



Welcome to
St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury
Sunday 15th March 2026

This Week	
<u>Today</u>	
9.00	Holy Communion with Junior Church
<u>Next Sunday</u>	
9.00	Holy Communion with Junior Church

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect for Mothering Sunday

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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	1 Samuel 1: 20 - end	NT page	252
2nd	Colossians 3: 12 - 17	NT page	199
Gospel	John 19: 25b - 27	NT page	111
Psalm	127: 1 - 4	OT page	584

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Connaught Street, Ashworth Street, Holcombe Avenue and Ribbleton Close.

We pray for the healing and comfort of those who are ill whether in mind, body or spirit.

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 Thomas's especially the wardens.

Flower Donations

Book of Remembrance

Brian Rigg in memory of Lynda, a special wife, mum and grandma.

Easter Lilies

If you would like an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one please give £3 per flower 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.

Gluten free host (communion wafers) are available. If you require one please let the Sidespersons or warden know.

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. There is a Junior Church for 5 year olds and upwards in the Centenary room during the 9.00am service, on most Sundays. There will be songs, readings and crafts for all ages. Speak to Leanne or Carol for more details.

Please join us in the Centenary Room after the 9.00am service for refreshments and fellowship.



Fire Notice - In the event of fire go through the marked fire exit doors and assemble on Stephen Close.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John - *glory to you O Lord*

John 19: 25 - 27

25 And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. **26** When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." **27** Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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

1 Samuel 1: 20 - end

20 In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the Lord." **21** The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. **22** But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there forever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time." **23** Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word." So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. **24** When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. **25** Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. **26** And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. **27** For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. **28** Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord." She left him there for the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord - *Thanks be to God.*

How to Contact Us

Vicar - Rev Sam Eccleston

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Warden - Carol Heyes Tel: 07354902873

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Reader Emeritus - Celia Dutton Tel: 0161 764 0583

What's on

Monday 16th

2.00pm

Craft Group

7.00pm

Lent Study Group

Wednesday 18th

1.30pm

Midweekers - Mexican Train

7.30pm

PCC

Thursday 19th

7.00pm

Drama Group

Friday 20th

6.00pm

Children's Drama Group

Saturday 21st

7.00pm

Irish Night

EASTER BINGO

Friday 27th March 7pm in the Centenary Room. Adults £5, children £2. Tickets available from Anne Broadrick.

IRISH NIGHT - SOLD OUT

Saturday 21st March at 7pm. Live entertainment plus supper, BYO drinks. Tickets £10 are available after church on Sundays or from Val, phone 07933986785

Thank you all for your kind expressions of sympathy and for supporting the family in the service of thanksgiving for the life of my dear wife Marion held at St Stephen's on Thursday. Your support is really appreciated. Michael

APCM - Wednesday 29th April at 7.00pm

The annual revision of the Electoral Roll runs to Sunday 5th April. The official announcement can be found in the porch. If you are not on our Electoral Roll and would like to be able to contribute to the business of our church please ask the Warden or our new Electoral Roll officer, Arnold Taylor, for a form and they will be happy to help.

From 8th March, forms will be displayed for the nominations of Churchwardens, Deanery Synod, PCC 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 Warden, Carol, or Barbara for further information.

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