



Welcome to
St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury
 Sunday 10th December
 2023

This Week

Today

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Family Service

6.00 Evensong

Next Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Holy Communion

6.00 Service of Nine
Lessons and Carols

Collect for 2nd Sunday of Advent

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This Week's Readings

1st	Isaiah 40: 1 - 11	OT page	677
2nd	2 Peter 3: 8 - 15a	NT page	235
Gospel	Mark 1: 1 - 8	NT page	33
Psalm	85: 1 - 2, 8 - end	OT page	555

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Bournville Drive, Fairy Street, Hurst Green Close and Rivington Drive.

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; continuing to 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 Guardian Angels RC, especially their priest Father Paul Cannon.

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.



What's on

Sunday 10th
12.00 - 4.00 Angel Festival

Wednesday 13th
1.30pm Midweekers - Christmas Meal Outing
7.00pm Games Night - Centenary Room

Thursday 14th
7.00pm Drama Group in school

Friday 15th December
6.00pm Junior Drama in the Centenary Room

Wednesday 20th
6.00pm Christingle Service

Sunday 24th
6.00pm Nativity Service
11.15pm Midnight Eucharist

Monday 25th
10.00am Hoy Communion

Sunday 31st
10.00am Holy Communion



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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark - *Glory to you O Lord.*

Mark 1: 1 - 8

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **2** As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; **3** the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight—" **4** John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. **6** Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. **7** And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. **8** I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

This is the gospel of the Lord - *Praise to you O Christ.*

100 Club

We have a few spare numbers. Please speak to Anne Broadrick if you are interested in joining. Remember, **TODAY** 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 Eve Nativity

Carols around the Christmas Tree & Nativity Story 6pm
24th Dec at St Stephen's Church. Dress your children up as one of the characters from the nativity and bring them to sing carols and take part in telling the story of a special baby. (suitable for children 0 to 100)

Please remember to collect your stamps for Bury Hospice. Bring them to church and put them in the box at the back or give them to Janis & Ronnie.

How to Contact Us

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