

Every Wednesday, until further notice, from 10.00am to 1.00pm tea and toast and other refreshments are available in the Centenary Room along with a very warm welcome and hospitality. Invite your neighbours along to a warm space where they can have fun and fellowship in a cozy place. No charge.



### **How to Contact Us**

**Vicar** - Rev. Paul Sanderson

Mob: 07795810016 - Email: [paul270159@gmail.com](mailto:paul270159@gmail.com)

**Reader Emeritus**

Celia Dutton

Tel: 0161 764 0583

**Wardens**

Jenny Downham

Tel: 07800845999

Gail Champion

News sheet deadline - please send all your news items to Tony Parsons by 7.00pm each Thursday.  
Email [tony.parsons67@gmail.com](mailto:tony.parsons67@gmail.com)