



Welcome to
**St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury**
Sunday 16th August 2026

This Week

Today

9.00 Holy Communion
with Junior Church

Next Sunday

9.00 Holy Communion
with Junior Church

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Collect for the Eleventh Sunday after
Trinity**

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Belmont Drive, Hinds Lane, Kingsley Street and Standing Avenue.

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 the Lighthouse Church, especially their pastor Yemi Olujobi.

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

This Week's Readings

1st	Genesis 45: 1 - 15	OT page	43
2nd	Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32	NT page	156
Gospel	Matthew 15: 10 - 28	NT page	16
Psalm	133	OT page	586

**Flower Donations
Lectern**

Margaret Pemberton in memory of Lilian Bentley.

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. There is a Junior Church for children 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 holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew - *Glory to you O Lord.*

Matthew 15: 10 - 28

10 Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: **11** it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." **12** Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?" **13** He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. **14** Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." **15** But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." **16** Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? **17** Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? **18** But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. **19** For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. **20** These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." **21** Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. **22** Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." **23** But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." **24** He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." **25** But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." **26** He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." **27** She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." **28** Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. **This is the gospel of the Lord - *Praise to you O Christ.***

How to Contact Us

Vicar - Rev Sam Eccleston

brsecclestonop@gmail.com - 07851 121800

Warden - Carol Heyes - Tel: 07354902873

Email: ststephenelton@gmail.com

What's on

Monday 17th

2.00pm Craft Group

7.00pm Study Group - NO MEETING

Wednesday 19th

1.30pm Midweekers - Pointless

Thursday 20th

7.00pm Drama group

The PCC wish to set up a small working group to oversee the work required following our recent quinquennial inspection. Please would you consider getting involved and give your name to Carol Heyes.

The PCC need someone to take over the booking and cleaning of the Centenary Room on a temporary basis. As the Centenary Room is a source of vital income we need to ensure that the room is clean and tidy for users who hire it. If you can spare some time each week to help with this please let us know. For all details regarding both roles please speak to Carol Heyes, Warden, thank you.

Favourite Hymns

From September we want to introduce a favourite hymn selection for the recessional hymn. A member of our congregation will choose a hymn and introduce it to the congregation after the notices. If you would like to choose your favourite hymn please let the vicar, Sam, know as soon as possible.

Children's Society

Please can you return your box to Jane Parsons for counting as soon as you can. If you are interested in getting involved please speak to Jane.

Bowling Day 19th September at Rose n Bowl

The sign up sheet is in the Centenary Room. Please put your name down as either a player or spectator. The bowling will be followed by a carvery. Please give a £5 deposit to Anne Broadrick or Heather Caudwell.



Club August Winners

£25 - 60 - Jane Bunn; £10 - 79 - Paul Sanderson £5 - 18 Ann Sullivan; £5 - 62 - Celia Dutton.

Back Pack Service

We are holding a special Sunday service in September to celebrate a new school year and those transferring to new schools. As part of this we are looking for donations of stationery, pens, pencils etc. Please see Ellise for more details.

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