



Welcome to  
**St Stephen's Church**  
**Elton Bury**  
 Sunday 5th March 2023

**This Week**

Today

8.30 Holy Communion  
 10.00 Holy Communion  
 4.30 Evensong Bury Parish Church

Next Week

8.30 Holy Communion  
 10.00 Family Service  
 Morning Prayer  
 6.00 Evensong

**Collect for the Second Sunday of Lent**

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowships of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Post Communion Prayer**

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**In our Prayers**

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Bexley Drive, Greenway Close, Proctor Street and Turton Close.

We pray for the healing and comfort of those who are sick, especially today for Joseph Atwell, Kath Wells, Ian Francis, Rev. Derek French, Phylis Le Fevre, Steven De Rouwe, Matt Ablett and Alan Sheppard.

We pray today for all who mourn the recent loss of a loved one and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

As part of Churches Together in Bury we pray for our brothers and sisters at St. John the Baptist, Bircle, especially their priest, Rev. Harvey Nicol

**This Week's Readings**

1st	Genesis 12: 1 - 4a	OT page	10
2nd	Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17	NT page	150
Gospel	John 3: 1 - 17	NT page	90
Psalm	121	OT page	582

**Flower Donations**

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.



### What's on

Monday 6th

7.00pm Lent Bible study in the Centenary Room

Wednesday 8th March

1.30pm Midweekers - Lunch outing

7.00pm Games Night

Saturday 11th March

10.00 to 12.00 Free coffee morning. Come along to the Centenary Room and bring your friends for chat and fellowship.

### APCM 2023

This year's APCM will be on **Wednesday 19th April**, time and venue to be confirmed. **Please will all organisations and officers email their reports to [tony.parsons67@gmail.com](mailto:tony.parsons67@gmail.com) by TODAY** so that the annual report can be created? If you have any questions regarding this please speak to me. Thank you.

### Warden Team

This time last year we were struggling to fill church officer positions. In the end we did fill them and tried to spread the Warden's role wider. This has been successful in part but needs a bit more imagination and sharing to work more effectively. Jenny agreed to stand as Warden for a year to support Gail, completely new to even the concept of Warden, and Janis and Ronnie agreed to be deputies for a year. So we now need 3 people to recreate the Warden Team, supported by Duty Wardens, so that the role can be shared out and a supportive team created. We need this because it is not a role Gail can carry on her own and we have a wealth of experience as many of you have been Wardens in the past. I was reminded this week that Abram was called and set off on his journey to the promised land at 75. Age is just a number. Please pray and listen for God's call to this essential ministry. Our church literally can't run without this team.

### 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

### Bible Study Lent 2023 – Failure, Dust and Glory

This Lent we are all invited to explore how we can live well with the mess of everyday life. The sessions are based on the book 'Failure' by Bishop Emma Ineson and the 'Dust & Glory daily reflections'. They encourage us to take a fresh look at the frustrations and failings that every day brings and, rather than pretending we can always avoid them, seek to learn from them and grow closer to God through them. We will be joined by All Saints & St James. Each session will last approximately an hour with some fellowship time afterwards with tea and bickies (other refreshments will be available. It will consist of :-

- Introduction led by the facilitator (15min)
- Discussion and time for thoughts about the Daily Reflections of the previous week. (30min)
- Prayer – this may be quiet, Compline, Celtic etc. (15min)

The topics will be :-

6/3 What is failure?

13/3 Understanding Sin.

20/3 Sinning as Well as We Can?

27/3 Failure and the Church

3/4 Living Well with Failure (Following Holy Week Compline)

### Children's Society Boxes

These are due to be opened so the money can be passed on. Please can you bring your box to church over the next two weeks and hand them to Jenny Downham? If you have a problem getting the box to church please contact me on 07800845999 and I will collect it from you, Jenny Downham.

### A night with the Dodgers

Friday 17th March 7.30pm in the Centenary Room. Tickets are £5 and are available from Barbara Ingham. Bring your own nibbles.

 club February winners

£25 Len Allinson (71); £10 Julia Pittam (55); £ 5 Joan Baxter (81) £ 5. Wendy Smillie (76)

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

Follow us on twitter @StStephensElton

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)