



Welcome to
St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury
 Sunday 12th March 2023

Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Arthur Street, Dalton Street, Hilbert Street and Sutton 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. Joseph R.C, especially their priest, Father William Foley.

This Week's Readings

1st	Exodus 17: 1 - 7	OT page	66
2nd	Romans 5: 1 - 11	NT page	150
Gospel	John 4: 5 - 42	NT page	91
Psalm	95	OT page	561

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.

Follow us on twitter **@StStephensElton**

The news sheet can be found on our website
 @ www.ststephenelton.com

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



What's on

Monday 13th
7.00pm Lent Bible study in the Centenary Room

Wednesday 15th March
1.30pm Midweekers - Lunch outing
7.30pm PCC

Friday 17th
7.30pm A night with the Dodgers

APCM 2023

This year's APCM will be on **Wednesday 19th April**, time and venue to be confirmed.

REVISION OF CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Notice is hereby given

that the Church Electoral Roll of the above parish will be revised by the Parochial Church Council, beginning on the 12th day of March 2023, and ending on the 26th day of March 2023. Application forms can be obtained from the Electoral Roll Officer, Roger Downham or a Warden. Only those names on the roll can vote in parish elections or serve as officers.

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 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 Gods 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

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 :-

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.



WEDNESDAY 5th April 7.30pm

InThe Centenary Room

(Cost – Suggested Donation £5+)

The Seder is the Passover meal (The Last Supper). It is a feast that includes reading, drinking wine (soft drinks are available), telling stories, eating special foods (unleavened bread, bitter herbs, lamb dishes etc), singing, and other Passover traditions. To add our own Lancashire traditions the Lamb meal will be Lancashire Hot Pot (Vegetarian and other dietary requirements please indicate) Last Date to sign up 26th March

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.

News sheet deadline - please send all your news items to Tony Parsons by 7.00pm each Thursday.

Email tony.parsons67@gmail.com