



Welcome to  
**St Stephen's Church  
Elton Bury**  
Sunday 3rd December  
2023

**This Week**

Today

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Holy Communion

Next Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Family Service

6.00 Evensong

**Post Communion Prayer**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Collect for Advent Sunday**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**This Week's Readings**

1st	Isaiah 64: 1 - 9	OT page	704
2nd	1 Corinthians 1: 1 - 9	NT page	162
Gospel	Mark 13: 24 - end	NT page	48
Psalm	80: 1 - 8, 18 - 20	OT page	552

**In our Prayers**

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Anderton Close, Haig Road, Mizpah Grove and Peers Street.

We pray for the healing and comfort of those who are sick, especially today for Ian Francis, Rev. Derek French, Phylis Le Fevre, Roger Broadrick and Elma Hoyle.

We pray today for all who mourn the recent loss of a loved one and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. We pray especially for our friend and sister Audrey Leech, her sons David and John and all her family.

As part of Churches Together in Bury we pray for our brothers and sisters at Audacious Church, especially their pastor Joel Weaver.

**Flower Donations**

**Book of Remembrance**

Maureen Cooper in memory of Iain for 29th November.

**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.



### What's on

Wednesday 6th  
1.30pm Midweekers - Mexican Train  
7.00pm Mothers' Union

Thursday 7th  
7.00pm Drama Group in school

Friday 8th December  
2.00 - 4.00 Angel Festival

Saturday 9th  
11.00 - 4.00 Angel Festival

Sunday 10th  
12.00 - 4.00 Angel Festival

### Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who supported this event and especially to the organisers for an excellent evening. We raised £270.50 for church funds.



Following on from the past few years once again the CofE have produced a booklet of reflections for the 12 days of Christmas. This is also available online and via an app.

The app also includes Advent and features daily Advent reflections (1 - 23 December) and 12 days of Christmas reflections (24 December - 6 January). Together, each reflection takes you on a journey that will help you take fresh encouragement and hope from Advent and the Christmas story into the year ahead.

The app is available to download now for free from the CofE website or via a QR code on bookmarks you can pick up in the porch.

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

### Angel Festival

A wonderful group of talented ladies have been incredibly busy for the last few months, creating angels large and small. Can you support them in any way? Here's how you can help: If you have not signed up as a volunteer yet and have some spare time over either weekend, please sign up on the list in the Centenary room **TODAY**.

Maureen and Jenny will be grateful for donations of cakes. They would prefer loaf tin or tray bakes that they can slice.

June and Celia still need donations for the tombola, craft and small toiletries. You can still bring these items as the Christmas market will be on next Saturday.

Finally, please promote the festival and tell as many people as you can, send it out on social media e.g. Facebook. A big thank you to all who have contributed to the organisation of this event, let's pray for it's success.

### Christmas Hampers

Ann Sullivan is looking for small items for the hampers. Please speak to her about what you can donate. Envelopes to enter the draw are at the back of church. £5 per envelope. You can enter as many times as you like.



### How to Contact Us

#### Vicar

Rev. Paul Sanderson

#### Wardens

Carol Heyes

Wendy Smillie

#### Contact details

Tel: 07354902873

Email: [ststephenelton@gmail.com](mailto:ststephenelton@gmail.com)

#### Reader Emeritus

Celia Dutton

Tel: 0161 764 0583

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)