



Welcome to
St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury
 Sunday 3rd March
 2024

This Week

Today

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Holy Communion

Next Sunday

8.30 Holy Communion

10.00 Family Service
 Mothering Sunday

6.00 Evensong

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.

This Week's Readings

1st	Exodus 20: 1 - 17	OT page	68
2nd	1 Corinthians 1: 18 - 25	NT page	162
Gospel	John 2: 13 - 22	NT page	89
Psalm	19	OT page	510

Flower Donations

Book of Remembrance

Hazel Lomas in memory of Harry for 27th February.

If you would like an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one please speak 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.

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Beckenham Close, Kitchener Street, Ormskirk Close and Sandhurst Road.

We pray for the healing and comfort of those who are sick.

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

As part of Churches Together in Bury we pray for our brothers and sisters at Blackford Bridge URC, especially their priest, Rev. Daniel Harris.

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

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 4th March
2.00pm Craft Group in the Centenary Room

Tuesday 5th
2.00pm Christian Meditation in the Porch

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

Lent Charity - Water Aid

There is a box at the back of church if you wish to donate throughout Lent for our chosen charity WATER AID. If you can, please GIFT AID. You can alternatively donate at home in a personal jar and return your jar on Easter Sunday. Water Aid leaflets and gift aid envelopes will be provided throughout Lent.

Centenary Room Fundraiser

Saturday 16th March at 7.00pm

Come along and celebrate St Patrick's Day with Ireland's Pride and Walkabout. Tickets are £5 and available from Michael Perrin, bring your own drinks and nibbles. Donations towards this project are ongoing. Please help to maximise the amount by completing Gift Aid. This will add 25% to the amount you give. Envelopes are available or see the Wardens, Carol and Wendy.

Giving Envelopes

The new envelopes for donations from 7th April are now available at the back of church. If you want to know more about these or giving regularly to the work of St. Stephen's please speak to either one of the Warden, or Arnold Taylor or Tony Parsons.

APCM - Wednesday 17th April at 7.00pm

The annual report is now being collated. Anyone who still wishes to submit an item should email it to tony.parsons67@gmail.com immediately.

The annual revision of the Electoral Roll begins today and the official announcement can be found in the porch. If you are not on our Electoral Roll and would like to do so to be able to contribute to the business of our church please ask the Wardens or our new Electoral Roll officer, Christine McKenna, for a form and they will be happy to help.

From next Sunday, 10th March, forms will be displayed for the nominations of Churchwardens, PCC members and Sidespersons. Elections and appointments will take place at the APCM. Please be prayerful as to whether you can serve in any of these roles. Forms will be available in the church porch. Speak to the Wardens Carol and Wendy for further information.

LENT 2024

An introduction to Christian Meditation is a weekly course on Tuesdays, running for six weeks, in the Porch Room from 2.00 to 3.15pm. Contact David or Christine McKenna for details. 07442 534860 or cdm.bury@gmail.com

Bury Parish Church

The Writer Who Inspires Me

Sunday 4.30pm Evensong Sermon

People of the Passion

Study Group Wednesday 7pm

Stations of the Cross

Saturdays 12noon

A Walk on the Wild Side with Jeff Lucas

Tuesdays 1.30-3pm Feb 20, 27, March 5, 12 **St John, Bircle**

Thursdays 7.30-9pm

Feb 22, 29. March 7, 14 **St Thomas**

St John with St Mark Hall

Preparing Our Garden For Growth

Tuesday 20th Feb 7.30pm

The I AM Sayings of Jesus

Tuesday 19th March 7.30pm

The Church of England's Lent theme for 2024 is **Watch and Pray: Wisdom and hope for Lent and life.**

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus kneels in darkness in the Garden of Gethsemane. Though he pleads with his disciples, "Stay here with me ... Watch and pray," they all fall asleep, leaving him alone in his hour of deepest suffering. **Watch and Pray** invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places this Lent: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning. As usual there are the booklets and also the app.

How to Contact Us

Vicar

Rev. Paul Sanderson

Wardens

Carol Heyes

Wendy Smillie

Contact details

Tel: 07354902873

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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