



Welcome to
St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury
 Sunday 7th January
 2024

This Week	
<u>Today</u>	
8.30	Holy Communion
10.00	Holy Communion
<u>Next Sunday</u>	
8.30	Holy Communion
10.00	Family Service
6.00	Choral Evensong

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect for Epiphany

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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.

This Week's Readings

1st	Isaiah 60: 1 - 6	OT page	700
2nd	Ephesians 3: 1 - 12	NT page	190
Gospel	Matthew 2: 1 - 12	NT page	1
Psalms	72: 10 - 15	OT page	545

Flower Donations

Altar

David & Susan Gaffney in memory of Eddie Gaffney for 5th January.

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.

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Longridge Drive, Powell Street, Saxon Close and White 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.

As part of Churches Together in Bury we pray for our brothers and sisters at St. Joseph's RC, especially their priest Father William Foley.

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 8th	
2.00pm	Craft Group in the Centenary Room
Wednesday 10th	
1.30pm	Midweekers - Home entertainment
7.00pm	Games Evening
Thursday 11th	
7.00pm	Drama Group in school
Friday 12th	
	Junior Drama Group in the Centenary Room

The next meeting of the Craft Group will be on Monday 8th January at 2.00pm in the Centenary Room. This will include a debrief following the Angel Festival and ideas for future meetings.

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.

club

December Grand Draw winners are £75 - Jane Bunn (60), £15 - June Berry (32), £10 - Beryl McClelland (8), £5 - Roger Broadrick (54).

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6

1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. **2** For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. **3** Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. **4** Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. **5** Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. **6** A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.
This is the word of the Lord: Thanks be to God.

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

Matthew 2: 1 - 12

1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, **2** "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." **3** When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; **4** and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. **5** They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: **6** 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.'" **7** Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; **8** and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." **9** When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; **11** and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. **12** And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

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

How to Contact Us

Vicar

Rev. Paul Sanderson

Wardens

Carol Heyes

Wendy Smillie

Contact details

Tel: 07354902873

Email: ststephenelton@gmail.com

Reader Emeritus

Celia Dutton

Tel: 0161 764 0583

The news sheet can be found on our website
@ 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